

Music development plan summary: St Mark's CE Primary School

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2025-26
Date this summary was published	7 th September 2025
Date this summary will be reviewed	September 2026
Name of the school music lead	Clare Price
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	
Name of local music hub	West Sussex
Name of other music education organisation(s)	Sussex Music Schools

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 St Mark's CE Primary School all children from Reception to Year 6 receive at least thirty of music per week in their classrooms. In some cases this learning may be delivered in a 'block' but will equal the same amount of time as if taught weekly. This is delivered in class and follows the Kapow Scheme of work for mixed year groups.

Like the rest of our curriculum, for Years 1 – 6 we work on a two-year cycle and we have 'Sticky Knowledge' in music – knowledge that we believe are essential to give ensure a good understanding of the subject that can then be built on over the years. More information on this can be found here [St Mark's Music Curriculum](#).

Part B: Extracurricular music

A wide range of one-to-one instrument lessons are offered at St Mark's at different ages, including:

- Piano (Year 2 upwards)
- Saxophone (Year 5 upwards)
- Recorder (Years 1-2)
- Guitar (Year 3 upwards)
- Flute (Year 3 upwards)
- Clarinet (Year 4 upwards)

For children in KS2, we run a school choir and every other year, we take the children to the Young Voices performance at the O2 Arena in London. The choir takes place in school during lunchtime play once a week. If your child signs up for choir they are expected to attend weekly and to commit to going to the Young Voices concert at the O2 Arena. Parents are invited to come too, but are expected to pay for their own tickets and make their own way to London for the event. It is a wonderful event and the feedback from both children and parents was extremely positive!

Both specialist music lessons and the trip to the O2 are all at an additional cost to parents, but for children receiving Pupil Premium funding, there may be some discussion over the cost of this.

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.

As a church school, at St Mark's we sing regularly in church and at school during assemblies. The songs we sing range from traditional hymns to more modern Christian songs.

At the beginning and the end of each assembly, children who are learning both inside and outside of school, are invited to play the piano as the children enter and leave the hall.

At Christmas the EYFS and KS1 children take part in a Nativity play, which has singing throughout. KS2 children give a carol concert in the church.

In the summer term, upper KS2 perform an end of year musical.

At St Mark's we offer children the opportunity to learn a musical instrument, taught by a specialist music teacher and at an additional cost to parents/carers.

The instruments that we currently offer are:

- Piano
- Guitar
- Recorder
- Saxophone
- Flute
- Clarinet

Children who have additional music lessons will also be given the opportunity to play their instruments to the whole school at an end of year concert.

For children receiving Pupil Premium funding, there may be some discussion over the cost of music lessons and attending musical events.

In the future

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

In the academic year 2025/26 we will be taking the KS2 choir back to the O2 to take part in the Young Voices event.

At St Mark's we are always looking to broaden and develop our music curriculum, both in class and in the wider curriculum. For example, we are currently looking at the possibility of offering ukulele lessons.

We are always interested in exploring the possibility of providing different instrument lessons and are happy to take recommendations about music teachers that children or parents may have worked with in the past.

Further information

For further information on how to get your child/ren more involved in music, The Department for Education publishes a [guide for parents and young people](#) on how to get involved in music in and out of school, and where you can go to for support beyond the school.

At St Mark's we sometimes work with the West Sussex Music Hub. More information on what they do can be found here. [West Sussex Music Hub](#)