

Music development plan summary: St Barnabas CE Warrington

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2025-2026
Date this summary was published	September 2025
Date this summary will be reviewed	September 2026
Name of the school music lead	Jayne Fisher
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	N/A
Name of local music hub	Accent Warrington
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	N/A

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

<p>Curriculum –At St Barnabas CE Primary School, we use the Charanga Music Scheme across the school.</p> <p>Our scheme of work fulfils the statutory requirements of the National Curriculum (2014). The National Curriculum for Music aims to ensure that all pupils:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">•Perform, listen to, review and evaluate music across a range of historical periods, genres, styles and traditions, including the works of the great composers and musicians•Learn to sing and to use their voices, to create and compose music on their own and with others, have the opportunity to learn a musical instrument, use technology appropriately and have the opportunity to progress to the next level of musical excellence <p>In Music, the intent of our curriculum is first and foremost to help children feel that they are musical and to develop a life-long love of music. We focus on the knowledge and understanding that our children need to become confident performers, composers and listeners. This is linked closely to our Christian values of creativity and perseverance and</p>
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'letting our light shine'. We want our children to appreciate music from all around the world and across generations, teaching children to respect and appreciate the music of all traditions and communities.

The aims of our Music Curriculum follow that of the National Curriculum, ensuring all children have access to the musical knowledge of singing, playing tuned and non-tuned instruments, improvising and composing music and listening and responding to music. High expectations are set for all learners regardless of their background or skill level.

The Music Curriculum is designed so that taught knowledge and skills are built upon each week, term and year, with strong links to history and cultural context. This helps our children to develop transferable skills such as team-working, leadership, creative thinking, problem solving, decision making and presentation and performance skills. Our children are proactive in each music lesson, identifying how their previous learning can be used to build up a bank of skills. Concepts are further strengthened and developed through a holistic approach in which the individual strands of; performing, composing, listening, the history and the inter—related dimensions of music are woven together to create engaging and enriching learning experiences. We follow a spiral curriculum model where previous knowledge and skills are returned to and built upon, as well as developing the knowledge and understanding of the history of music, staff and other musical notations. Children progress in terms of tackling more complex tasks and doing more simple tasks better. Music is timetabled as an hourly weekly session to ensure consistency and progression and instrumental lessons are available for key stage two pupils.

Enrichment opportunities are provided, including workshops, World Music Day activities and on and off-site performances.

Children are an active part of assessing their own learning, through regular feedback in lessons and through the self and peer assessing of performances. At the end of each unit, teachers assess children's progress against the objectives of the National Curriculum through formative and summative assessment; a series of video evidence that shows progression, knowledge catchers and assessment quizzes that will be used at the beginning and end of the unit to measure pupil progress. These assessments build an ongoing picture of each child's overall musical journey as they move from year group to year group, to ensure they are ready for the next stage of their learning. Pupils should leave our school equipped with a range of knowledge to enable them to succeed in their secondary education and to be able to appreciate and enjoy music throughout their lives.

Music in EYFS - We teach music in Foundation Stage as an integral part of the topic work covered during the year and as part of the specific area, Expressive Arts: Being Imaginative, identified in the Foundation Stage Framework (2014). We relate the musical aspects of the children's work to the objectives set out in the Early Learning Goals (ELGs).

Music contributes to a child's personal and social development. For example 'Counting Songs' foster a child's mathematical ability and songs from different cultures increase a

child's knowledge and understanding of the world. The teaching of nursery rhymes develops communication and language.
Children's standards and achievements in Music are assessed in line with the School's Assessment Policy.

SEND - We will strive to remove barriers to learning for pupils with SEND. Adopting a positive and proactive approach will ensure that children with SEND are able to express themselves and take an active part in lessons. Explicit instructions and scaffolding will enable all pupils to achieve and succeed in music.

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.

At St Barnabas, we work closely with our Primary Arts Network. We work in partnership with other local schools to create an annual performance showcasing children's musical and creative talent. This partnership also fosters links with other curriculum areas. Throughout the year the children are given the opportunity to hone their skills in choirs and in musical theatre workshops.

We offer a singing club regularly to all children that takes place after school. As a school we also have links with the wider community, where we are regularly asked to sing for a local dementia group and also in the wards of the local hospital at Christmastime.

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.

This academic year at St Barnabas, we plan to put on a spring music concert, where the children from classes in KS2 can showcase their musical talent and share with parents and carers the musical journey that they have been on this year. The children will sing, play musical instruments and perform poetry. This performance will be free to our parents.

Throughout the year, the children have access to musical workshops. These workshops will be accessible to all children from EYFS to Year 6 and are particularly accessible for our SEND children.

Pupils from Year 6 will be performing at our local Dementia group several times throughout the year and our choir will perform at our local hospital.

In the future

Our plans for music in the future, include inviting musicians and inspirational people to our school to inspire our pupils' love of music. We aim to expose our children to as many musical experiences as we can so that they continue to develop a love of music throughout their lives.

Further information

St Barnabas CE Primary School are proud to have achieved Music Ambassador status for the past 4 years and have also achieved the Warrington Arts Mark.