

# Music Development Plan Summary: Bentley St Paul's C of E Primary School

## Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2025/26
Date this summary was published	September 2025
Date this summary will be reviewed	September 2026
Name of the school music lead	Mrs N Head
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	
Name of local music hub	Essex Music
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	

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.

## MUSIC – What we want children to learn:

At Bentley St Paul's, we are committed to delivering a high-quality music education that aligns with our Christian ethos and nurtures the holistic development of our pupils. Our music curriculum aims to:

- **Foster Cultural Appreciation:** To enable pupils to appreciate, create, and enjoy music from a variety of cultures and traditions, fostering respect and understanding of cultural diversity within both the school community and wider society.
- **Encourage Creativity and Expression:** To provide opportunities for every child to express themselves creatively through music, allowing them to explore their emotions and thoughts in a safe and supportive environment.
- **Develop Skills and Knowledge:** To equip pupils with a comprehensive understanding of musical elements including pitch, rhythm, dynamics, and structure. We aim to cultivate both performance skills and theoretical understanding, enabling pupils to make informed musical choices.
- **Promote Personal and Social Development:** To use music as a medium for building teamwork, resilience, and confidence, thus promoting pupils' social skills and emotional well-being.

**Support Spiritual Growth:** To incorporate music as a way of engaging with our Christian values, providing a spiritual dimension to learning that enhances our collective worship and community ethos.

## 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.

Our Music Curriculum: [Bentley St Paul's Music Curriculum Map](#)

Music is taught weekly by the class teachers and HLTAs who have good musical skills and knowledge. The subject is delivered by following the Charanga scheme, which is designed specifically for the teaching of music in primary schools. Charanga lessons are planned in sequences to provide pupils with the opportunities to review, remember, deepen and apply their understanding. Charanga meets all components of the Model Music Curriculum (March 2021). Teachers are able to deliver inclusive lessons that allow all children to access the musical curriculum in an enjoyable, engaging way, further promoting a love of learning.

Throughout their primary music curriculum journey, children will learn how to play glockenspiels, ukuleles, djembe drums and recorders through whole-class teaching using our class sets of instruments.

We have links with the Essex Music Hub, when available we have had whole class ukulele lessons.

## 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.

During the academic year 2024-25, peripatetic music lessons were available for pupils on piano and guitar. These are taught by visiting peripatetic music teachers.

This year peripatetic lessons will be available on the above instruments.

We do offer to support PPG pupils with music lesson on an individual needs' basis.

The school has a small but thriving, well-established choir consisting of approximately 10 - 15 children which meets weekly and is run by two experienced members of staff. The choir performs regularly at events, including Church services, at the Nine Lessons and Carlos service within the Benefice and O2 Young Voices concert. They have also sung to the residents of Old Shenfield Place and have performed at Lighting Up Shenfield.

## 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.

Singing is embedded into the life of the school and into every child's experience, drawing on a range of age-appropriate repertoire and developing musicianship. Music plays an integral part of our worship, from Foundation to Year Six. Hymns are and other songs are regularly sung in other church services, including the Eucharist services, Harvest Festival and the end-of-term Christmas, Easter and summer services. A regular Songs of Praise rehearsal takes place to teach new hymns and rehearse familiar repertoire.

We do offer to support PPG pupils with music lesson on an individual needs' basis.

The children are offered opportunities to perform individually to the school, during Bentley's Got Talent and to Parents to celebrate their achievements.

We have a very strong tradition of producing musicals at Bentley, which encourage all children to participate and be part of an excellent production. At Christmas, Key Stage One produce a Christmas Nativity and Key Stage Two perform a Carol Concert in the Church. All these are performed to the rest of the school and to parents.

At the end of the year, Year Six perform musicals to the rest of the school and parents.

Children are given opportunities to experience live performance, for example a steel Band Workshop, Drumming Lessons and IRock.

## In the future

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

- We will be reviewing the use of the Charanga scheme in school as part of ongoing curriculum monitoring to see if any adaptations need to be made.
- We plan to introduce regular concerts which parents may be invited to.
- We will continue to develop our links with the Essex Music Hub.
- We plan to increase the number of children who are able to participate in the Young Voices concert at the O2.
- Further listening opportunities are going to be provided as part of worship time as the children enter the hall. A range of musical styles will be played to the whole school, focusing on a different piece each week. Information about the

music will be displayed on screen to enhance their knowledge and develop their listening skills.

- Further live music opportunities.

## **Further information (optional)**