

Music Development Plan Summary: St Aidan's Catholic Primary School

Academic Year that this summary covers	2025-2026
Date this summary was published	September 2025
Date this summary will be reviewed	July 2026
Name of the school music lead	Miss L Estlin
Name of local music hub	Liverpool City Region Combined Authority

This is a summary of how our school delivers music education to all our pupils across three areas of the 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 pupils' music education.

Part A: Curriculum Music

This section describes our music teaching during lesson time, the structure and duration of music lessons, and any qualifications or awards that pupils can work towards.

- Music teaching at St Aidan's is of a good standard. Our Music Leader has completed recent CPD and holds the Primary Music Leaders Qualification.
- St Aidan's is proud to be a Music Mark School, demonstrating our commitment to high-quality music education for all.
- All children receive 1 hour of timetabled music lessons per week. In addition, we provide a variety of musical opportunities outside this core time (see Part B and C).
- A whole-school music curriculum is in place, covering Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2, and ensures progression in musical skills and knowledge.
- Our curriculum is informed by the non-statutory guidance for music and the Model Music Curriculum (MMC). It includes a diverse range of composers and musicians from around the world.
- Whole class instrumental tuition and special music events are embedded within the curriculum to enhance learning.
- Class teachers record pupil progress using audio/video evidence and brief written observations. The Music Leader supports and monitors this process.
- In the EYFS, music is a regular and essential part of the timetable. Songs and activities are carefully selected to develop young voices and early musical understanding.
- All children learn to play an instrument as part of their classroom music experience during their time at school.

Part B: Co- Curricular Music

This section highlights the opportunities pupils have to participate in music outside of curriculum time, including singing, ensembles, clubs, and instrumental tuition.

Wider Opportunities Instrumental Provision

- Year 4 pupils take part in **weekly whole-class brass lessons** delivered by a specialist from **Knowsley Music Service**. Over the course of a year, pupils develop foundational skills in instrumental playing.
- Pupils are invited to join the **Knowsley Music Service Tutti ensemble for beginner players**, giving them opportunities to rehearse and perform as part of a wider group.

Targeted Instrumental Tuition

- Disadvantaged pupils receive additional instrumental tuition:
 - Year 3: Ukulele
 - Year 5: Flute
 - Year 6: Clarinet
 - These are delivered in **2 x 30-minute group sessions weekly**.
- Some pupils are offered **term-long small group tuition** in ukulele, flute, or clarinet. This is funded through **Pupil Premium** and also provides pathways to **borough-wide ensembles**.
- Pupils who participated last year are continuing their learning in trumpet, ukulele, flute, or clarinet.

Clubs and Ensembles

- KS2 pupils can attend a **free after-school music club**, which includes **ukulele sessions** led by the Music Leader.
- Our **KS2 choir**, led by a member of staff, is **free of charge and open to all**.

Singing Opportunities

- Children in Years 3 and 5 participate in **weekly singing sessions** with a specialist Choral Director from the **Archdiocese of Liverpool Music Department**, covering both hymns and contemporary songs.
- Pupils have the opportunity to join the **Knowsley Catholic Children's Choir**.
- We make use of the **SSP Digital Songbank**—an online collection of video-recorded songs by partner schools across the Archdiocese—accessible via a private YouTube channel. This enables children to sing along, learn new songs, and experience the diversity and talent of other Catholic schools in the region.
- Selected pupils perform annually at the **Good Shepherd Mass at Liverpool Metropolitan Cathedral**, representing the school as part of a wider Archdiocesan celebration.
- Pupils sing during **weekly Gospel Reflection Assemblies** and as part of a small choir visiting **local residential care homes** at Christmas.

Part C: Musical Experiences

This section covers additional musical opportunities that enrich pupils' school life, including performances, assemblies, and trips.

- Weekly **Gospel Reflection Assemblies**
- Weekly **specialist-led singing sessions** for Year 3 and Year 5
- **Christmas Carol Concerts**
- **Local carol singing**
- **Nativity performances**
- **Church services**
- **Good Shepherd Mass** at the Liverpool Metropolitan Cathedral
- **Year 6 Leavers Service**

In the Future

In the future we aim to:

- Further broaden the range of music that pupils experience, including music from different cultures.
- Ensure that each class experiences at least one additional live musical performance per year (where possible in a space other than school).

Further information

Our music education is supported by the following partners and organisations:

- Knowsley Online Music Service
- **Liverpool City Region Combined Authority (LCRCA)** – Lead Organisation for the Greater Merseyside and Warrington Music Education Hub
- Music Mark – National subject association for music education