

Music development plan summary: St. Chad's CE Primary School. Part of Forward As One CE MAT

Overview 2026-2027

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2025-2026
Date this summary was published	September 2025
Date this summary will be reviewed	July 2027
Name of the school music lead	Amanda Bennison
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	N/A
Name of local music hub	Oldham
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	Pathways Music

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.

Music is taught in class every week and is informed by the model music curriculum (March 2021). Children will perform, listen and analyse critically, sing, improvise and compose music and understand the musical elements as building blocks with music. Lessons are a minimum of 40 minutes in length and are taught by class teachers or a music specialist in years 3 and 4. Teaching is supported by specialist planning, and the Charanga curriculum scheme of work and platform. Planning is based on procedural, declarative and tacit knowledge with incremental steps in learning.

In EYFS music is delivered through holistic practice as an integral part of early development. Music is planned for across the four musical areas: Hearing & Listening, Vocalising & Singing, Moving & Dancing and Exploring & Playing. Invitations to engage with sound are planned for every day and singing is integrated throughout the day. EYFS - Reception children take part in a weekly singing assembly led by a professional trained and qualified choir lead.

The learning in Ks1 and Ks2 is further supplemented by the same weekly singing assemblies, lasting approximately 30 minutes. Through the taught music curriculum children develop their playing with increasing accuracy, fluency, control and expression.

Listening develops aural memory and children develop an understanding of the history of music through using timelines to place and sequence pieces of music and identifying links between them.

Children in years 3 and 4 learn a variety of instruments as a whole-class ensemble taught by music specialists from Pathways Music Service as part of the Wider Opportunities Programme. This lasts the whole year in conjunction with their weekly music lessons and culminates in a performance concert.

Part B: Extra-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.

At St Chad's CE Primary School, we currently offer individual and small groups lessons in brass, guitar, violin, cello, keyboards, piano, drums and vocals through the Pathways Music Service. Teachers visit the school and teach children in a dedicated space on a Thursday. The children in this time are working towards recognised grading and perform at least two performance concerts a year as an ensemble and band.

On Thursdays, we also have a dedicated professional choir lead who delivers a 30-minute singing assembly followed by a 45-minute choir practice. We have a thriving, oversubscribed School Choir made up of around 50 children from Key Stage 2. They regularly perform during our services, in various supporting performances for local brass bands and in competitions.

Individual and small group lessons are funded by parents, however for those children eligible for pupil premium these lessons are funded through the PPG expenditure.

We work closely with Pathways Music Service to ensure we can offer the best possible music opportunities for our children. If you have an enquiry regarding instrumental lessons on offer, please visit the website: <https://www.pathwaymusic.co.uk>

Part C: Musical experiences and events

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.

Children will have the opportunity to perform or experience high quality music this academic year. Please see below for a list of these opportunities:

- Music of the Week played throughout the week in all classes, with one class per week completing their reflections.
- Choir performance at the Mrs Sunderland Festival
- The Choir performing at the Christmas Brass Concert at Uppermill Methodist Church.
- Christmas pantomime performance for EYFS to Year 6.
- Each year group to participate in a musical performance to families.
- Choir, ensembles and soloists performing at our annual Musical School Proms.
- Years 3/4 performing to an audience at the end of their Wider Opportunities Project.
- KS1 and KS2 attending live music performances at The Bridgewater Hall.
- “Meet a professional Musician” session for EYFS.

In the future

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

In future years, our Music development Plan aims to achieve the following:

- Introduction of a wider range of instruments on offer for small group or individual lessons.
- Widen the number of songs which reflect different cultures and languages through music of the week and collective worship.
- Introduction of further whole-class ensemble projects delivered by a music specialist.
- Further enhance performance opportunities for young musicians throughout the school year.
- Further deepen the engagement in extra-curricular music for pupil premium and SEND children.
- Develop a dedicated music teaching space for use by ensembles and class curriculum lessons.

- Develop staff expertise in the use of iPad/recording to enhance, deliver and assess music lessons.

Further information (optional)

The Department for Education publishes a [guide for parents and young people](#) on how they can get involved in music in and out of school, and where you can go to for support beyond the school.