

Holy Cross Music Development Plan 2024



Part A: Curriculum music

At Holy Cross Primary School, music is a core part of the curriculum. Pupils in Key Stage 1 (KS1) receive 30 minutes per week with additional singing sessions. In Key Stage 2 (KS2), pupils have 60 minutes of music instruction per week. All music lessons are delivered by expert teachers from the Trust Music Service, ensuring high-quality provision.

The school is committed to providing a well-rounded musical education for all pupils. By the time they leave in Year 6, every pupil will have had the opportunity to play a brass, string, woodwind, tuned percussion, and untuned percussion instrument. Pupils who have private lessons are also encouraged to take music grades as they progress.

Potential next steps:

- Explore the possibility of increasing the weekly music allocation for KS1 pupils to match the 60 minutes provided for KS2, ensuring a consistent and robust music curriculum across all key stages.
- Investigate ways to further support and encourage pupils who have private music lessons, such as providing opportunities for them to showcase their skills or perform with school ensembles.
- Consider implementing a system to monitor and track the musical progress of all pupils, ensuring that the curriculum is effectively meeting their needs and supporting their development.

Part B: Co-curricular music

Holy Cross Primary School has a vibrant co-curricular music programme that provides pupils with numerous opportunities to engage in musical activities beyond the classroom.

Children in EYFS perform to parents, Year 1 put on a Christingle service for parents, Years 3 and 4 tell the Easter story, Year 5 are responsible for our Harvest Festival and Year 6 put together a leavers liturgy.

Additionally, the school organises an annual "Parents' Musical Extravaganza" concert, which allows pupils who receive peripatetic lessons to perform for their families and the wider school community.

Potential next steps:

- Explore the possibility of expanding the school's co-curricular music offerings, such as introducing instrumental ensembles or additional choirs to cater to a wider range of musical interests and abilities.
- Consider organising more frequent performance opportunities for pupils, both within the school and in the local community, to further develop their confidence and musical skills.
- Investigate ways to engage more parents and families in the school's musical activities, fostering a stronger sense of community and support for the music programme.

Part C: Musical experiences

Holy Cross Primary School provides its pupils with a variety of enriching musical experiences beyond the curriculum. The school's weekly singing assembly focuses on developing pupils' skills in singing rounds and part-singing, helping to build their musical understanding and ensemble skills.

Potential next steps:

- Investigate the possibility of arranging class trips or visits to local cultural institutions, such as concerts or music workshops, to further enrich the pupils' musical experiences.
- Consider inviting professional musicians or music groups to the school to perform for and interact with the pupils, providing them with opportunities to engage with live music and learn from experienced practitioners.
- Explore ways to incorporate more cross-curricular links between music and other subject areas, such as using music to support learning in history, geography, or literature, to further integrate music into the broader educational experience.

In the Future

Looking ahead, Holy Cross Primary School aims to expand the opportunities for pupils to access private music lessons. The school recognises the importance of providing equal access to high-quality music education, and plans to explore ways to subsidise private lessons for disadvantaged pupils, ensuring that financial barriers do not prevent any child from pursuing their musical interests.

Potential next steps:

- Conduct a comprehensive review of the school's current music provision and resources to identify areas where additional support or investment may be needed to facilitate the expansion of private music lessons
- Engage with parents, carers, and the local community to explore funding opportunities and partnerships that could help to subsidise private music lessons for disadvantaged pupils, ensuring that the school's music programme is accessible to all.
- Develop a clear strategy and implementation plan for the creation of the school band, including identifying suitable rehearsal spaces, securing appropriate instruments, and recruiting and training staff to lead and support the ensemble.