# Music development plan summary: Astbury St Mary's

## Overview

| Detail | Information |
|---|---|
| Academic year that this summary covers | 2026-2027 |
| Date this summary was published | 01.09.27 |
| Date this summary will be reviewed | 31.08.27 |
| Name of the school music lead | Sophie Cook |
| Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different) | |
| Name of local music hub | Love Music Trust |
| Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place) | Music For Life |

Rooted in our Christian vision to "Walk in Love" (Ephesians 5:2), music at Astbury St Mary's CE Primary School is an integral part of our community and spiritual life. We believe that music nurtures joy, creative expression, self-control and togetherness, enabling all pupils to experience "life in all its fullness" (John 10:10). This document summarises how our school delivers music education to all pupils across three core areas - Curriculum Music, Co-Curricular Provision and Musical Experiences - and outlines our strategic development goals for future years.

## 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 medium term plans from Charanga can be found on our website.

- **Early Years (Nursery & Reception):** Children access music daily through continuous provision, singing games, active listening and rhythmic exploration.
- **Key Stage 1 & Key Stage 2 (Years 1–6):** Pupils receive 1 dedicated lesson of curriculum music per week.
- **Curriculum Scheme:** Our curriculum is planned using **Charanga,** which aligns with the National Curriculum and Model Music Curriculum (MMC) guidance to enhance listening, appreciation and musical understanding.

**Instrumental Practice:**

Instrumental practice in Astbury progresses from basic untuned percussion, foundational posture and simple 3-note melodies in Key Stage 1 to complex multi-part

ensembles, advanced scales, dynamic, and notation-reading by Key Stage 2. Across all year groups, pupils continuously refine physical technique - such as proper posture and beater control - while expanding their musical literacy, rhythmic accuracy, and expressive performance skills.

- **Specialist Tuition (Years 5 & 6):** Pupils undertake a 10-week specialist drumming programme delivered in partnership with external tutors, building rhythm, coordination and confidence, culminating in a showcase performance for parents and carers.
- **Inclusion & Vocabulary:** Music lessons are accessible to all pupils, including those with SEND, through appropriate adaptations and support to ensure everyone can participate and succeed. Subject-specific musical vocabulary is explicitly taught, revisited and progressively developed as pupils move through the school. Teaching is responsive to individual needs, ensuring all pupils can access the curriculum and develop their musical knowledge and skills.

### 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.

- **Instrumental Tuition:** Children have access to Music For Life piano lessons at a cost of approx. £31 per week.
- **Weekly Worship & Praise:** Whole-school weekly Singing Worship, where children learn traditional hymns and contemporary Christian songs to praise together as an ensemble. Half-termly worship and celebration services held at St Mary's Church, Astbury, featuring pupil vocal and instrumental performances.

### 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.

At Astbury St Mary's, we believe that music holds equal value for both the performer and the listener. To encourage every child to grow as a confident and expressive musician, we provide rich performance opportunities throughout the year:

- **Productions & Nativities:** Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and Year 6 pupils participate in annual Christmas nativities and end-of-year productions with a strong emphasis on vocal performance and drama.

- **Young Voices:** Our school choir participates in the annual **Young Voices** concert, performing alongside thousands of children in a massed choir experience at major arena venues.
- **Live Performance Visits:** Autumn term visits to live theatrical/pantomime performances help pupils appreciate the magic and difference between live and recorded performance.
- **Astbury's Got Talent:** An annual whole-school celebration showcasing pupils' individual musical, vocal and creative talents.

## In the future

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

- **Staff CPD & Confidence:** Increase teacher confidence and expertise in delivering high-quality, sequential curriculum music across all key stages.
- **Musical Vocabulary & Knowledge:** Deepen children's musical vocabulary, notation reading and listening comprehension across all year groups.
- **Performance & Live Opportunities:** Expand the range of live music workshops, visiting musicians and performance opportunities for pupils.