

# Music development plan summary: St Nicholas of Tolentine RC Primary School

## Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2024-2025
Date this summary was published	September 2024
Date this summary will be reviewed	September 2025
Name of the school music lead	Rachael James (Principal)
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	
Name of local music hub	Bristol Plays Music
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	Preludes Music – Bristol Ensemble

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.

St Nicholas of Tolentine Primary School has a strong focus on delivering a high-quality music curriculum to all of its pupils. All classes from Year 1 to Year 6 receive one hour of music per week, delivered by the Preludes Bristol Ensemble. The music lessons are aligned with the national curriculum, ensuring that pupils are given opportunities to develop their musical skills and knowledge.

All children have the opportunity to learn to sing or play an instrument during lesson time. In lower Key Stage 1, pupils are introduced to a variety of instruments, while in lower Key Stage 2, they are given opportunities to play in small ensemble groups during lessons. In upper Key Stage 2, pupils are taught to play in an orchestra, with opportunities to play across the range of instruments.

Composition forms an integral part of the musical development, with composition opportunities provided within whole-class groups or small groups. The school's whole-

curriculum is used to support music teaching, and cross-curricular opportunities are sought to enhance the learning experience.

The school is committed to ensuring that all pupils, regardless of ability or need, are able to fully access the music provision at St Nicholas of Tolentine.

## **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.

St Nicholas of Tolentine Primary School offers a wide range of co-curricular music opportunities for its pupils. These include an after-school choir that works towards performing at the Young Voices concert, as well as after-school clubs for brass, clarinet, and string instruments. There is also a Key Stage 1 music club and a Glee Club focused on performance music.

In addition to these extracurricular activities, the school holds whole-school assemblies for singing on a weekly basis. The school also provides free 1:1 and small-group music lessons for any pupils who wish to participate.

The school's commitment to providing free access to all music opportunities outside of the curriculum time ensures that all pupils, regardless of their financial background, can fully engage in the musical life of the school.

## **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.

St Nicholas of Tolentine Primary School provides a range of musical experiences for its pupils, both within the school and through external collaborations.

Year 5 pupils have the opportunity to perform with the Preludes Ensemble at a Bristol Schools' Concert held at St Mary Redcliffe Church, playing as an orchestra.

Additionally, the Preludes Ensemble delivers music workshops for Year 6 pupils, which build towards a concert to showcase their performances.

Last year, Year 6 pupils participated in the Windrush Travelling Songbook project, where they composed and performed at the Bristol Beacon as part of the Windrush celebrations.

The school also organises key events, such as the Key Stage 2 Carol Concert, which provides singing opportunities, and the Key Stage 1 Nativity, which offers performance opportunities. Additionally, the school hosts a Key Stage 2 talent show, where all children can showcase their talents.

Parents are invited to attend performances at the end of music units, allowing them to witness the progress and achievements of their children. The school also regularly hosts visiting ensembles and orchestras, providing pupils with the opportunity to experience high-quality live music performances.

In previous years, the school has been involved with the Young Voices project, and Key Stage 1 pupils have performed in a Preludes concert at St George.

During school holidays we provide space for Music workshops which ensures our children can access high quality music activities during the holidays

## In the future

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

- Consider implementing a system for regularly reviewing and updating the music curriculum, ensuring that it remains relevant, engaging, and aligned with the school's vision and the national curriculum.
- Investigate ways to enhance the professional development of music teachers, providing them with opportunities to enhance their subject knowledge, pedagogical skills, and access to the latest research and best practises in music education.
- Consider providing opportunities for children to sit graded exams in instruments.