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

Overview 2025-2026

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2025-2026
Date this summary was published	March 2026
Date this summary will be reviewed	July 2026
Name of the school music lead	Charlotte Chafer
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	
Name of local music hub	Tameside
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	Charanga – Greater Manchester Music Hub

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.

To read in in more detail about the provision at St Stephen's CE Primary School, please visit our music curriculum page : www.ststephensprimary.co.uk/key-information/curriculum/music

Music is delivered through the Charanga Creative Music Scheme, a curriculum-aligned programme that fully supports the National Curriculum for Music. The scheme provides structured units with teacher guides, medium-term plans and detailed lesson plans, enabling staff to deliver engaging and progressive lessons that develop pupils' listening skills, singing, instrumental technique, improvisation and composition. Music lessons typically last around 45 minutes, with time structured to include review and retrieval of musical knowledge, warm-up activities, and extended guided and independent practical music-making. Lessons provide opportunities for singing, movement,

ensemble work and performance, with built-in differentiation to support all learners. In addition, pupils in Year 3 and Year 4 take part in whole-class ukulele lessons to develop their instrumental skills. Pupils can also work towards performance opportunities and recognised music achievements, with potential progression to external music awards or qualifications where appropriate

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.

Pupils are provided with a range of opportunities to sing and play music beyond lesson time, supporting their musical development outside the core curriculum. Children can take part in a school choir, where they develop their singing technique, confidence and ensemble skills through regular rehearsals. The choir also takes part in the **Young Voices** concert, giving pupils the opportunity to perform as part of a large-scale choir in a professional concert setting. In addition, pupils are encouraged to participate in musical performances and events throughout the school year, helping them build performance experience and enthusiasm for music. These opportunities allow pupils to further develop their musical skills, confidence and enjoyment, supporting progression in music beyond classroom learning.

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.

Other musical events and opportunities are organised throughout the year to give pupils regular chances to perform, experience live music and develop confidence in sharing their musical skills. These experiences help to enrich the music curriculum and foster a love of music across the school community. Opportunities include:

- Singing regularly in school assemblies
- Taking part in a Carol Service at the local church during the Christmas period
- Performing as part of the school choir in the Young Voices concert

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:

- Explore opportunities for external music companies to deliver instrumental lessons in school
- Observe the Music Pathways scheme in other schools to evaluate how it supports musical progression
- Review the current music scheme to ensure it remains the most effective and suitable for our pupils
- Develop staff CPD to strengthen teachers' subject knowledge, confidence and expertise in delivering music
- Widen the number of songs children are familiar with which reflect different cultures and languages.
- Further deepen the engagement in extra-curricular music for Pupil premium and SEND children.

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.