



## **Burscough Bridge St. John's Church of England Primary School**

### **Music Development Plan 2024-2025**

*“Music gives a soul to the universe, wings to the mind, flight to the imagination, and life to everything.” - Plato*

*At St. John's we believe that music is a universal language which embodies one of the highest forms of creativity. It is our intention to provide a high quality music education which engages and inspires pupils to develop not only a love of music, but a curiosity and appreciation of music across a variety of styles and genres.*

*We actively encourage our students to engage with musical opportunities with the aspiration that, as their talents in music progress, so too does their self-confidence, creativity and sense of achievement.*

*This is a summary of how our school delivers music education to all our pupils across three areas – curriculum music, co-curricular provision and musical experiences – and what changes we are planning in future years. This information is to help pupils and parents or carers understand what our school offers and who we work with to support our pupils' music education.*

<b>Detail</b>	<b>Information</b>
<i>Academic year this summary covers</i>	<i>2024-2025</i>
<i>Date this summary was published</i>	<i>September 2024</i>
<i>Date this summary will be reviewed</i>	<i>September 2025</i>
<i>Name of the school music lead</i>	<i>Sarah Mayren</i>
<i>Name of local music hub</i>	<i>Lancashire Music Hub</i>

## Curriculum Music

At St. John's we recognise that as one of the most creative art forms, music is a unique and universal method of communication which enriches children's lives. We recognise that music supports children's social, emotional and mental health as well as improving their confidence and giving them a sense of achievement. Our values as a school are embedded in our music curriculum so that pupils work together, value and appreciate the contributions of others, be creative, open-minded and become equipped with the skills to develop as confident learners and critical thinkers.

A large proportion of St. John's Music Curriculum is derived from Charanga which is the UK's leading scheme in teaching the National Curriculum for Music. See Charanga's Musical School Programme here:

<mailto:https://www.lancashiremusicclub.co.uk/>

Charanga Musical School Units of Work enable children to understand musical concepts through a **repetition-based** approach to learning. Learning about the same musical concept through different musical activities enables a more secure, deeper learning and mastery of musical skills. Repeating a musical skill doesn't necessarily mean their progress is slowing down or their development is moving backwards! Mastery means both a deeper understanding of musical skills and concepts in correlation with learning new skills.

*The musical learning at St. John's is focused around the Interrelated Dimensions of Music: pulse, rhythm, pitch, tempo, dynamics, timbre, texture, structure and notation. In relation to music, these dimensions are at the centre of all the learning, the building blocks if you will and are combined with age-appropriate games, singing and playing instruments to create a integrated approach to musical learning.*

*In EYFS and KS1 learning embeds an understanding of the key inter-related dimensions and the principles of rhythm, pitch, composition, musical expression and informal musical notation. Pupils study a range of styles, genres and time periods becoming exposed to a broad variety of musical tastes. They are also provided with regular opportunities to explore, compose and create music. This sets pupils up with a firm foundation with which to move into KS2.*

*In KS2, pupils learn the full range of inter-related dimensions vocabulary progressively. In Lower Key Stage 2, they begin to learn formal musical notation such as the staff and other musical notations through the learning of tuned instruments. This knowledge and understanding is then reinforced and developed through a wider understanding of music in Upper Key Stage 2 where pupils revisit key skills and concepts and explore the application of music in the world and throughout history.*

Furthermore, each unit consolidates and builds on prior learning: for example, in Year 2 children make use of dots and graphic scoring, progressing to Year 6 where children play melodies from staff notation.

Music is taught in every year group from Reception to Year 6, for one hour each week. As part of Charanga, pupils have the opportunity to learn the glockenspiel in Reception and Year 1 and then the recorder in Year 3. The Charanga Music Scheme is a curriculum that supports and celebrates diversity and inclusivity, encompassing a wide variety of music from different traditions and eras, therefore giving the pupils a more eclectic exposure to music from different countries, traditions and genres. Where appropriate, we also utilise the many cross curricular links that music has with other subjects, for example English, history, geography and PSHE.

Charanga also includes week by week schemes of work, a customisable library of songs, ready made lessons and resources as well as support for assessment and for EYFS and SEND. Pupils within EYFS and those with SEND have access to appropriate musical experiences offered within school which include co-curricular musical activities and the activities within the Charanga Music School. The scheme provides teachers with week-by-week lessons for each year group in the school and includes the original scheme.

## Extra-curricular music

Beyond the classroom, an interest and appreciation of music is encouraged through a range of extra-curricular activities.

As a church school, all students attend daily collective worship assemblies, which always include an element of communal singing, an element which all the children thoroughly enjoy. They also attend weekly hymn practises where they learn a rich variety of hymns as well as Christian folk or rock worship songs.

Pupils can take part in one-to-one or small group music tuition, provided by Lancashire Music Service. Specialist teachers offer a wide range of instrumental lessons across the woodwind, strings, brass, keyboard and percussion sections. Families are invited to sign up each term.

Students at St. John's are also encouraged to be involved in our weekly, in-school, group band lessons, delivered by Rocksteady. These music lessons are suitable for every year group, with children being able to earn an exam-free Ofqual regulated music qualification, accredited by Trinity College London.

Through providing the music lessons and tuition such as those above, the intention is to foster and build the children's confidence as musicians, in order for the confidence to be further translated into subjects across the curriculum.

## **Musical Experiences**

Throughout their time at St. John's, the children have the opportunity to perform in front of their peers and families to celebrate their musical progression and achievements. As well as opportunities to perform both as solo and ensemble groups in lesson time, children take part in the following events and opportunities:

- The upper Infant and lower Junior children (Years 2 and 3) are all involved in a Harvest Celebration performance which takes place annually at St. John's C of E church.
- The upper Junior children (Years 4 and 5) take part in an Easter performance which takes place annually at St. John's C of E church.
- The Year 6 children have the opportunity to act, sing and dance in the Leaver's Production which is performed not only to their peers, but also their families.
- All the children perform over the Christmas period, with years Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 enacting a play based around the Nativity Story and the Junior children performing Christmas carols, both of which take place in church.

Moving forward, the school's intention is to make stronger cross-curricular links between music and the core subjects (such as how music relates to the genres of the studied texts in English or how music is associated with key periods in History.) The overall objective

*being that pupils gain a greater depth of experience and exposure to music from our countries past as well as the similarities and differences of musical styles from around the world.*