

Music development plan summary: Holy Family Catholic Primary School Cronton

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2025 -2026
Date this summary was published	October 2025
Date this summary will be reviewed	October 2026
Name of the school music lead	Debbie Speight
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	Helen Rooney
Name of local music hub	SKY (Sefton & Knowsley Youth)
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	Rocksteady Music School Knowsley Music Service SKY Music Hub Widnes Children's Catholic Choir

This is a summary of how our school delivers music education to all our children 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 children 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.

At Holy Family, we're proud to offer a rich, diverse, and forward-thinking music curriculum that inspires every pupil. Through exceptional teaching and leadership, music is woven throughout the year—enhancing well-being, building confidence, and nurturing a joyful, inclusive community of music-makers.

We have two 30-minute weekly music sessions. For one we use Rocksteady Feel Good Friday Lessons and the other the Charanga Creative Music Scheme, which brings learning to life by tapping into children's natural creativity. Composing and creating remain at the heart of our approach, fully aligned with the National Curriculum.

Child-led learning is a cornerstone of our Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) curriculum. We actively support children in exploring music through singing, dancing, listening, and playing

instruments as part of their play. This approach nurtures creativity, supports emotional expression, and fosters a deeper understanding of musical concepts from an early age.

Our music lessons are carefully planned to address potential barriers to learning and to meet individual needs, ensuring that all children are supported and have equal opportunities to achieve. Support staff work alongside teachers and Children to enhance engagement in the key musical activities of singing, listening, composing, and performing.

In EYFS our music teaching is closely linked to termly curriculum topics, enriching the learning experience across subject areas. Each lesson begins with retrieval questions and the revisiting of previous performances to activate prior knowledge and consolidate learning. Lessons are designed to build progressively towards a final performance, providing children with a purposeful and motivating goal. Our EYFS and Year 1 Teachers and support staff have recently received intensive CPD through the SOMi project.

In Key Stage 2, we embrace the transformative power of technology in music education, enhancing creativity, promoting inclusion, and helping every child express their unique musical voice.

Whole class recorder teaching and Ukelele teaching takes place within KS2 and Lower Key Stage 2 engage in the 'Create a Day' project as part of the Royal Ballet and Opera which includes online CPD for staff.

Every child also takes part in our much-loved 'Feel Good Friday' sessions through the Rocksteady Programme. These energetic 30-minute lessons, streamed from rocksteadymusicschool.com, offer exciting, hands-on experiences with a wide range of music genres. Children explore rhythm, chords, and tempo through games, live performances, and plenty of fun—boosting musical skills and well-being at the same time.

Together, these programmes make music at Holy Family something truly special: not just educational, but deeply inspiring, empowering every child to discover their voice and thrive through the joy of music.

In Key Stage 2, whole-class instrumental tuition is provided, with recorder lessons in Year 4 and ukulele lessons in Year 5. Our musical instrument provision is continually updated to ensure high-quality resources are available, maximising practical playing time during lessons.

To support their learning journey, children use jotter books to reflect on music they have listened to, to respond creatively, and to notate their own compositions using symbols and

musical notation. This not only develops their technical understanding but also supports their ability to communicate their musical ideas.

Part B: Co-curricular music

We are proud to offer Rocksteady Music Band lessons as part of our extended music curriculum. This child-led programme covers vocals, keyboards, drums, electric guitar, and bass, allowing children to explore music in a way that suits their individual learning and motivational styles. Lessons are designed to support personal progression and are inclusive, meaning every child can benefit, regardless of their needs or prior experience. Children work towards an accredited, Ofqual-regulated music qualification (exam-free), accredited by Trinity College London. Children are encouraged to perform in ensembles, working together as bands with a variety of instruments. These bands perform in termly assemblies attended by parents, providing valuable opportunities for children to practise, prepare, and perform.

