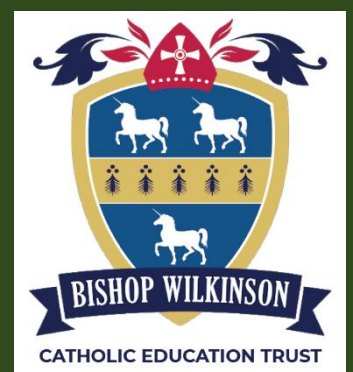




St. Joseph's Catholic Infant & Junior Schools Birtley

Music Curriculum
Development Plan
September 2026





St. Joseph's
Catholic Infant
& Junior Schools
Birtley



OUR MISSION

Let us build a house where hands will reach beyond the wood and stone, to heal and strengthen, serve and teach, and live the Word they've known.

Built of hopes and dreams and visions, rock of faith and vault of grace; here the love of Christ shall end divisions:

All are welcome in this place.

OUR VISION

Lord, in our daily lives, may we:

Love and serve like St. Joseph, care and protect like St. Joseph, work and teach like St. Joseph, show compassion and loyalty like St. Joseph, have trust and faith like St. Joseph.

We follow St. Joseph's virtues and remember our significance in God's world. Amen.



At St. Joseph's Catholic Infant and Junior Schools, Birtley, we want all pupils to leave the federation having had a first-class musical experience. For those pupils who want to continue to be budding musicians, we hope to sow the seeds to enable them to pursue their talents.

The purpose of the music development plan is to continue to support children to:

- a) Enhance their cultural capital via sourcing a wide variety of musical experiences
- b) Develop the peripatetic offer so that more pupils can thrive
- c) Receive high-quality curriculum delivery.

It is these three components that we believe will enable the pupils of St. Joseph's, Birtley, to thrive.

Music development plan summary: St. Joseph's Catholic Infant and Junior Schools, Birtley

All schools should have a music development plan from academic year 2023-24.

This template is designed to support schools to produce the summary. It should set out how the school will deliver high-quality music provision in curriculum music, co-curricular music and musical experiences, taking into account the key features in the [national plan for music education](#):

- timetabled curriculum music of at least one hour each week of the school year for key stages 1 to 3
- access to lessons across a range of instruments, and voice
- a school choir or vocal ensemble
- a school ensemble, band or group
- space for rehearsals and individual practice
- a termly school performance
- opportunity to enjoy live performance at least once a year

The summary should reflect your school's music provision for the given school year and your plans for subsequent years. It should also refer to any existing partnership with your local music hub or other music education organisations that supports the school with music provision.

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	September 2026 - August 2027
Date this summary was published	1 st September 2026
Date this summary will be reviewed	31 st August 2027 – Annual review
Name of the school music lead	Kate Swaddle
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	N/A
Name of local music hub	Gateshead and South Tyneside Hub
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	Side by Side Arts Gateshead 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.

Priorities/Targets	Rationale	Actions required	Resources and Responsibilities	Timescales	Success Criteria

What do you want to work on or develop?	Why? Give an explanation as to why you've chosen this priority.	Bullet point the things you need to do to make it happen.	What support/finance do you require? Have you costed this out? Who might have shared responsibility?	When are you hoping to achieve the objective? Start – end or is it ongoing.	What will it look like upon completion? What difference will it make?
1. To continue to assess the strength of music and its associated infrastructure from EY to Year 6.	SJIB/SJJB need to assess current practice to establish which marginal gains are needed to continue to take the subject from strength to strength.	- Complete monitoring of subject in spring and summer terms – with a focus on - Analyse findings and prioritize actions going forward	KS to complete	Ongoing monitoring as per monitoring strategy for the schools	Pupils will be able to articulate the taught curriculum and will be able to communicate clearly the elements of music, developing increasing confidence in notation, sight-reading, stave recognition.

Pupils (from Year 2 to Year 6) currently receive music, which is delivered by a music specialist, who is contracted by school via a service-level agreement. Music is timetabled on a weekly basis. School has procured whole-class recorders, boomwhackers, glockenspiels and guitars (supported with a grant from EMI Sound Foundation), to support our access to musical provision. Pupils with SEND receive full music curriculum entitlement.

The schools' curriculum is displayed on the schools' website and is based on the Model Music Curriculum.

Please see the overview for:

- a brief summary of the opportunities pupils have to learn to sing or play an instrument during lesson time, such as through whole-class ensemble teaching in some or all year groups.
- information on any partnerships the school has to support curriculum music, such as with your local music hub or other music education organisations. If you are a music hub lead school, you can refer to this here.

