

Music development plan summary: Cardinal Newman Catholic 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	December 2025
Name of the school music lead	Mrs Margot Kareem
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music	Mrs Hayley Hartfield
Name of local music hub	Surrey Music Hub
Name of other music education organisation(s)	N/A

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.

The music curriculum at Cardinal Newman Catholic Primary School ensures children sing, listen, play, perform and evaluate. This is embedded in the classroom through the structured music programmes: Get Set for Music and BBC Ten Pieces, following the Model Music Curriculum, as well as the weekly singing assemblies, instrument lessons, concerts, Masses and performances in addition to workshops, Choir, Sing and Sign club and Ensemble. As a Music Mark school, Cardinal Newman has been recognised as being committed to providing a high quality music education to all.

All children at Cardinal Newman experience full class Music lessons by an experienced Music specialist for one hour per week.

The elements of music are taught in lessons so that children are able to use relevant musical language to dissect it, understand how it is made, played, appreciated and analysed. In the classroom children learn key aspects of music through cross-curricular links. They also learn how to compose (including using technology), focusing on

different dimensions of music, including notation, which in turn feeds their understanding when listening, playing, or analysing music.

Composing or performing using body percussion, vocal sounds and graphic scores is also part of the curriculum, which develops the understanding of musical elements without the added complexity of an instrument. Children are also taught to play the recorder (Year 2, Year 3), ukulele (Year 4, Year 5) and guitar (Year 6) throughout their education at Cardinal Newman, as well as being able to experiment with a range of other tuned and un-tuned instruments from EYFS, and music technology through Garageband, Busy Things and Chrome Music Lab.

History of Music is key in the Music curriculum, with a focus on Musician of the Month: during each lesson, children learn about a particular musician / composer and the impact of their music, whilst listening to a catalogue of their compositions. Musicians come from a wide range of historical periods, styles, traditions, and musical genres.

Music: A Curriculum Supporting **all** pupils:

- At Cardinal Newman, we create a music making environment where ALL pupils feel happy to explore, experiment and 'make mistakes' – therefore understanding how to develop and improve their musical skills and knowledge.
- It is important to include a range of multi-sensory approaches in each Music lesson (singing, moving, playing instruments, composing) so we ensure all children can engage with their preferred learning style. Where possible, we always provide opportunities to learn music through physical contact with an instrument.
- Younger pupils respond particularly well to puppets, characters, props and pictures, adding another dimension to their learning.
- Children are supported with written aspects of music: Creating graphic scores when composing. We also use these as a visual support for pupils.
- We have an emphasis on using different forms of communication – gestures and Makaton, to help with difficulties in singing / speaking.
- Singing – learning by rote removes the barrier of reading. The combination of melody and words supports their memory development and removes the need for written text.
- Instruments – when playing tuned percussion, we physically remove unnecessary notes. This removes distraction and the sensation of being overwhelmed.
- We give priority booking and advance notice of clubs and enrichment activities to pupils in receipt of FSM and Looked after children, allowing them the opportunity to take part in all musical provision at school (MTech, iRock).

Part B: Music tuition, choirs and ensembles

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.

As a pupil at Cardinal Newman, children are encouraged to join a musical group of their choice to further inspire them on their musical learning journey.

In Key Stage 1, children enjoy Sing and Sign club, which not only focuses on singing and performing, but also developing Makaton skills. In Key Stage 2, children are able to join the strong and popular choir which meets weekly and performs regularly throughout the year. In 2024, the Key Stage 2 choir had over 90 members.

Musicians in Key Stage 2 are encouraged to join the Ensemble – another group to inspire and encourage budding musicians to play and perform together. Children are encouraged to play a wide range of instruments at Ensemble – string, wind and percussion, not only their specialist instrument.

The above clubs are all teacher-led and free of charge, accessible to all pupils, and take place in the dedicated Music Room at Cardinal Newman.

Additionally at Cardinal Newman, a weekly Ukulele club (with minimal charge) encourages pupils to extend their class-taught ukulele skills outside of school. These children often then perform on their ukulele at Mass in the local community.

Cardinal Newman is also supported by Surrey Arts, who provide peripatetic piano and violin lessons to children in a 1:1 or 2:1 setting, which are an additional activity organised between the family and Surrey Arts. Other instruments are also available, and parents liaise directly with Surrey Arts regarding options on offer. These instrumental lessons are charged separately, however there is availability for children of FSM and Looked after children.

Finally, there are external companies who bring their musical expertise to Cardinal Newman: iRock specialises in building children's confidence, by making music fun, regardless of experience. Children can choose whether to learn the drums, keyboard, electric guitar or vocals. As a band, the children then pick their own band name and the songs they'd like to play, ultimately performing to parents at an end of term concert.

