

Music development plan summary: St Stephens Community Academy



Overview

| Detail | Information |
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| Academic year that this summary covers | 2025-2026 |
| Date this summary was published | 25.06.2026 |
| Date this summary will be reviewed | 25.06.2027 |
| Name of the school music lead | Maura Furber |
| Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different) | |
| Name of local music hub | HLO Team at Hall for Cornwall |
| 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.

- Comprehensive curriculum coverage underpinned by long-term, whole-school planning to ensure progression and continuity of learning – delivered by music teacher.
- Integration of music technology, to enhance and modernise provision.
- Strong emphasis on singing as a whole-school focus, fostering joy, engagement, and inclusivity so that all pupils can experience the benefits of music-making.
- High-quality EYFS provision, using carefully planned activities and continuous provision to meet creative learning objectives and support developmental milestones.
- Inclusive provision for SEND pupils, with adaptations that respect and meet individual needs and preferences.
- Effective partnership with Cornwall Music Service Music Hub, enriching curriculum opportunities and extending musical experiences beyond the classroom such as First Access – Brass, ukeleles, recorders
- Wide-ranging performance opportunities, including whole-school events e.g. end of year musical theatre production, class performances, choirs, small groups, and appropriate solo opportunities.

- Regular listening and appraising activities, enabling pupils to explore and respond to a diverse range of musical genres both in class and through wider opportunities.
- Specialist instrumental tuition, with small-group and individual lessons (e.g. piano, keyboard) delivered by experienced peripatetic teacher.
- Access to a broad and continually developing range of instruments, including tuned and untuned percussion, supporting practical music-making.
- Opportunities to experience live and professional performances, encouraging pupils to form and express informed opinions about music across different genres.

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.

Our school offers a range of instrumental tuition opportunities beyond class music lessons, enabling pupils to develop their skills and interests further. These include:

- One-to-one and small-group lessons delivered by experienced peripatetic music teachers
- Currently available instruments include:
 - Piano and keyboard

These lessons take place during the school day and are arranged directly with visiting teachers. We aim to make tuition as accessible as possible, and we work with families to support participation where financial barriers exist, including signposting to subsidies where available.

Choirs, Ensembles and Group Music-Making

We provide a range of opportunities for pupils to sing and play music together outside of lesson time, developing confidence, collaboration and enjoyment:

- A term of First Access for each class – brass instrument tuition (KS2), recorders (KS1)
- Opportunities for small group performances and ensembles as provision continues to develop
- Whole-school singing opportunities, supporting our strong focus on singing as an inclusive activity for all

Progression and Musical Development

Pupils are supported to make continued progress in music beyond the classroom through:

- Ongoing instrumental tuition, allowing structured progression over time
- Opportunities to perform in concerts, assemblies and school events, building confidence and musicality

- Exposure to live and professional performances, helping pupils develop listening skills and musical understanding
- Clear links with curriculum learning to ensure skills are reinforced and extended

We are working to further develop:

- Pathways to graded music examinations and awards
- Links to wider music centre provision (e.g. hub-based opportunities)

Access, Inclusion and Support

We are committed to ensuring that all pupils can access co-curricular music opportunities, including:

- Adapting provision to meet the needs of SEND pupils
- Promoting inclusive participation in singing and group music-making
- Working with families to reduce financial barriers where possible
- Exploring opportunities for instrument loans as provision develops

Rehearsal and Practice Opportunities

Pupils are supported to practise and rehearse through:

- Access to school spaces for rehearsals (e.g. hall or classroom areas)
- Opportunities to rehearse as part of choir or group sessions
- Encouragement to practise regularly at home, supported by tuition where relevant

Partnerships

Our strong partnership with Cornwall Music Service enhances our extra-curricular offer by:

- Providing access to specialist teaching and wider opportunities
- Supporting the development of ensembles and progression pathways
- Offering links to broader music-making beyond school, including events and performances

Development Priorities

We are continuing to strengthen our offer by:

- Expanding the range of ensembles and group music opportunities
- Increasing access to instrumental learning for all pupils, including disadvantaged pupils
- Developing clearer progression routes beyond school-based provision
- Embedding the use of music technology within enrichment opportunities

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.

