Music development plan summary:
St John's Catholic Primary SchoolOverview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2026-27
Date this summary was published	18/09/2026
Date this summary will be reviewed	18/09/2027
Name of the school music lead	Nicola Armstrong
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	
Name of local music hub	Cornwall Music Education Hub
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	Rock Steady

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.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.

At St John's, music is integral to our educational approach. We aim to cultivate a love for music in our pupils by offering engaging and enriching opportunities. We are using Oak Academy and Music Express as the basis for our music curriculum in school. Our curriculum enables pupils to explore performance, critical listening and analysis, singing, improvisation, and composition, while building a solid understanding of music's fundamental elements.

Students experience musical learning through a structured 6-week unit each term. In addition, weekly singing assemblies and exposure to a diverse range of musical genres and international music, including songs from our local history, are incorporated into the classroom, in line with the Model Music Curriculum recommendations.

We embrace opportunities that arise within the schools locality to perform in larger venues and as part of larger groups and collaborations. For example, sInging at The Hall for Cornwall with Will Keating as a choir of children, totalling 1000 children from local schools.

Part B

All children throughout the school are given the opportunity to take up piano tuition on a 1 to 1 or group basis.

St John's has a choir that all children in KS2 are welcome to attend. The choir performs at school events such as the Christmas and Summer Fayre as well as giving children within this group the opportunity to perform as part of a larger choir with children from a variety of schools at Songfest, annually, which is organised run by Cornwall Music Hub, in collaboration with primary schools in Cornwall.

Rock Steady is another extra curricular opportunity for children to make music, whether this is through learning an instrument or vocal tuition. This leads to an end of term performance where all children within our school are invited to attend, giving them the opportunity to experience live music. One/two spaces are subsidised through the Rock Steady program and these spaces are often allocated to SEN, Pupil Premium or Looked After Children to help bridge the musical experience gaps for disadvantaged children.

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.

Throughout the school year, children from KS2 are invited to attend our choir club. The choir perform at School events and have parts in the Christmas Carol Concert.They also have the opportunity to attend Songfest club where they perform in a larger choir of 150 children from local schools.

At Christmas, all children take part in a vocal performance, performing to their families and people from the wider community.

During our singing/ hymn practice we learn a variety of songs from different musical genres, including historical songs from our Cornish Heritage such as Cornwall My Home.

Pupils also have the opportunity to join our newly formed recorder club and the much anticipated music club starting in Spring 2027.

Our GIFT team are holding a ‘Music Marathon’ where pupils have the opportunity to play in a band, try new instruments and listen to their peers serenade them whilst they eat lunch. A fund day that puts music at the heart of our school.

During the Summer term, we will have a “Festival” where local bands and musicians will perform to our school community and the wider community. This will include a range of genres and ensembles.

In the future

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

This coming year, as a school we will be looking at increasing the range of musical instruments we have on offer for music tuition and will continue to do this in following years.

We are currently looking into opportunities for a range of musical ensembles./ groups to perform live for the children to broaden their experiences and build on their cultural capital, especially groups from the wider community.

We would like to encourage collaboration across year groups and key stages, especially when it comes to peer performances and evaluating group performance.