

Music development plan summary: St Cuthbert's Primary School, North Shields

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2025 - 2026
Date this summary was published	
Date this summary will be reviewed	
Name of the school music lead	Mrs Rosie Brown
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	Mr Shaun Dillon Mrs Kerry Cottiss
Name of local music hub	North Tyneside
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	

Part A: Curriculum music

Music at St Cuthbert's is clearly visible and children thrive in their music lessons. Children have a passion for enjoying and performing music which is celebrated through regular performances, visits and extra-curricular activities.

Our school curriculum is informed by the Model Music Curriculum (2021). Children have the opportunity to learn tuned and untuned percussion in Years 1-3, music technology key skills along with tuned strings (ukulele) in Years 4-6.

Our whole class teaching bridges the core curriculum with local culture and current affairs. We take a holistic approach to music in which whole classes engage in enriching learning experiences and learn a musical instrument meaning equal opportunity for SEND children. All children are given the opportunity to progress and enjoy music, with support and adaptations for children with SEND provided to allow them to access lessons.

In KS2 our children are given the opportunity to learn to play a tuned instrument. Our children develop their expertise in a tuned instrument for a minimum of a term as recommended by the Model Music curriculum. We follow the spiral curriculum model where previous skills and knowledge are returned to and built upon. Children progress in terms of tackling more complex tasks and doing more simple tasks better as well as developing other aspects of their musicality such as reading music notation, developing an understanding of music history and the interrelated elements of music. Music is taught in school weekly or fortnightly to best suit individual year group's timetables. Early Years

children have the opportunity to explore Music continuously through provision areas as well as through focus activities linked to topic and phonics.

We are supported in our delivery of curriculum music through the local authority music hub, from access to a range of CPD opportunities, music network meetings to keep up-to-date with the latest training and opportunities and through the delivery of wider opportunities by music hub professionals.

Children benefit from the expertise of our external music teacher who prepares and delivers engaging instrumental lessons to each key stage. This is to increase engagement and motivation through a fun and bespoke learning experience.

In addition, our school Music Coordinator provides specialist oversight for our school choir and other ensemble groups having a music specialism and accredited ABRSM qualifications. Music is assessed through teacher observation.

Part B: Extra-Curricular music

Children can make progress outside of lesson time through extra-curricular lunchtime and after school clubs to inspire children and boost music as a subject in school. Children in Years 3-6 can join our Music Club which rehearses weekly after-school and at lunchtimes throughout the year and includes extra opportunities to participate in choir, ukulele and percussion ensembles.

St Cuthbert's is supported in offering co-curricular music to children through the North Tyneside Music Hub which supports our Music Lead in delivering the best possible music experiences for our school.

Part C: Musical Experiences

At St Cuthbert's we organise a diverse range of exciting musical experiences for our children, this includes whole-school performances at the Saville Exchange Theatre in North Shields which boasts a 320-seat capacity auditorium in the heart of the town.

We also offer children the opportunity to take part in the Winter Sing, Spring Sing and Summer Sing concerts at the prestigious Whitley Bay Playhouse; a renowned venue in the region with a capacity of over 600 seats. Children rehearse and plan the program of music along with the school Music Coordinator to encourage further engagement in music.

Children are also given the opportunity to perform to hundreds of people at North Shields Victorian Market every Christmas in the centre of the town.

Our Year 4 children rehearse weekly with a choir specialist as part of the Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle Children's Choir, part of the National Schools Singing

Programme (NSSP). This equity of provision delivers high quality music education to our children and the opportunity to perform with schools across the Bishop Bewick Catholic Education Trust, for example, the children sang together at Newcastle Cathedral as part of the Jubilate Deo celebrations.

All children are given the opportunity to perform to their families both in class choirs and in instrumental ensembles as part of our Harvest Festival, Christmas celebrations and other whole-school celebrations.

Children from Reception to Year 6 are given the opportunity to watch the pantomime at Christmas and join in with the singing and performance at the Saville Exchange Theatre.

Our Music hub will inform us of any local opportunities for children to visit local musicians and professionals such as Tete a Tete Opera where our children are going to watch The Rain Show performed by Baraka Opera Kenya.

In the future

St Cuthbert's continues to improve and provide the best possible music education for children.

We will develop the teaching of music further through:

- Establishing a link with local secondary school pupils for the children to inspire and engage their interests in the subject;
- Promoting a termly musical ensemble afternoon for families to encourage them to come and listen to children showcasing individual and group performances as well as offering the opportunity for the choir to perform to their families;
- We have reviewed our instruments to ensure they are the highest quality provision and have plans to purchase new instruments to develop our music instrument offering;
- Opportunities for children to experience and enjoy a live music experience once a year;
- Provide extra-curricular groups for children in KS1;

Further information

Website link to our local authority Music hub for information about further Musical opportunities :- <https://ntmeh.org.uk>

Link to music opportunities for children and families at The Glasshouse: [Make Music | The Glasshouse](#)