Music development plan summary: St Edmund's and St Thomas' Catholic Primary School

At St Edmund's and St Thomas' Catholic Primary School, we aim to provide all pupils with the opportunity to explore and participate in a wide variety of music and musical styles. Our intent is to inspire pupils to find enjoyment in creating and listening to music and to develop a love of music through high-quality musical experiences. high-quality musical experiences.

We use the KAPOW Primary Scheme to deliver a sequenced and engaging curriculum. This enables pupils to progressively develop their listening, composing and performing skills, whilst also learning about the history of music and the inter-related dimensions of music.

We aim for all pupils to:

- Experience a broad and balanced music curriculum with various opportunities for practical music-making.
- Develop musical understanding and subject-specific vocabulary, which enables them to communicate ideas with clarity and confidence.
- Participate in enriching experiences such as singing, instrumental performance, composition and ensemble work.
- Strengthen resilience, collaboration and focus through shared musical activities.
- Explore and appreciate music from diverse cultures, traditions, and historical eras.
- Become reflective and creative learners who can thoughtfully evaluate their own work and the work of others.

Ultimately, our music curriculum seeks to nurture a lifelong enjoyment of music and the arts, empowering every child to recognise and develop their individual musical potential.

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2026-2027
Date this summary was published	July 2026
Date this summary will be reviewed	July 2027
Name of the school music lead	M McCormick
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	
Name of local music hub	Sefton Music Service
Name of other music education organisation(s)	Archdiocese of Liverpool

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.

Part A: Curriculum music

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.

Follow the link below for our school's Music Curriculum Map 2026-2027 and Music Curriculum Statement

https://www.sestcatholicprimary.org/Music/

Music is taught in three half-termly blocks throughout the year – once in the Autumn term, once in the Spring term and once in the Summer term. During each half-term, pupils receive 60 minutes of music lessons of a week, although this may be split into 2-3 shorter sessions over a week.

Music lessons are delivered through the 'Kapow' scheme and are taught by class teachers. The lessons follow the guidance of the Model Music Curriculum and build on the four key areas: singing, listening, composing and performing.

Children have the opportunity to play a variety of instruments throughout their school music journey. In KS1 the focus is on untuned percussion instruments and in KS2 the children progress to tuned percussion instruments. In EYFS, music is part of their daily routine, singing and learning rhymes to develop their understanding and appreciation of music and song. Our weekly assemblies include the opportunity to come together and sing and listen to different genres of music as part of our reflection time. Music is an important part of our curriculum for all pupils, including those with SEND and teachers set high expectations for all children, whatever their prior attainment. Any potential barriers should be identified at the outset and lessons planned accordingly to remove those barriers.

Part B: Co-curricular music

This is about opportunities for pupils to sing and play music, outside of lesson time, including choirs, ensembles and bands, and how pupils can make progress in music beyond the core curriculum.

We sing as part of our weekly assemblies and our prayer and liturgy sessions throughout the week. Children are encouraged to enjoy music as part of our daily worship and when coming into class. We attend church regularly and sing hymns during the services.

Every year, EYFS and KS1 celebrate Christmas with a Nativity performance for parents and carers. KS2 classes join together to deliver a Christmas Liturgy performance. In 2026, Year 3 and 4 put on a production of ‘Matilda - The Musical,’ This gave children the opportunity to develop and showcase their listening, singing and performing skills as they worked together to put on a high-quality performance.

Part C: Musical experiences

This is about all the other musical events and opportunities that we organise, such as singing in assembly, concerts and shows, and trips to professional concerts.

Throughout the year, we ensure children have the opportunity to perform in the wider community and celebrate the children’s achievement and passion for music. This has taken the form of performing at church services, at residential homes as well as larger scale events such as our Trust Summer concert where the children perform alongside other schools.

Every year, the Year 5 and 6 dance group is invited to be part of 'Diversity’, a local event to celebrate the arts and performance. The children learn songs and choreograph dances, which are performed in front of a large audience in Liverpool city centre.

We also work alongside the Archdiocese of Liverpool who deliver their Schools Singing Programme with Key Stage 2 pupils. A Choral Director delivers weekly singing sessions in school which are based on the Model Music Curriculum and work towards principles set out in the National Plan for Music Education. The Schools Singing Programme aims to aid evangelisation through a love of singing and performing sacred and secular music across the Archdiocese of Liverpool.

In the future

This is about what the school is planning for subsequent years.

Our aim for the future is to provide the opportunity for children to learn more specialised instruments in school. This is something we are working on with our colleagues and Sefton Music Service.