M:Tech focuses on a hands-on approach to composition theory. Children discover the building blocks of music through exciting and interactive technology-based lessons, which strengthens our school's commitment to music technology as a key part of our curriculum, as advised in the National Plan for Music.

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.

Children have a wide range of opportunities to regularly perform both within school, and the wider community as part of their musical education at Cardinal Newman – ranging from the Reception nativity and Christmas productions to performing for large audiences at the Primary Festivals at Dorking Halls and Elmbridge Choirs Festival.

- Singing is a key focus of pupils' musical experiences at Cardinal Newman, and all children participate in twice-weekly Collective Worship with singing at their core, as well as Masses and other events throughout the liturgical year. Every child also takes part in their class Mission week collective worship, performed to the entire school community, as well as external visitors.
- All children are given opportunity to perform to a public audience, at least once per year, both within school and within the wider community. Productions and concerts which are a key part of the calendar are: Florence Nightingale production (Year 2), which will change to Pepys Show for 2024/2025; Choral Festival with St George's Weybridge (Year 2); Egyptian production (Year 3), Roman production (Year 4) and Leavers' productions (Year 6). Pupils in Year 4 also perform along with other local schools at the Primary Singing Festival at Dorking Halls. Pupils in Year 5 perform both individually and as a combined choir with other schools, at the Elmbridge Choirs Singing Festival at ACS Cobham.
- The festive performances at Cardinal Newman are a highlight in the academic year, with all Reception children performing to a live audience after their first term at school. Years 1, 2 and 3 perform a Christmas production together, including opportunities for solo and small group performances. Pupils in Years 4, 5, 6 perform a range of carols and readings, at the local parish church, to a large audience: a concert which also gives a number of opportunities for solos, duets and choir performances.
- In addition to performances at school, all children have opportunities to serve the local community through performing and singing: for example, carol singing at a local care home, and performing at the School Fair.
- For the last three years, Cardinal Newman school has hosted the prestigious Xavier Musician of the Year event, inviting musicians from all schools in the Xavier Trust, to perform and inspire other children, whilst competing for the title of Young Musician of the Year. This will continue in 2024/2025.

- At Cardinal Newman we have developed strong links with the wider Xavier and Catholic community, which enables children to benefit from workshops and festivals with neighbouring schools: drumming workshops at Salesian (the feeder secondary school), and a singing festival at St George's, Weybridge.
- All children are able to experience a live performance, to improve their music appreciation: for example, the Salesian Jazz band visit and a trip to the Royal Albert Hall 'Music For Youth' concert. We also have strong links with the Yehudi Menuhin School of Music in Cobham, who have hosted us for their Christmas concert. In May 2024, all of Year 4 attended the KS2 Brightsparks concert at the Royal Festival Hall, to experience the London Philharmonic Orchestra perform live. We will be applying for tickets again for the 2024/2025 academic year.

This huge variety of performance opportunities and musical experiences develop a keen love of singing and performing, whilst simultaneously developing confidence and self-esteem in our children. We believe these experiences help children develop a passion for music that will stay with them in their future lives. We want to ensure that music is an inspiring and engaging experience, that enables every child to maximise their musical potential and develop an appreciation of the value of music that is deeply personal to them.

In the future

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

Priorities for the future, whilst also focussing on all activities and experiences detailed above, are as follows:

- Full class guitar tuition is new to Cardinal Newman in 2024/2025, and we will be looking to embed this tuition into the Music curriculum, demonstrating clear progression from ukulele tuition in Years 4 and 5. The Music lead will identify potential formalised assessments, such as the Preliminary Acoustic Guitar Exam, in future years, so that every child leaves Cardinal Newman in Year 6 with a music qualification.
- Building on the development of guitar tuition in Year 6, we are looking at introducing an extra-curricular Guitar club Year 5 and Year 6 pupils.
- To build on the Recorder tuition in Years 2 and 3, we envisage reintroduce the recorder club, to strengthen children's skills.

- The Year 6 role of Music Ambassador has held great prestige since its introduction in 2023/2024. We are looking to expand this role and responsibility for a select group of Year 6 musicians, to mark and celebrate pupils' pride in their commitment to, and passion for, music.
- The Music Lead is planning to attend a long-term CPD course in Music Therapy. This will enable her to support all children who may need to access this form of therapy in school.
- Extension of the range of musical experiences on offer: for example, attending the Shakespeare drama performance at Salesian in Autumn term, as well as their end of year Musical, as a further opportunity to experience live performances.
- Investigation into use of floor books to record written music evidence.
- Maintain current creative arts opportunities throughout the 2024-2025 academic year.

Further information

Xavier Catholic Education Trust: <https://www.xaviercet.org.uk/>

Surrey Arts: <https://www.surreycc.gov.uk/culture-and-leisure/arts>

Music Mark: <https://www.musicmark.org.uk/about/>

M:Tech: <https://mtechonline.co.uk>

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