

Music Development Plan Summary: Our Lady of Compassion School

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2024-2025
Date this summary was published	31 st July 2024
Date this summary will be reviewed	25 th July 2025
Name of the school music lead	Rebecca Kinchin
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	Anna Vella
Name of local music hub	Solihull Music Service
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	Solihull Music Service

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.

At Our Lady of Compassion School, we are committed to providing our children with a curriculum and a learning experience which stimulates and inspires them, whilst preparing them for life outside school. We aim to develop children as true lifelong learners, hungry for knowledge and understanding, and proficient at transferring learning skills into a wide range of areas. To support us in achieving this aim, we implement the Kapow Primary Music scheme. The intention of this scheme is first and foremost to help children to feel that they are musical, and to develop a life-long love of music. There is a focus on developing the skills, knowledge and understanding that children need in order to become confident performers, composers, and listeners. Our curriculum introduces children to music from all around the

world and across generations, teaching children to respect and appreciate the music of all traditions and communities.

All lessons are taught by the class teacher, with support from the Kapow Primary Music scheme. The Kapow Music Scheme provides teachers with week-by-week lesson support, for each year group in the school. It is ideal for specialist and non-specialist teachers, providing teaching videos, lesson plans, clear progression and assessment quizzes.

Children develop the musical skills of singing, playing tuned and untuned instruments, improvising and composing music, and listening and responding to music. They develop an understanding of the history and cultural context of the music that they listen to and learn how music can be written down. Through music, our curriculum helps children develop transferable skills such as team-working, leadership, creative thinking, problem-solving, decision-making, and presentation and performance skills. These skills are vital to children's development as learners and have a wider application in their general lives outside and beyond school.

Kapow Primary Mixed-Age Music scheme of work enables pupils to meet the end of key stage attainment targets outlined in the national curriculum - the aims of the scheme align with those in the national curriculum.

Kapow Primary Music scheme takes a holistic approach to music, in which the individual strands below are woven together to create engaging and enriching learning experiences:

- Performing
- Listening
- Composing
- The history of music
- The inter-related dimensions of music

Each five-lesson unit combines these strands within a cross-curricular topic designed to capture pupils' imagination and encourage them to explore music enthusiastically. Over the course of the scheme, children are taught how to sing fluently and expressively, and play tuned and untuned instruments accurately and with control.

They learn to recognise and name the interrelated dimensions of music - pitch, duration, tempo, timbre, structure, texture and dynamics - and use these expressively in their own improvisations and compositions.

In addition to the scheme, children in Year 4 and Year 6 have benefited from choral lessons delivered by the MAC Choral Singing Programme that further develops the children's understanding of music – in its second year, children in Year 3 will now benefit from this experience. Moreover, an increasing number of children are also part of the parish children's choir, singing weekly at the Sunday Mass.

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 OLC, children in Year 3 and Year 4 learn to play the guitar, taught by a music specialist teacher from the Solihull Music Service. We also facilitate music tuition sessions, also taught through Solihull Music Service, where children in KS2 get the opportunity to learn a choice of instruments (guitar, flute and violin) during weekly individual/small group sessions. Children also have the opportunity of learning to play the piano taught by a music specialist.

As part of our pupil premium pledge, children on pupil premium have the opportunity to learn to play a musical instrument from the offer available, the cost of which is subsidised by school. This is to ensure as many children as possible take up this opportunity.

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.

The children have the opportunity of learning and practising a hymn on a weekly basis within their classes as set out on a whole school plan. They then have the opportunity to sing these collectively at our school Masses.

The children in FS1 and FS2 perform in two annual Christmas Nativities to the whole school and to their families – these are great opportunities for the children to perform to an audience.

Children in KS1, LKS2 and UKS2 also perform an annual Christmas Carol Service, containing increasingly complex songs and carols. They again have an opportunity of performing to an audience.

In preparation for Easter, LKS2 perform the Stations of the Cross, learning and performing hymns to their parents and families.

Children in Year 6 perform an end-of-year year musical performance. This is usually a full musical production. This again provides an opportunity for performing to a live audience – children in Year 5 support Year 6 with the singing element to provide such an experience over the 2 years.

Children in KS2 have the opportunity to attend after school choir sessions in preparation for Young Voices, where they have the opportunity to join choirs from different schools to perform collectively to a live audience.

OLC is part of Our Lady and All Saints Multi-Academy Company who have committed to funding a MAC Choral Singing Programme for at least two years. In our second year, the programme will support the music experience for children in Year 3 – this will continue to be led by a dedicated choral director. This will provide the children the opportunity to lead the music in a whole school Mass, take part in a virtual singing concert and perform to a large-scale audience in a joint live concert, led by children from the schools within the MAC.

In the future

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

OLC's next steps are to:

- Support the development of our MAC-wide Choral Music Programme.
- Continue to offer increased opportunities for our children to perform to a large live audience by continuing to participate in Young Voices.
- Engage with the Solihull Music Service and with our specialist piano teacher to explore and implement all potential opportunities offered.