There is close transition between St. Joseph's Catholic Infant and Junior Schools, and Cardinal Hume Catholic Secondary School so that pupils continue their musical journey.

For secondary schools: Set out what music qualifications and awards pupils can study and achieve at the school in the academic year, including graded music exams (all key stages) and GCSE, A level or vocational and technical qualifications (at key stage 4 and 16 to 18). If your school already publishes this information, include a link in this summary.

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.

2. To ensure the music curriculum which is	All elements – music	Connect/liase with staff (both St. Joseph's staff and Gateshead			Staff, children and parents	
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modelled on a combination of the model music curriculum and experience continues to demonstrate opportunities for performance in order to create impactful provision across the school.	theory, composition,	Music Service teacher) • Staff training re: Big Sing • Complete staff audit • Pupil voice • Regular hymn practices • Investigate music events/competitions in which the children can take part. • Reintroduction on whole class music workshops e.g. samba drumming. • Links with parents – what instruments do they have access to? Do they want their child to learn an instrument? • Music concerts, to showcase the children's talents. • Choir – to encourage excellence in singing and enhance school masses etc. • Links to British Values with work on British artists, composers, songwriters etc. • Instigate a dance and drama club as part of our enrichment programme.	KS to investigate and complete.	September 2025 ongoing	report an increase in enjoyment and participation in music at St Joseph's.	
3. To ensure that awareness of peripatetic lessons is raised and more pupils are accessing peripatetic tuition.	Staff will continue to demonstrate those who are gifted and talented in music and liaise with SLT to see if school can support peripatetic tuition for those pupils.	• KS to liaise with class teachers/budget officers re: budget for September 2026 onwards. • Further marketing drive with Side by Side arts to encourage uptake for lessons. • Demonstration of peripatetic lessons will be used as a vehicle and opportunity to drive interest.	Each pupil will cost approximately £350 per year, plus instrument hire costs.	September 2026 onwards	There will be more than 7 pupils across the two schools in receipt of music tuition.	

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.

Pupils' social and cultural capital is developed because St. Joseph's aim to ensure that all pupils are exposed to high-quality musical experiences. For example, pupils in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 will

attend The Glasshouse, Gateshead, to experience The Big Sing for Mini-Singers; and pupils in Years 3 and 4 will attend the same venue for The Big Sing. Consequently, pupils access a wide repertoire of music, across genres and eras, and can 'perform' the songs, in a low-threat environment. Pupils therefore enjoy music, and gradually develop their confidence to become 'performers', over time. Pupils' communal singing is excellent and the school comes together during Celebration of the Word, weekly, where we continue to develop pupils' repertoire.

It is our aim to have a performance which culminates and exudes musical excellence, across the two schools.

In the future

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

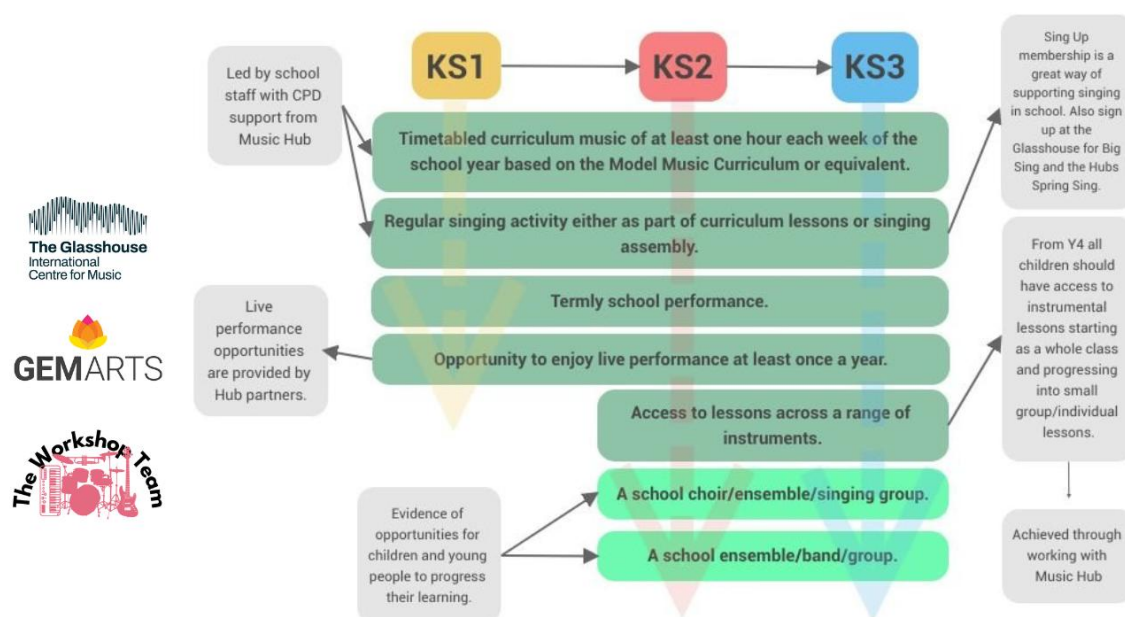
We want to ensure that lesson delivery is inspirational. At the start of each lesson, we aim to ensure that there is a listening activity for pupils to complete so that they begin to develop a deep appreciation for music and that there is a wider opportunity for whole-class instrumental tuition.

