

Music development plan summary: *St Nicholas CE Primary Academy*



Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2026-27
Date this summary was published	January 2026
Date this summary will be reviewed	January 2027
Name of the school music lead	Debbie Kay
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	
Name of local music hub	Kent Music
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	irock and Sing Education

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.

We love music here at St Nicholas whether that be music lessons, singing practice, choir or singing our favourite songs in Friday's celebration assembly and we value its place as an important part of our school life.

We all feel the enjoyment that listening or dancing to our favourite music can create, singing our favourite songs, and understand the power that a great soundtrack has to build drama or add tension to a film.

At St Nicholas we aim to give every child the opportunity to experience the power of music to enhance our lives, as well as capitalizing on the benefits it gives in other areas of the curriculum. Our music curriculum aims to introduce children to a lifelong appreciation for music, teaching them essential skills through weekly lessons. In early years and year 1, children are taught music by their class teachers and follow the Kapow



scheme of work which provides clear progression. Years 2-6 have weekly music lessons with our specialist music teacher, Mrs Vincent following the Sing Education curriculum scheme building on the skills learnt previously through the Kapow scheme.

These lessons introduce the children to a wealth of musical opportunities including, singing, active listening, composing and instrumental playing.

Our curriculum provides a welcoming, inclusive and aspirational learning environment at the heart of its community. We nurture, encourage and support all children to be the best as God intended. Following God's example of love and trust, we develop resilience and creativity in all we do, reflecting our school values of **friendship**, through working collaboratively in musical activities, **respect** for diverse musical traditions, **perseverance** is fostered through regular practice, rehearsal, and sustained engagement, enabling pupils to respond positively to challenge, learn from feedback, and develop resilience over time and **ambition**, pupils are encouraged to aim high through a progressive curriculum that builds musical knowledge, skills, and confidence across performance, composition, and listening, including opportunities to contribute to worship and the wider school community.

At Christmas, the school welcomes the wider community to Carols and Cakes, where each class performs a range of traditional and contemporary songs. This well-attended event is enjoyed by pupils and visitors alike and strengthens the sense of community through shared musical celebration.

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.

Music Tuition:

In addition to weekly curriculum music lessons, pupils at St Nicholas have the opportunity to participate in optional instrumental music provision. iRock School of Music enhances the musical offer by delivering engaging 30-minute rock and pop band sessions led by experienced professional musicians. These weekly sessions operate in a similar way to peripatetic lessons and are integrated into the school day. Pupils work in bands of up to nine, choosing to play drums, guitar, keyboard, or to sing, developing teamwork, confidence, and social skills through collaborative music-making. This provision supports pupils' wellbeing, nurtures a love of music, and further develops their musical skills. These lessons are funded by parents and carers.

Choir

Singing is an important part of our school life as a Church school and is open to pupils in year 2 - year 6, the choir provides regular opportunities to develop vocal technique, musical understanding, and performance skills. Through rehearsals and performances



in worship, school events, church services and the wider community, pupils build confidence, teamwork, and a sense of belonging. Participation in choir promotes commitment and perseverance, enabling pupils to experience music as a form of expression, service, and worship, while contributing positively to the cultural and spiritual 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.

IN SCHOOL

- Nativity, Christmas concert - opportunities for solo, group and whole school performances.
- Class Assemblies – parents, grandparents and guardians invited to assemblies which often involve music and/or dance performances.
- Music played during weekly assemblies when children enter/leave the hall.
- Y6 Leavers' Performance
- Every half term there is a different music focus whereby weekly songs are provided for class teachers to play whilst the children come into school exposing the children to different musical genres.
- Music listening within classrooms – to accompany drama, to support other curriculum areas such as history and PSHE. Music as background for art and writing. Music for dance in PE.
- Singing for fun in the classroom.
- Termly concerts from iRock showcasing the children's work over the term.
- St Nicholas Party in the Park

OUT OF SCHOOL

- Choir performs to the wider community
- Choir performs at the summer fayre
- Young voices

In the future

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

- Liaise with Local Music Hub – how could they help?
- Invite local musicians to visit and perform for us, explaining their journey
- Encourage a string and brass teacher to visit and enthuse pupils to consider taking up lessons.



- Continue with CPD to keep up to date with the latest ideas.
- Invite parents and local community to share their musical skills – either as support in lessons or in a performance.

Further information (optional)

<https://www.irockschool.com/>

<https://www.kent-music.com/>