Music development plan summary:
All Saints' Roman Catholic High School – Romero Trust

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2026-27
Date this summary was published	October 2026
Date this summary will be reviewed	September 2027
Name of the school music lead	Louise Padwell
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	Louise Padwell
Name of local music hub	Lancashire County Council
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	

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 a well-established part of the KS3 curriculum, **with pupils receiving one hour of curriculum Music each week**. The curriculum provides a broad range of practical and theoretical experiences, enabling pupils to develop their musical knowledge, skills, creativity and confidence.

The curriculum is structured around three core areas:

Performing – pupils develop their ability to perform individually and collaboratively, building increasing accuracy, fluency, technical control, musical expression and confidence. Pupils have regular opportunities to perform using a range of instruments and develop their ensemble skills.

Composing – pupils develop their ability to create, develop and refine original musical ideas. They learn to apply musical elements, structures and compositional techniques and are encouraged to make creative and increasingly independent musical decisions.

Listening & Appraising – pupils develop their ability to listen critically and respond to a wide range of music. They learn to identify and describe musical features, use appropriate musical vocabulary and make connections between music, its genre, style, cultural context and historical background.

Across the curriculum, pupils are given opportunities to work **independently** and **collaboratively**, develop their musical **identity** and **creativity**, and apply their knowledge and skills through **practical music-making**.

Music is an **inclusive** subject, with the curriculum designed to enable pupils of different abilities, backgrounds and levels of prior musical experience to participate, achieve and develop as musicians. A range of instruments, practical approaches, scaffolding and differentiated activities are used to remove barriers to participation and support pupils with different learning needs.

Pupils are encouraged to develop their musical skills from their **individual starting points**, with opportunities to demonstrate progress through Performing, Composing and Listening & Appraising. **Collaborative** music-making also provides opportunities for pupils to develop confidence, communication and teamwork.

The school **monitors participation** in both curriculum and extra-curricular Music and seeks to ensure that opportunities are accessible to pupils from all groups. Pupils eligible for Pupil Premium and pupils with SEND are well represented within the school's co-curricular Music provision, including instrumental tuition, choir, Keyboard Club, bands and performance opportunities.

Assessment

A new whole-school assessment framework of **Mastering, Secure, Developing, Emerging and No Learning** is being implemented within Music.

Assessment focuses on the three core areas of Performing, Composing and Listening & Appraising, with expectations becoming progressively more challenging as pupils develop their musical knowledge and skills.

The framework provides a consistent and transparent approach to assessing musical learning, while recognising that pupils may demonstrate different strengths across the three areas. Assessment is used to identify pupils' strengths, areas for development and next steps in their musical learning.

KS4

At Key Stage 4, pupils have the opportunity to continue their musical education through **BTEC Music**.

The KS4 curriculum builds on the knowledge and skills developed at KS3, providing pupils with opportunities to develop their practical, creative, theoretical and technical musical skills. Pupils undertake a range of musical activities and develop skills relevant to further study, employment and progression within the music and wider creative industries.

The curriculum also provides opportunities for pupils to develop greater **independence** as musicians and to explore areas of particular interest, including performance, composition, production and the wider music industry.

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.

All Saints' Catholic High School provides a broad range of opportunities for pupils to develop their musical skills beyond the classroom. Participation is open to pupils across the school, with opportunities for pupils at different stages of musical development.

There is a high level of participation in **instrumental and vocal tuition**, with approximately **47 pupils currently receiving specialist lessons**. Visiting specialist teachers provide tuition in **piano/keyboard, guitar, bass guitar, drums and singing**, alongside opportunities for band coaching.

Lancashire County Council provides guitar tuition, while other instrumental and vocal tuition is delivered by independent specialist teachers. The school **subsidises the cost of instrumental and vocal tuition** to improve accessibility. Pupils who choose Music as a Key Stage 4 option receive **free instrumental/vocal lessons**, supporting their development as musicians and progression into further musical study.

A **high proportion of pupils accessing co-curricular Music opportunities are eligible for Pupil Premium and/or have SEND**, demonstrating that musical opportunities are accessed by pupils from a range of backgrounds and with a range of needs. The school seeks to remove financial, practical and other barriers to participation wherever possible.

The school provides a **weekly choir**, with approximately **30 pupils participating**. The choir is open to pupils across the school and provides opportunities to develop vocal technique, ensemble skills, confidence and performance skills.

Pupils can participate in **Keyboard Club**, with approximately **15 pupils currently attending**, predominantly from Year 7. This provides an accessible introduction to practical music-making and supports pupils in developing their keyboard skills beyond curriculum lessons.

The school also supports the development of **pupil-led bands**, including Year 9 and Year 10 bands and an emerging indie band culture. Pupils have opportunities to rehearse together, develop repertoire and original musical ideas, receive band coaching and perform both within and outside school.

The range of co-curricular opportunities enables pupils to develop musical skills, confidence, collaboration and independence, while providing pathways for pupils to continue their musical interests beyond curriculum Music.

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.

All Saints' Catholic High School provides pupils with regular opportunities to perform and experience music as part of school life, the Catholic life of the school and the wider community.

Approximately **50 pupils participate in the annual school musical**, providing opportunities to develop singing, performance, ensemble, rehearsal and collaborative skills. In 2026–27, the school will stage **Annie** in February 2027.

The school will hold a **Music Showcase in April**, with approximately **20 pupils expected to participate**, providing a platform for pupils to perform to an audience and celebrate musical achievement.

The **school choir**, comprising approximately 30 pupils, performs regularly at **school Masses**, with around **25–30 pupils participating** in these musical contributions. This enables pupils to use their musical skills as part of the Catholic life of the school.

The choir also participates in **community carol singing**, with approximately **30 pupils taking part**, giving pupils experience of performing outside the school environment and engaging with the wider community.

Approximately **25 pupils participate annually in Lancashire Sings**, providing pupils with a large-scale choral experience and the opportunity to perform alongside other young people.

The choir also performs at the school's **annual Awards Evening**, with approximately **25 pupils participating**.

Pupils involved in the school's developing **indie band culture** have opportunities to perform both within school and at external venues. These experiences support the development of confidence, stagecraft, ensemble skills and independence as young musicians.

Through this programme of experiences, pupils have regular opportunities to **perform for different audiences, experience live and collaborative music-making, represent the school within the community and celebrate their musical achievements**.

Through these opportunities, pupils experience music not only as a curriculum subject but as an important part of **school life, the Catholic community and the wider community**.

In the future

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

Increase participation: Continue to promote co-curricular Music opportunities across all year groups, with a particular focus on encouraging pupils who do not currently participate in musical activities.

Maintain inclusive access: Continue to monitor participation in instrumental tuition, ensembles and performance opportunities, particularly for pupils eligible for Pupil Premium and pupils with SEND and identify and address barriers to participation.

Develop progression: Strengthen the progression route from curriculum Music into instrumental tuition, ensembles, bands and KS4 Music, ensuring pupils understand the opportunities available to continue developing as musicians.

Expand performance opportunities: Continue to develop opportunities for pupils to perform to different audiences within school and the wider community, including concerts, the annual school show, Masses, community events and external performances.

Develop local music industry links: Build stronger links with **local radio stations, recording studios and music industry professionals**, building on the existing support provided to the school's bands by local music organisations and venues.

These partnerships will provide opportunities for pupils to develop their understanding of the local music industry, recording, broadcasting, live performance and music-related careers.

Develop opportunities for pupil-led bands: Continue to support the school's developing indie band culture, providing pupils with opportunities to rehearse, record, perform and develop original music, while creating links with local music venues, studios and other organisations.

Further information (optional)