# Music development plan summary: St Mary's Catholic Primary School

## Overview

| Detail | Information |
|---|---|
| Academic year that this summary covers | 2026 - 2027 |
| Date this summary was published | 16th November 2026 |
| Date this summary will be reviewed | 1st September 2027 |
| Name of the school music lead | Jen Tonkin |
| Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different) | N/A |
| Name of local music hub | Cornwall Music Education Hub |
| Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place) | Rock Steady |

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.

At St Mary's, music is integral to our educational approach. Our mission is to cultivate a lifelong passion for music in our pupils by offering engaging and inspiring opportunities. We are committed to designing a curriculum that places musical sound at its core, ensuring a progressive pathway tailored to each child's development. Through our music program, we aim to support students' mental well-being and provide them with a meaningful outlet for emotional expression.

Our curriculum enables pupils to explore performance, critical listening and analysis, singing, improvisation, and composition, while building a solid understanding of music's fundamental elements.

Students experience musical learning through a structured 6-week unit each term. In addition, weekly singing assemblies and exposure to a diverse range of musical genres and international music are incorporated into the classroom, in line with the Model Music Curriculum recommendations.

## 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.

To further nurture a love of music, St Mary's offers a singing club that participates in school performances and community events. Year 4 students perform with a local singer at the Oyster Festival, while Year 5 students showcase their singing skills at the Sea Shanty Festival and Christmas lantern parade. Additionally, KS2 students perform a carol concert at Christmas at St.Mary's Church, open to peers, parents, and parishioners.

Recognising the diverse needs and interests of our pupils, St Mary's also provides opportunities for non-classical music experiences through Rock Steady. This program allows students to engage in band-based learning and perform regularly for their families and peers.

Students have the opportunity to participate in music lessons offered by the Cornwall Music Education Hub, including drum, piano, cornet and guitar lessons, which can be scheduled through their website. These lessons provide a pathway for students to progress through musical grades and undertake examinations. Achievements in these areas are recognised and celebrated within the school through termly 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.

This year, St Mary's is dedicated to offering students a diverse range of musical experiences to foster and enhance their passion for music. The Singing Club will have opportunity to perform in school assemblies, and similar performance opportunities will be available to the Rock Steady bands and students receiving instrumental instruction through the Cornwall Music Education Hub. Although the Oyster Festival has been cancelled this year, students will participate in the Christmas light's switch on and the Sea Shanty Festival in the summer, providing valuable public performance experiences.

Additionally, we will host a carol service for Key Stage 2 students at St Mary's Roman Catholic Immaculate Church in Falmouth following Christmas. Key Stage 1 students

will present a Christmas Nativity performance to demonstrate their singing abilities. All performances are open to parents and parishioners, and further details, including dates, will be provided closer to the events.

## In the future

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

In the future, St Mary's will continue to take part in musical events both throughout the school and community. We hope to engage further with music by attending musical performances with external providers and professions. Furthermore, we hope to begin to engage with 'Songfest'.

We will work on implementing these changes over the coming year in the hopes of having them in place for the beginning of 2027.

## Further information (optional)

Please find the following links to websites and opportunities mentioned within this development plan:

- Cornwall Music Education Hub - https://www.cornwall.gov.uk/schools-and-education/cornwall-music-education-hub/
- National Plan for Music - https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/1086619/The_Power_of_Music_to_Change_Lives.pdf
- Rock Steady - https://www.rocksteadymusicschool.com/
- St Mary's Immaculate Catholic Church - https://www.falmouthcatholicchurch.org.uk/