

# Music development plan summary: St Thomas More CVA

## Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2025-2026
Date this summary was published	September 2025
Date this summary will be reviewed	September 2026
Name of the school music lead	Tess Lambert
Name of local music hub	Leicestershire 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.

Music is taught three times across the academic year as part of a blocked curriculum model. This approach allows pupils to immerse themselves in musical learning while ensuring clear progression of knowledge and skills over time. Musical knowledge is regularly revisited through retrieval practice, interleaving questions and repeated exposure to key concepts, vocabulary and musical elements to support long-term retention and understanding.

Music is taught through a progressive curriculum aligned to the Model Music Curriculum (March 2021). Lessons develop pupils' understanding of the interrelated dimensions of music through singing, listening, composing, improvising and performing.

Our curriculum is designed to:

- develop pupils' musical confidence and creativity
- expose pupils to a wide range of musical genres, cultures and traditions
- build strong foundations in pulse, rhythm, pitch, notation and performance
- ensure pupils can listen critically and respond thoughtfully to music
- provide regular opportunities for collaborative and independent musical work

Pupils experience:

- singing regularly in class and collective worship
- tuned and untuned percussion performance
- improvisation and composition activities
- listening and appraising using appropriate musical vocabulary
- opportunities to perform to peers and wider audiences

Instrumental provision currently includes:

- recorder teaching in Key Stage 1
- ukulele teaching in Year 6
- whole-class percussion and rhythm work throughout the school
- The curriculum has been adapted to support mixed-age teaching where appropriate, ensuring clear progression of musical knowledge and skills across year groups.

Adaptations for SEND and disadvantaged pupils include:

- multi-sensory teaching approaches
- visual supports and modelling
- scaffolded tasks and adapted notation
- repetition and pre-teaching opportunities
- flexible grouping and practical learning opportunities

Music assessment is ongoing and informs future planning. Teachers assess pupils through performance, composition, listening responses and participation.

The school currently holds the Bronze Music Mark award and is working towards achieving Silver Music Mark through continued curriculum development, increased participation opportunities and wider musical enrichment.

## 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.

We provide a range of opportunities for pupils to engage with music beyond the classroom.

Current opportunities include:

- choirs
- peripatetic instrumental tuition
- performance opportunities within school and the wider community

Peripatetic tuition is available for:

- brass
- woodwind
- violin
- piano

- guitar
- percussion

St Thomas More CVA works closely with families and external providers to encourage participation and continuation of musical learning beyond school. Subsidies are available for some disadvantaged pupils to support inclusion and access.

Pupils regularly participate in:

- Young Voices massed choir event
- local massed singing events
- parish and community performances
- instrumental showcases and concerts

The school actively promotes progression routes beyond primary school, including local music centre provision and graded instrumental pathways.

## 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.

Music plays an important role within the wider life of the school and contributes strongly to the school's Catholic ethos and community identity.

Pupils regularly experience live and participatory music through:

- weekly singing assemblies
- liturgical celebrations and Masses
- school performances and productions
- visiting musicians and workshops
- community and parish events
- instrumental showcases

Performance opportunities are designed to build pupils' confidence, resilience and enjoyment of music.

Recent and planned musical experiences include:

- Young Voices performances
- De Montfort Hall massed singing events
- Menphys charity Christmas concert
- parish church singing opportunities
- end-of-year performances and celebrations

Music is also used to support wider school priorities including personal development, confidence, teamwork and cultural understanding.

## In the future

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

Over the next academic year, the school aims to continue strengthening music provision through curriculum development, increased enrichment opportunities and broader pupil participation.

Planned developments include:

- further refinement of the progressive music curriculum
- development of assessment systems to support progression
- expansion of performance opportunities across all key stages
- introduction of a Key Stage 1 choir
- increased opportunities for instrumental showcasing
- further links with the Leicestershire Music Hub and local community organisations
- increased live music experiences for pupils
- maintain Silver Music Mark accreditation

The school also plans to further develop inclusive music provision to ensure all pupils, including those with SEND and disadvantaged pupils, can participate fully in musical experiences and performances.