

Music development plan summary: St Margaret's C of E Primary School

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2024-2025
Date this summary was published	10.07.2025
Date this summary will be reviewed	10.07.2026
Name of the school music lead	Rebecca Bulman
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	Tahnee Vasco
Name of local music hub	Greater Manchester Hub
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	One Education

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.

St Margaret's uses its own bespoke schemes of work for all year groups, including EYFS. This was written in conjunction with a music expert from One Education. These schemes of work have been adapted in line with whole school expectations to include links to the school values of compassion, creativity, curiosity, resilience, responsibility and unity.

St Margaret's works closely with One Education and the Greater Manchester Music Hub to provide the children with opportunities to play a range of instruments (e.g. African drums, violins, recorders), to attend live music events (e.g. Singarounds, The Big Sing) and for professional development opportunities (e.g. MTSA meetings and music hub network meetings attended by subject leader).

You can find the music progression ladder here: <https://primarysite-prod-sorted.s3.amazonaws.com/st-margarets-ce-primary->

[school/UploadedDocument/963d8a48-c299-44d2-9268-54be47a7fec4/music-progression-ladder.pdf](https://www.stmargaretschool.com/UploadedDocument/963d8a48-c299-44d2-9268-54be47a7fec4/music-progression-ladder.pdf)

Music lessons are taught by class teachers using schemes of work that have been designed for non-specialists. These schemes of work are then adapted by class teachers to suit the needs of the children in their class. This includes children with English as an additional language and children with specialist educational needs.

Lessons are taught in classrooms. WCET is taught in the main hall (steel pans for Years 4 and 5); classrooms for Years 4, 5 and 6 (Year 4 – recorders; Years 5 and 6 – keyboards) and the sports hall for Year 3 (African drumming). There is a greater depth violins group in both years 4 and 5 and these groups have a dedicated room for their music lessons. Music lessons last one hour. WCET lasts for 45 minutes.

KS1: Children sing songs, chants and rhymes. Children have the opportunity to play tuned and untuned instruments (e.g., xylophones and percussion).

KS2: Children have the opportunity to play instruments in solo and in groups (percussion instruments, recorders, African drums, keyboards, violins) and they perform either in class or in assembly in front of other classes. They develop their understanding of musical notation and also of the history of music (e.g., Blues, reggae).

Children have the opportunity to play a range of musical instruments during their time at St Margaret's, including percussion, recorders and drums. Digital resources include Garage Band, Audacity and SingUp.

Children sing in every music lesson, either through a warm up song or as the focus for that lesson. St Margaret's uses SingUp for this to ensure that children have the opportunity to sing a range of songs from different cultures and genres. Children also sing in other areas of the curriculum (e.g. singing about the continents in geography; singing about the water cycle in science).

Children in KS1 and KS2 take part in a singing assembly every week, led by the music subject lead for Years 4, 5 and 6 and by the HLTA who supports with music provision and leads the choir for Years 1, 2 and 3.

All children have the opportunity to appreciate and understand a wide range of high-quality live and recorded music drawn from different traditions and from great composers and musicians (e.g. in singing assemblies, during listening and appraising in music lessons, by taking part in Musical Mondays, by attending singing concerts such as Singarounds and the Big Sing). The music subject lead gathers information on upcoming events in Manchester from contacts at One Education.

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.

Whole Class Ensemble Tuition was as follows for the 2024/2025 year and is fully funded by the school:

- Year 3: African drumming – each class gets a full term of weekly lessons
- Year 4:
 - Steel pans – each class took part in a full term of weekly lessons
 - Recorders – each class received a term and a half of keyboard lessons taught by the class teacher
- Year 5:
 - Keyboards – each class received a term and a half of keyboard lessons taught by the class teacher
 - Steel pans – a group of 15 children received weekly steel pans lessons
 - Violins – a group of 6 greater depth pupils took part in lessons led by an external music specialist
- Year 6: Keyboards – each class received a term and a half of keyboard lessons taught by the class teacher

There is a school choir which is led by a HLTA with singing and choir experience. This takes place weekly every Friday for an hour. This choir is free to attend.

St Margaret's was the MYSTEEL - Central Music Centre this year so children had the opportunity to take part in a steel pans after school club on Tuesdays. There cost was £15 per half term to do this.

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.

Children at St Margaret's have the opportunity to take part in regular musical experiences.

Singing assembly takes place weekly for all children from Years 1-6. Singing assembly is led by the (female) music lead for Years 4, 5 and 6 every Tuesday and by a (male) HLTA with choir and singing experience for Years 1, 2 and 3 every Monday. This means that children get the opportunity to hear both male and female voices.

SingUp is used for singing assemblies as well as call and response songs.

Children in KS2 have the opportunity to attend live music events as follows or listen to live music within school:

- Years 3-6: Destiny Africa Children's Choir
- Year 4: violin performances from a local volunteer with grade 8 in violin
- Year 4/5/6 choir: The Big Sing at the Bridgewater Hall

All children have the opportunity to hear live music termly through the Musical Mondays provided by One Education.

Children have the opportunity to perform at St Margaret's. Children perform to each other in the classroom either as a solo performance or a group performance. In KS2, children also have the opportunity to perform to a wider audience. This year, the performances were as follows:

- Years 4/5/6: singing performance in assembly during the autumn term
- Year 5: violins performance in the autumn and spring terms
- Year 4: recorder performance to SLT
- Year 3: African drumming performance
- Choir: Singing performance at the Big Sing at the Bridgewater Hall and at Culture Day (summer term)

In the future

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

St Margaret's will change music provision slightly during the 2025-2026 academic year. Children in Years 4 and 5 will no longer receive a term of steel pans lessons but will instead have access to a music technology scheme of work. These year groups will continue to receive whole class ensemble tuition through recorders in Year 4 and keyboards in year 5.

A larger group of children (15 in both Years 4 and 5) will have access to specialist violin teaching in weekly lessons. There will be a weekly after school club. Children will be identified by teachers and parents will be spoken to about the opportunity to ensure regular attendance.

The music lead plans to implement a termly school performance with a wider range of instruments (e.g., choir, recorders, singing across year groups; Christmas carol concert in KS2).

The music lead plans to add a listening and appraisal section to singing assemblies. As the children come in, they will listen to piece of music and will do a short appraisal in the assembly. Choices of music will come from resources such as the BBC 10 pieces, Classical 100 and SingUp.

The music lead plans to work in conjunction with the enrichment lead to plan and to continue to provide further musical events and opportunities. One Education has provided a list of external opportunities to the music lead who will need to work with the enrichment lead to discuss the possibility of these events happening and the possibility of funding (e.g. Singarounds, EYFS singing spectacular, The Big Sing). The music lead will liaise with the enrichment lead to keep costs low for parents by using either the music budget or the enrichment budget. Where possible, parents will only be asked to contribute towards the cost of travel (usually £2 per child per trip for public transport).

The music lead also plans to speak with the specialist music teachers who teach violins to our Year 4 and 5 children to plan a specialist live music performance for children in KS2.

The music lead plans to work with senior leaders to ensure that the EYFS curriculum is fit for purpose and to make adjustments where required.

Further information (optional)

St Margaret's will continue to work closely with the newly developed Greater Manchester Music Hub to provide high quality music education for our children.

Information about the Greater Manchester Music Hub can be found here.

<https://gmmusicHub.co.uk/>

Further opportunities for music and how children can get involved can be found here.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/music-education-information-for-parents-and-young-people/what-the-national-plan-for-music-education-means-for-children-and-young-people>