St. Alban's Catholic Primary School
Music Policy
2026 - 2027

Statement of Intent

Music is a powerful, unique form of communication that can change the way pupils feel, think and act. It brings together intellect and feeling and enables personal expression, reflection and emotional development. As an integral part of culture, past and present, it helps pupils understand themselves and relate to others, forging important links between the home, school and the wider world. At St. Albans, our children engage actively with, and develop their understanding of, music making in small and large groups through performing, composing and listening to music. The teaching of music develops our pupils' ability to listen and appreciate a wide variety of music. It encourages active involvement in different forms of music making, both individual and communal, developing a sense of group identity and togetherness. It also increases self-discipline and creativity, aesthetic sensitivity and fulfilment.

Aims

- to ensure all children have equality of access to the music curriculum
- to develop music capability progressively in line with national and local expectations
- to foster pupils' sensitivity to, and their understanding and enjoyment of, music through an active involvement in listening, composing and performing.
- To learn to play a musical instrument
- To learn to sing and use their voices
- To understand how music is created, produced and communicated
- To use music technology to develop compositional skills
- To perform, listen to, review and evaluate music across a range of historical periods, genres, styles and traditions, including the works of the great composers and musicians

Catholic Social Teaching

Catholic Social Teaching underpins the music curriculum and delivery of music in our school. Through making music in a class or group, there is a focus on family and community, as well as working together for a common good – in particular, preparing for a concert or performance either at school or as part of a larger group. The dignity of work is also a focus, especially as children learn new skills in playing a musical instrument.

Teaching and Learning

Music Curriculum

The school follows the National Curriculum for Music to ensure Music is taught progressively from Foundation Stage to Year 6.
Music is taught discreetly by a subject specialist and also by visiting teachers from Cambridgeshire Music who deliver group instrumental teaching for Year 4 children.
All children are given the opportunity to use a range of instruments, building their skills throughout the school and including recorder, guitar, violin as well as classroom pitched and unpitched instruments. We are generously supported by the PFA in the the buying of class sets of instruments.

Special Educational Needs

Music will be used where relevant and appropriate to support children with special educational needs, including those with learning difficulties and physical difficulties where

specialist therapeutic services may be used from Cambridgeshire Music. The classroom curriculum is adapted where necessary so that all children can access music provision.

Recording and Assessment

The school assesses children's work against the national curriculum. Children's performance and composition work is stored in year group photo and recording folders on the school network

Professional Development

Music is taught as part of PPA by the Music Subject Leader and by visiting teachers from Cambridgeshire Music. The Subject Leader seeks out training where necessary to develop their knowledge. She teaches music in 2 other Cambridgeshire schools, so ideas and initiatives can be shared. In addition, the school takes part in music making with oother music groups in Cambridge, such as The Homerton Singers, and is in the process of developing a partnership with The Perse School to develop performance in singing.

Resources

The school has a range of musical instruments, 15 sets of chime bars for KS1 and 15 chromatic Glockenspiels for use in Key Stage 2, a wide range of pitched and unpitched, plus 9 djembe drums, keyboards, guitars and sets of recorders. These are stored in the music room. Children also use i-pads and computers for composition work.

Extra Curricular Music

The school supports individual music lessons provided on violin, piano, guitar and cello by Cambridgeshire Music, funding individual lessons as required for pupil premium children. In addition, there is a choir run outside of lesson times.

29.09.2026
K.Talbot