Further information (optional)

For further information regarding the Gateshead and South Tyneside Music Hub, please contact:

[Gateshead & South Tyneside Music Hub \(gatesheadandsouthtynesidemusichub.co.uk\)](http://gatesheadandsouthtynesidemusichub.co.uk)

For further information regarding ensembles, visit: [Ensembles — Gateshead & South Tyneside Music Hub \(gatesheadandsouthtynesidemusichub.co.uk\)](http://gatesheadandsouthtynesidemusichub.co.uk)



GYO

Gateshead's Youth Orchestra and is an orchestra with a difference. We welcome aspiring young musicians playing any instrument. We aim to be inclusive with our approach and we will try and adapt the way in which we work and teach to support young people to access this ensemble. We want to create a supportive environment that fosters a passion for music and provides a platform for growth. The orchestra is free-of-charge, ensuring that financial constraints do not hinder any talented young musician from joining us. Join us on this musical journey, where creativity, friendship, and skill development come together to shape the future of young people.

Intermediate - Advanced.

Tuesdays 4.30-5.45pm

The Music Hub, next to Chowdene Family Hub.

Contact: gatesheadmusicservice@gateshead.gov.uk



Cantina Band

Cantina Band is for budding musicians who are new to their instruments. Our band plays all kinds of music, and we play it in our own eclectic way. We have fun playing together and we believe that every child or young person deserves an opportunity to explore their musical potential, regardless of experience. We offer a welcoming and supportive environment where young talents can cultivate their passion for music, some learning through reading music, whilst others learning by ear, and without any financial barriers, as all sessions are free to attend.

Beginner - Intermediate.

Thursday 4.15-5.30pm

The Music Hub, next to Chowdene Family Hub

Contact: gatesheadmusicservice@gateshead.gov.uk



Band of Folk

Our young musician's folk band comes together to breathe new life into traditional music. This group welcomes young people working at any level, on any instrument. The band enjoys playing music that transcends generations and cultures. They are committed to preserving and celebrating traditional music, infusing the tunes with a youthful exuberance. Also free to attend.

All levels.

Tuesdays 5.45pm-6.30pm

The Music Hub, next to Chowdene Family Hub

Contact: gatesheadmusicservice@gateshead.gov.uk



Gateshead Junior Brass GJB

GJB is a spirited community for young brass players of all levels. Whether you're picking up a brass instrument for the first time or honing your skills to perfection, GJB thrives on the principles of inclusivity, offering a supportive space where diversity in skill levels is celebrated. What sets us apart is our commitment to making music accessible to everyone, as all our sessions are free to attend. GJB aspires for big things, with a shared vision of creating memorable musical experiences and nurturing the next generation of brass players.

Beginner - Intermediate

Wednesdays 4-5.30pm.