Music is an integral part of school life, and we provide a wide range of planned musical experiences throughout the academic year to enrich pupils' learning and enjoyment. These include:

- Regular singing in assemblies, where all pupils participate and develop ensemble singing skills
- Whole-school and key stage performances, including seasonal celebrations (e.g. Christmas productions, end-of-year performances)
- Class performances and sharing assemblies, giving pupils the opportunity to perform to peers and parents
- Concerts and showcases, involving choirs, instrumentalists and small groups
- Opportunities to listen to and respond to live music, including visiting musicians and performances

Participation and Inclusion

All pupils have opportunities to engage in musical events in a variety of ways:

As performers:

- EYFS and KS1 pupils take part in class-based performances and celebrations
- KS2 pupils participate in larger productions and choir performances

As audience members:

- All pupils regularly experience live and recorded performances
- Pupils are encouraged to listen actively and share their opinions about music

We aim to ensure that every child participates in musical performance during their time in school, either as a performer, audience member, or both.

Trips and External Musical Experiences

We are developing opportunities for pupils to experience music beyond the school through:

- Trips to live concerts and performances, where available
- Engagement with professional musicians and music organisations
- Opportunities facilitated through our link with the Cornwall Music Service Trust which broadens access to high-quality musical experiences

Charging and Accessibility

We are committed to ensuring musical experiences are accessible to all pupils:

- Many in-school musical events and performances are free of charge
- Where there is a cost (e.g. trips or external events), we aim to:
 1. Keep costs as low as possible
 2. Provide financial support or subsidies where needed, including for pupils eligible for pupil premium
- We ensure that no pupil is excluded from participation due to financial barriers

Partnerships

Our partnership with Cornwall Music Service Trust supports and enhances our musical events offer by:

- Providing access to performance opportunities and events
- Enabling visiting musicians and workshops

- Supporting the development of a broad and engaging musical experience for all pupils

In the future

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

Development Priorities

In line with the 7 features of high-quality music provision, we will continue to strengthen and extend our music offer through the following priorities:

Curriculum time and structure

- Increase curriculum music teaching to a minimum of one hour per week in each class where possible
- Expanding the range of in-school concerts and showcases
- Ensure consistent coverage across all year groups through refined long-term planning
- Progression and breadth
- Further embed the Model Music Curriculum (via Sing up) to ensure clear progression in knowledge, skills and vocabulary
- Introduce additional instruments into whole-class teaching to broaden pupils' musical experiences
Increasing opportunities for pupils to attend live performances outside of school

Singing and vocal development

- Establish regular, high-quality singing opportunities, including termly performances and wider participation events

Instrumental and ensemble provision

- Expand instrumental tuition opportunities, particularly for disadvantaged pupils
- Develop a wider range of ensembles and group music-making opportunities (e.g. bands, instrumental groups)
- Strengthening links with external music providers and organisations
- Ensuring a clear progression of performance opportunities across all year groups
- Explore opportunities for whole-class ensemble teaching in KS2

Inclusion and access

- Strengthen provision for SEND and disadvantaged pupils, including increased access to instrument loans and subsidised tuition

- Ensure all pupils have equitable access to co-curricular music opportunities

Performance and enrichment

- Establish a programme of termly performance opportunities for all pupils
- Increase opportunities to perform beyond school, including participation in local and hub events
- Develop a structured plan for attending live performances across different key stages

Partnerships and sustainability

- Strengthen work with CMST to support progression pathways and staff development
- Increase access to external workshops, visiting musicians and community music projects
- Music technology
- Embed the use of music technology across the curriculum and enrichment activities
- Provide pupils with opportunities to compose, record and evaluate music digitally

Further information (optional)

We are committed to helping pupils and families engage with music both in and out of school. The Department for Education guide for parents and young people provides useful information about how to get involved in music, including pathways for learning instruments, joining ensembles and accessing financial support where available.

In addition, our local music hub publishes a Local Plan for Music Education (from September 2024), which outlines the broader vision for music education in the area, including progression routes, partnerships and enrichment opportunities. We encourage families to explore this to support continued musical development. Where appropriate, we also signpost families to:

- Local music groups and ensembles
- Music centres, holiday courses and workshops
- Opportunities to attend live performances and concerts

As our provision continues to develop, we will expand partnerships with external music organisations and professional musicians to further enrich pupils' experiences. If applicable, any future development of a trust-wide music development plan will be shared with stakeholders, ensuring alignment and consistency of high-quality music provision.