

Music development plan summary: Totley All Saints Primary School

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2025-26
Date this summary was published	September 2025
Date this summary will be reviewed	September 2026
Name of the school music lead	Sue MacPherson
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	
Name of local music hub	Sheffield Music Hub
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	

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.

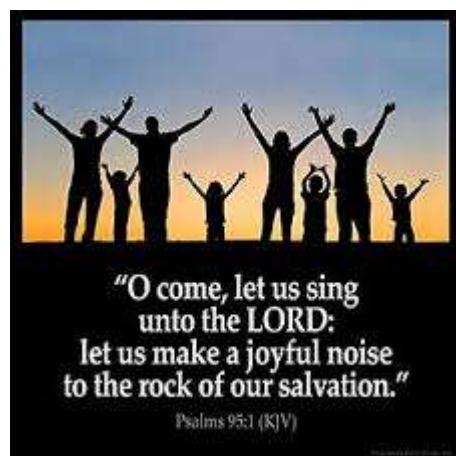
Part A: Curriculum music

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

The vision of music at Totley All Saints Primary School is that Music is fully embedded in every aspect of school life and our aspiration is that every child adopts a lifelong love of music.

Through playing, singing, creating and performing, children will develop confidence, communication skills, thinking and creative skills and improve their emotional well-being. Children will find that music is enjoyable and relaxing and reinforces our whole school ethos of inclusion. Children will build on skills such as 'determination, resilience, hard-work and bravery' when performing to an audience.

Music lessons are lively and interactive and aim to foster a passion for music in children of all abilities.



We follow the Sparkyard Scheme of Music that enables children to develop a range of skills in singing, playing, listening, composing, improvising and exploring notation. This follows the National Curriculum expectations in Music. We ensure that each child receives an hour of quality music teaching a week through the curriculum. We are passionate that all children in our school have access to quality music teaching and make necessary adjustments for children that may need them.

In Foundation Stage, children begin their journey of engagement with music. They develop their listening skills through a range of active listening activities and exposure to a wide range of musical genres. They learn to sing songs together from memory and use song and music in play. They are encouraged to respond to what they have heard and express their thoughts and feelings.

In Year One, children build on these beginnings in their journey of becoming a musician. They are engaging with music in a positive way. We aim that they can talk about music making and what they enjoy, follow instructions and take turns. There is a strong emphasis on singing and untuned percussion. As the children progress into Year Two their engagement with music and the development of their musical skills continue through exploring and performing a range of songs. They begin to work collaboratively in groups and try out musical ideas, making improvements where necessary.

In Year Three, they continue their musical development through a widening range of appropriate songs and show a growing awareness of different musical roles such as conductor, performer, the audience and ensemble. The journey continues in Year Four with a continued engagement in singing. They also continue to work collaboratively in groups and develop their abilities to suggest improvements and express their preferences.

As the children move into Upper Key Stage Two they are becoming a musician. Their development continues through the engagement with an ever-widening range of songs. They also begin to evaluate their work, using a range of musical vocabulary. Their musical journey culminates in Year Six with increased opportunities to share their skills with a wider audience through performance.

Singing is a highly important part of our music curriculum. Weekly singing assemblies take place to teach children how to sing with a sense of pitch and melody. They are taught how to warm up their voices, sing in rounds and harmony, and build up a repertoire of songs.

We also aim to expose our children to a wide range of different styles of music. Each morning, music is playing as the children come into class. The pieces are taken from the Model Music Curriculum listening list for each year group and are discussed as a class.

As well as a strong emphasis on singing, we aim to develop the children's instrumental skills as they progress through our school.

In Year One, children will develop a sense of rhythm through the use of untuned percussion. In Year Two, basic notation will be introduced through the use of glockenspiels where the children will be taught to play simple tunes.

In Years Three, Four and Six, children will be taught recorders as a class. They will learn basic fingering, continue to read basic notation and learn to play a range of simple tunes in small and larger groups.

In Year Five, children are given the opportunity to be taught by a visiting teacher from the Sheffield Music Hub. They are taught to play “pea blowers” as a progression on to learn the cornet. This culminates in a showcase performance for parents at the end of the year.

The impact of our curriculum is monitored in several ways. Objectives from lessons are clearly laid out in our long-term plans to ensure a progression across schools. Children are interviewed by the Subject Lead on their experiences in music and their engagement and enjoyment of lessons. Details of our music curriculum can also be found on the school website.

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.

As well as quality teaching during curriculum time, we offer a range of co-curricular opportunities to our children.

We offer a host of instrumental tuition during lesson time. In Key Stage One there is the opportunity for piano lessons on a one-to-one basis.

In Key Stage Two, we offer one-to-one and small group guitar lessons, one-to-one drumming lessons and one-to-one piano lessons. In addition to this, through the Sheffield Music Hub, children in Year Six are offered the opportunity to continue with their cornet learning in a small group or individual lesson.

Finally, across both Key Stages, we run the Rocksteady programme which offers small group lessons in electric guitar, drums, keyboard and vocals.

In addition to instrument tuition, we also offer several larger group opportunities. In Key Stage One we have a musical experience group once a week after school where the children have the opportunity to make music together in a variety of ways.

In Key Stage Two, we offer a weekly choir where the children learn a more advanced range of songs and work towards a performance.

There are storage facilities in school where the children can store instruments and the library is able to be used by children for rehearsal space during the school day. We are building up a collection of instruments, including recorders and guitars, that the children can borrow to practice on.

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.

It is an important part of a child's musical development to be given the opportunities to perform and to listen to live, quality performances by others. We are committed to giving our children as much opportunity in these areas as possible.

Each child has the chance to perform throughout the year. These performances take a range of forms. All children practice and perform vocally at the Easter and Christmas services. All children also perform as part of the End of Year production with each class performing a musical number.

In Key Stage One, FS2 and Year One have an extra opportunity to perform during the Nativity and Year Two as part of the Christingle service. In Year Six, the children take the lead roles in the end of year performances.

There are also musical showcases throughout the year. Children who learn an instrument through school get chance to perform in assemblies to their peers and families throughout the year. The Year Fives also perform a cornet showcase at the end of the year. The Rocksteady project includes three concerts through the year where the children will perform in their bands.

In addition to this, we have a Musical Showcase in the Summer Term where any children who learn instruments outside of school get an opportunity to perform.

The school choir take part in the Young Voices concert every other year and engage with community projects to perform in the other year. They also perform in local Care Homes at Christmas.

Children in Key Stage One are taking part in a project with Music in the Round with the outcome of going to see a performance of "The Storm Whale". Children in Key Stage Two have a visit to see the Hallé Orchestra perform once every other year. Children in Year Six also go to the local Secondary school once a year to see a dress rehearsal of their performance.

In the future

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

Our aim over the next two years is to firmly embed all the things we have in place.

We aim to make Totley All Saints a school where music is at the heart of all that we do.

The use of key questions will be used to judge the impact of class teaching and ensure that the children are retaining their knowledge and understanding.

Further information

The Department for Education publishes a [guide for parents and young people](#) on how they can get involved in music in and out of school, and where they can go to for support beyond the school.

Further information on the Sheffield Music Service and what it offers can be found here. [Sheffield Music Hub](#)