

Music development plan summary: The St Christopher School

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2025-2026
Date this summary was published	May 2025
Date this summary will be reviewed	May 2026
Name of the school music lead	Emily Shuttleworth
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	
Name of local music hub	Music-on-Sea
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	Greater Essex 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. As a special school expanding our music curriculum from primary to secondary, we are committed to providing inclusive and accessible music education for all our students.

Part A: Curriculum music

This is about what we teach in lesson time, how much time is spent teaching music and any music qualifications or awards that pupils can achieve.

Our school curriculum for music can be found at <https://charanga.com/site/> . This information includes details on how we increase access and support pupils with special educational needs (SEND) in music education.

Currently, our music provision is structured as follows:

1. Primary: Dedicated music lessons, with music also embedded in other areas of the curriculum.
2. Secondary: Creative arts lessons that encompass music alongside other art forms.

We are working with a music specialist to re-write our curriculum to provide more dedicated music education across all key stages. Our curriculum is informed by the national plan for music education and adapted to meet the diverse needs of our students.

Time allocation for music:

- Key Stage 1 & 2: 1 hour per week of music time across the week, aspects of this may be incorporated through our additional musical interaction activities (see below)
- Key Stage 3: 1 lesson per week Creative Arts lesson, with music integrated within this, along with additional musical interaction activities where appropriate.

Additional music integration:

- Musical cues throughout the school day
- Good morning and goodbye songs
- Music for enjoyment during morning tutor times (across the school)

We have a wide range of instruments available to support our students' learning and musical exploration.

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 offer the following co-curricular music opportunities:

1. Inclusive Choir: Open to all students, focusing on accessible vocal techniques and songs.

These activities are free of charge and open to all students. We provide necessary adaptations and support to ensure all students can participate.

Practice spaces are available during lunch breaks for students who wish to explore or practice independently.

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.

Our school provides various musical experiences throughout the year:

1. Daily musical moments: Singing in assembly, musical cues, and enjoyment sessions.
2. School concerts: Showcasing the work of our choir, class groups, and individual performers.

3. Visiting musicians: We invite diverse musicians to perform and lead workshops, providing our students with exposure to various musical styles and instruments.
4. Offsite visits to musicals and local performances.

All school-based events are free for students and families to attend. For off-site experiences, we seek to subsidise costs and provide support for families in need.

In the future

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

Over the next two academic years, we plan to:

- Implement a consistent weekly music lesson across all KS1-KS3.
- Develop a progressive music curriculum that spans from primary to secondary, focusing on skill development and musical enjoyment.
- Introduce music technology more formally into our curriculum, recognising its potential for accessible music creation.
- Establish partnerships with local musicians and music organisations to provide more diverse musical experiences.
- Develop assessment methods that capture the musical progress of all our students, recognising and celebrating their individual achievements.

Further information (optional)

We are working closely with Music-On-Sea to support our curriculum development and provide additional opportunities for our students. Our music specialist, Emily Shuttleworth will be integral in shaping our new curriculum and training our staff to deliver high-quality, inclusive music education.

For more information about music education opportunities, parents and young people can refer to the Department for Education's guide: [[The power of music to change lives - A National Plan for Music Education \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](https://publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/672212/The-power-of-music-to-change-lives-A-National-Plan-for-Music-Education.pdf)].

We are committed to making music accessible and enjoyable for all our students, recognising its power to enhance communication, expression, and overall well-being in children with special educational needs and disabilities.