The Music Hub, next to Chowdene Family Hub

Contact: gatesheadmusicservice@gateshead.gov.uk



South Tyneside Junior Strings

For string players ages 8-18 years, starting out in their first ensemble

Beginner group

Mondays 3.45-4.45pm

Contact: lynn.freer@southtyneside.gov.uk



South Tyneside Intermediate Strings

For string players ages 8-18 years, ready for more challenging pieces

Intermediate group

Mondays 4.45-5.45pm

Contact: lynn.freer@southtyneside.gov.uk



Senior Wind Band

For wind, brass and percussionists aged 8-18

Intermediate/advanced group

Saturdays 9.30-11.30

Contact: lynn.freer@southtyneside.gov.uk



Junior Wind Band

For young flautists aged 8-18 to gain ensemble experience

Beginner/Intermediate group

Saturdays 10.45-11.30

Contact: lynn.freer@southtyneside.gov.uk



Drum Young

A samba band experience for young people aged 8-18

Beginner/Intermediate group

Mondays 6.00-8.00

Contact: lynn.freer@southtyneside.gov.uk



Flutiful Flutes

For young flautists aged 8-18 to gain ensemble experience

Beginner/Intermediate group

Saturdays 10.45-11.30

Contact: lynn.freer@southtyneside.gov.uk



Action plan for <i>Music 2025-2025</i>								
Priorities/Targets	Rationale	Actions required	Resources and Responsibilities	Timescales	Success Criteria	Evaluation		
<i>What do you want to work on or develop?</i>	<i>Why? Give an explanation as to why you've chosen this priority.</i>	<i>Bullet point the things you need to do to make it happen.</i>	<i>What support/finance do you require? Have you costed this out?</i> <i>Who might have shared responsibility?</i>	<i>When are you hoping to achieve the objective? Start – end or is it ongoing.</i>	<i>What will it look like upon completion? What difference will it make?</i>	Aut	Spr	Sum
						<i>N.B. Evaluation should take place periodically, but at least termly.</i>		
3. To continue to assess the strength of music and its associated infrastructure from EY to Year 6.	As Music leader, I need to know what current practice looks like and where our strengths are in order to move the subject forward.	- Complete monitoring of subject in spring and summer terms – with a focus on - Analyse findings and prioritize actions going forward - Teachers, PPA staff and peripatetic staff have responsibility for music delivery	KS to complete	Revised arrangements for music commenced from September 2026	KS will have a clear understanding of current practice and next steps and which areas to prioritise going forward	Aut	Spr	Sum
4. To ensure the music curriculum which is modelled on a combination of the model music curriculum and experience continues to demonstrate opportunities for performance in order to create impactful provision across the school.	All elements – music theory, composition,	- Connect/liase with staff (both St. Joseph's staff and Gateshead Music Service teacher) - Staff training re: Big Sing - Complete staff audit - Pupil voice - Regular hymn practices - Investigate music events/competitions in which the children can take part. - Reintroduction on whole class music workshops e.g. samba drumming. - Links with parents – what instruments do they have access to? Do they want their child to learn an instrument? - Music concerts, to showcase the children's talents. - Choir – to encourage excellence in singing and enhance school masses etc.	KS to investigate and complete.	September 2026 ongoing	Staff, children and parents report an increase in enjoyment and participation in music at St Joseph's.	Aut	Spr	Sum

		• Links to British Values with work on British artists, composers, songwriters etc. • Opportunity for digital composition training through Charanga – training to be procured by SLT.						
3. To improve teachers' confidence in assessing music effectively.	Music can be a difficult to assess, without the right tools and guidance.	• Use self-assessment tools • Each year group to use music books to recognise that musical composition is being recorded in a book. • Each teacher to maintain oversight of music being taught. • Music lessons to be observed by KS, with a focus on assessing skills and competence from EY to year 6		September 2026 ongoing	Teachers will have a secure understanding of pupils' starting points and current musical knowledge.	Aut	Spr	Sum
4. To ensure that whole-class guitars which were secured via EMI Music Sound Foundation grant are being used at SJJB. 5. To ensure that pupils at SJIB have access to appropriate	Over £3000 of investment has been made at SJIB and SJJB for music provision including: Glockenspiels Guitars Boomwhackers Purchase recorders and percussion	• Stock take of current instruments available across the school • Ukulele to be provided by Gateshead Music Service • Investigate funding for instruments • EMI sound foundation grant outcomes – October 2026.	Cost of new instruments	October 2026 - ongoing	Staff feedback on availability of resources Children able to access the whole curriculum effectively	Aut	Spr	Sum

instruments and percussion.								
6. To ensure that class teachers do not become deskilled in the teaching of music because it is being sub-contracted out for PPA.	All staff who have responsibility for music including class teachers will further improve their expertise, knowledge and practice.	- Give staff dates for free Charanga webinars (November) and for Big Sing training at Sage, Gateshead. - Opportunity for digital composition through Charanga – training to be procured by SLT.	Possible £ if £300 per Big Sing event costs. KS to research and book if appropriate	September 2026-ongoing	Staff have access to impactful and effective CPD. CPD impacts on classroom practice Improved staff confidence in teaching music	Aut	Spr	Sum
						Initial training took place in Autumn with listening worksheets for appraisal introduced every lesson		
7. To ensure that awareness of peripatetic lessons is raised and more pupils are accessing peripatetic tuition.	Staff will continue to demonstrate those who are gifted and talented in music and liaise with SLT to see if school can support peripatetic tuition for those pupils.	KS to liaise with class teachers/budget officers re: budget for September 2025 onwards.	Each pupil will cost approximately £350 per year, plus instrument hire costs.	September 2026 onwards	There will be more than 7 pupils across the two schools in receipt of music tuition.	Aut	Spr	Sum
						Budget may determine this outcome		