We are proud of our strong musical links with St Peter & Paul Catholic High School, where our vocal ensemble performs annually in the Spring Concert, showcasing talent across both primary and secondary education. Throughout planning, preparation and performance our staff are supported by music specialist teachers which supports our staff CPD.

We also participate in Young Voices, the world's largest children's choir concert series. Performing in major UK venues, children experience the thrill of singing as part of a huge choir, helping them discover their voices, build confidence, and be part of something truly special.

We offer extra-curricular singing to encourage a love of singing, with many children choosing to join our school choir. We also promote Widnes Catholic Children's Choir, offering additional community-based music opportunities.

Our annual School Talent Competition gives every child the chance to perform in front of an audience. We also encourage our gifted musicians to take part in the Knowsley Young Instrumentalist Concert, giving them a platform to shine.

Through our collaboration with the SKY (Sefton and Knowsley Youth) Music Hub, staff access ongoing training and support, ensuring high-quality music education throughout our school. We regularly share music events and opportunities with families via our school online newsletter.

For more information on what is available visit <https://www.skymusichub.com/tutor-portal/where-we-are-knowsley/>

Part C: Musical experiences

Musical events and opportunities are organised throughout the academic year and link to special events and curriculum and include opportunities as listed below:

- **Christmas Carol Performance (school and community) Year 6**
- **Christmas Productions Nativity and Carol Concert Performances EYFS, KS1 and KS2 performances**
- **Collective worship rejoice includes music and songs to accompany a performance for parents. Each class has a performance at different points throughout the year**
- **Easter Production Performance Lower Key Stage 2**
- **Grandparents Day singing performance Year 2**
- **Hymn/song practise in assemblies Whole School linked to school values, themes or seasons.**
- **Knowsley Young Instrumentalist Concert.**
- **Mother's Day Tea Party Performance Reception Class**
- **Pantomime visit with live music Whole School**
- **Recorder Whole Class Music Tuition Year 4**
- **Remembrance Class collective worship Year 2**
- **Rocksteady Music School Band Music Tuition (One bursary place allocated) Parental choice to uptake tuition on offer at an additional cost**
- **Rocksteady music school Termly live music performances by each of the bands and the initial performance from the music tutor with workshops for Reception/KS1 and KS2**
- **Rocksteadymusicschool.com Feel Good Friday Whole School**
- **Sing and Sign Whole Class Tuition Year 6**
- **SKY Music Hum Live music performance Whole school to experience live performance.**
- **Spring Concert School Choir**
- **Ukulele Whole Class Tuition Year 5**
- **Year 6 take end of year performance, a full production that includes acting, singing and dancing.**

- **Young Voices School Choir**

In the future

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

1 Introduce Charanga Creative Curriculum – gather feedback and look at CPD needs

- Create and distribute a staff survey (confidence, usage, areas for support)
- Collect informal feedback during staff meetings or drop-ins, learning walks
- Plan tailored CPD (e.g. model lessons, refresher training on Charanga tools)

2 Ensure each year group studies at least one notable composer or musical artist per term, linked to the curriculum and broader musical genres

- Work with class teachers to map artists to topics Ensure diversity of genre, gender, and heritage
- Create a pupil survey/pupil voice.

3 Develop a bespoke music curriculum combining Charanga and Rocksteady resources with whole school Progression map and knowledge organisers updated

- Create a whole-school music progression map covering key strands: Performing, Listening, Composing, Musicianship
- Design KOs for each year group using Charanga/Rocksteady content and composer/artist focus. Include key vocabulary, facts, and listening prompts.
- Re-distribute a staff survey (confidence, usage, areas for support)

Further information

The Department for Education publishes a [guide for parents and young people](#) on how they can get involved in music in and out of school, and where they can go to for support beyond the school.

For more information [Where we are - Knowsley - Sefton Music Service \(skymusichub.com\)](#) has a local plan for music education in place from September 2024 that includes useful information should you wish to become involved. .