

Music development plan summary: St Cecilia's CofE Primary School, Wokingham

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2025-2026
Date this summary was published	October 2025
Date this summary will be reviewed	September 2026
Name of the school music lead	Mrs Kathryn Clarke
Name of local music hub	Berkshire Music Trust
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	WASMA Woodley Festival of Music and Arts ABRSM Music Examination Board

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.

Curriculum Music Overview:

St Cecilia's CofE Primary School is committed to providing high-quality music education to all students. Our curriculum is designed in alignment with the non-statutory guidance of the Model Music Curriculum (March 2021) for Key Stages 1 to 3. The curriculum ensures timetabled music lessons each week. The curriculum is currently based on a mix of units of work from the Kapow scheme of work and our own planned units of work. Cross curricular links are made with other topics and curriculum areas

Year Group Allocation:

- **Early Years:** Activities offered in whole class and guided group sessions with early years staff.
- **Key Stage 2:** 1 hour per week with specialist music teacher.

Opportunities for Learning:

- Whole-class ensemble teaching (WCET) is provided in Year 5 during the class music lesson, where pupils learn to play the recorder. There are also opportunities in other year groups to teach drumming techniques and tuned percussion in WCET schemes of work. Wider opportunities (Into Music) provision has also been offered to year 4 via the music hub and has focussed on brass instruments.
- Singing is an integral part of the curriculum with weekly singing assemblies and classroom-based singing activities. Children are given regular opportunities to sing and perform at school events and religious festivals.

Partnerships:

- Our school works with the Berkshire Music Trust, which provides specialist music teachers for Into Music programs, concert and performing opportunities for pupils, guidance and training for staff, programmes to hire and borrow instruments and opportunities for pupils to attend local and county music ensembles.
- Children are prepared and entered for ABRSM graded exams when individually ready.
- Our school also partners with local music organisations, WASMA and Woodley Festival for Music and Arts. These organisations provide children with annual opportunities to take part in large scale music performances and opportunities for solo performance and competitions.

Inclusivity:

- We ensure access for disabled pupils and support for those with special educational needs (SEND). Our music curriculum is differentiated to meet diverse learning needs.
- Gifted and Talented pupils are identified and opportunities are given for them to perform in school activities and events. Guidance is also given to parents to support them with providing and signposting them to appropriate activities and tuition for their child.

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.

Music Tuition - Individual tuition and Small Group Lessons:

- Available for piano, singing, violin and recorder (Beginners to more experienced pupils). These lessons are offered during the school day, directly with the music lead in school.
- Music tuition includes an individualised progression for learning the chosen instrument and basic music theory.

- During lessons, children are prepared and entered for ABRSM exams - when they are ready.
- Lessons on other instruments can be organised through Berkshire Music Hub.
- We offer support and fee remissions for families eligible for pupil premium.

Ensembles and Choirs:

- **Choirs:** Key Stage 2 Choir (Years 3-6)
- **Instrumental Groups:** Percussion group for WASMA 25.
- **Local ensembles, choirs and county/national music groups:** More able pupils can be given information and helped to apply for ensembles provided by the Music Hub and with local and national organisations outside of school.

Joining Information:

- Pupils can join choir from Year 3 onwards. Participation incurs a termly charge and opportunities are given for parents to sign up each term.
- Parents can request that their child is put on the waiting list for music tuition at any point in the school year, lessons will commence as soon as a space becomes available. There is a weekly charge for a 30min lesson and these are invoiced termly.
- Opportunities for music ensembles and tuition are advertised in newsletters, emails and at the year group information evening.
- Children in receipt of PPG funding are encouraged to take part in co-curricular music activities and support is given to help with tuition fees.

Rehearsal and Practice Spaces:

- We provide designated spaces for rehearsals and individual practice in our school hall, extended services room and in our dedicated music room.
- Choir practice happens in the school hall on a Monday after school.
- Acoustic pianos are provided in the hall and extended services room.
- The music room is equipped with keyboards, a wide range of percussion instruments and music stands.
- Audio and amplification equipment is provided in our school hall.
- The school hall and extended services room are available for hire/booking and are used by a local adult choir, musical theatre groups and rehearsals for LEA events in partnership with WASMA and Berkshire Music Hub.

Partnerships:

- Collaboration with Berkshire Music Trust for Into Music teaching, staff inset training and additional tuition and performance opportunities.
- Wokingham Schools Music Association (WASMA) provides regular network meetings for staff and organisation of annual large-scale music performance.
- LEA large scale music events and regular opportunities for staff networking and training.
- Woodley Festival of Music and Arts provide annual opportunities for solo and group performances, masterclasses and competition.
- The Keys Academy Trust – termly network meetings for music subject leaders.

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.

Regular Events:

- **Assemblies:** Weekly singing assemblies for key stage 2 classes. Children that play musical instruments are encouraged to perform as children enter and leave the hall. All children have the opportunity to perform in groups and in year groups at events linked to the religious calendar – Harvest, TKAT annual service, Remembrance, Christmas and Easter. These services take place in school and in our linked church – St Paul’s, Wokingham. Year 6 also perform in their Leavers assembly.
- **School Performances:** Our St Cecilia’s Concert and Summer Term concert showcases our choir, WCET performances and individual children who have been learning to play a musical instrument both inside and outside school. Some classes will also include musical performances in their class and celebration assemblies. At the end of WCET projects, children have the opportunity to perform to parents and the school.
- **Musical Shows:** Year 5&6 perform their annual musical at the end of the summer term. Nursery and Reception perform their Christmas Nativity/play in the school hall during December.

Trips and External Performances:

- **Live Performances:** Children have the opportunity to see school staff and older students performing in concerts within school.
- **Participation:** Children in the choir have the opportunity to perform at the annual WASMA performance in The Hexagon Theatre, Reading. Children also have the opportunity to audition for solos and join in with dance and percussion ensemble performances. In December, the choir join with other local schools and an orchestra to perform at the Wokingham Mayor’s Annual Carol Concert. Some children will perform solos and duets at the local music festivals and competitions.

Partnerships:

- Partnership with Berkshire Music Trust and LEA organising the Wokingham Mayor’s Annual Carol Concert.
- Collaboration with other local primary schools to rehearse and perform at the annual WASMA concert.

- Solo musicians performing in ABRSM music exams.
- Solo and group performances at the Woodley Festival of Music and Arts.

In the future

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

Planned Improvements:

- Writing and resourcing a bespoke scheme of work for music, based on progressive skills and a wide range of musical genres, styles and periods of history.
- Planning opportunities for assessment in music.
- Developing opportunities and a developmental curriculum for music in the early years.
- Increasing curriculum music time to ensure a full hour of dedicated music education each week.
- Enhancing termly performances with more diverse musical genres and styles.
- Developing a progressive programme of visits to live musical venues and performances.

Focus Areas:

- Expanding partnerships with additional music education organisations, particularly developing links with local secondary schools, independent schools and national projects run by ROH, Music for Youth and RAH.
- Developing further links with local music societies and ensembles, as well as the choir within St Paul's Church to find further opportunities for children to perform or watch local performances.
- Developing opportunities for children to be involved in ensemble activities.
- Continuing professional development for staff to enhance music teaching skills.
- Further inclusion efforts to ensure all pupils, including those with SEND and G&T, have full access to music education.

Further information (optional)

For more details about St Cecilia's CofE Primary School's music development plan, visit our website or contact our music lead, Mrs Kathryn Clarke.