**Music development plan summary:  
St Joseph’s Catholic Primary School Overview**

| **Detail** | **Information** |
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| Academic year that this summary covers | 2024-2025 |
| Date this summary was published | October 2024 |
| Date this summary will be reviewed | October 2025 |
| Name of the school music lead | Kirsty Toms |
| Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different) | Roisin Wright |
| Name of local music hub | Plymouth Music Education Hub |
| Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place) | Peripatetic Piano Teacher |

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 Joseph’s provides a comprehensive and engaging music education that fosters students' musical abilities and appreciation from a young age. Through a structured program that combines innovative digital platforms, hands-on instrumental learning, and performance opportunities, we ensure that students develop both technical skills and a love for music. One of the core components of our music curriculum is the weekly 45 minute lessons using the Charanga platform. Charanga is a modern and interactive digital resource designed to deliver a progressive music education. It offers a wide range of resources, including interactive exercises, video tutorials, and diverse musical genres, which cater to different learning styles and abilities. By leveraging this platform, we provide a well-rounded music education that covers fundamental concepts such as rhythm, melody, harmony, and dynamics. The engaging content keeps students motivated and interested, and the structured progression ensures that they build a solid foundation in music theory and practice. The use of Charanga keeps lessons dynamic and engaging.  In conclusion, St J provides a robust music education program that balances theoretical knowledge, practical skills, and performance experience. Our use of the Charanga platform ensures that students receive a modern and engaging music education.  Pupils have the opportunity to learn the piano with a peripatetic teacher linked to the school and there is a strong tradition in singing, especially during liturgies and Mass. |
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**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.

| At St J, we are dedicated to providing students with ample opportunities to engage in music and singing beyond regular lesson times. Our commitment to fostering a love for music is evident in the various extracurricular activities and performance opportunities we offer. Through school productions, participation in Rock Steady bands and singing at Mass/ assemblies and singing in the choir at different celebrations at our church, we ensure that students can pursue their musical interests and develop their talents in diverse settings.  One of the primary ways we encourage musical participation outside of lesson time is through our school choir which is run as an after school club. This offers pupils a chance to perform in front of their peers, teachers, and parents, allowing them to showcase their singing skills. This helps pupils build confidence, learn to work collaboratively, and experience the joy of performing. These events are often highlights of the school year and provide a platform for students to demonstrate their hard work and dedication to music.  In addition to school productions, we offer opportunities for students to join bands through the Rock Steady program. Rock Steady is an innovative music education program that allows students to form bands and learn to play instruments such as the guitar, drums, keyboard, and vocals. This program is designed to make music accessible and fun, encouraging students to develop their skills in a supportive and creative environment. Each term, the Rock Steady bands put on a show, giving students the chance to perform contemporary music for an audience. These performances are a great way for students to experience the excitement of playing in a band, build teamwork skills, and gain valuable performance experience. At present these sessions are subsidised through PP.  Singing is another crucial aspect of our music program, and we provide students with opportunities to join the school choir. The choir participates in various events, including singing at Mass at our church. This allows students to experience the beauty and reverence of sacred music, enhancing their understanding and appreciation of different musical traditions. The choir's participation in Mass also fosters a sense of responsibility and commitment, as students prepare for and contribute to these significant events.  These extracurricular music opportunities at St J are designed to complement our regular music lessons and provide students with a well-rounded musical education. By participating in school productions, Rock Steady bands, and the choir, students can explore different aspects of music, from singing and playing instruments to performing in various settings. These experiences help to develop their musical abilities, boost their confidence, and cultivate a lifelong love for music.  In conclusion, St J provides students with numerous opportunities to sing outside of lesson time. Through our school productions, Rock Steady bands, and choir performances at the Cathedral, we ensure that students can engage in meaningful musical activities that enhance their skills and enrich their educational experience. These opportunities not only nurture students' musical talents but also foster important life skills such as teamwork, confidence, and dedication. At St J, we are proud to offer a vibrant and supportive environment where students can thrive and grow as musicians. |
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**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.

| At St J we are committed to fostering a vibrant and inclusive musical culture that engages students across all year groups. Our musical experiences are designed to encourage participation, celebrate talent, and create memorable experiences for our school community.  Singing in Worship (including Mass):  Frequency: Daily  Year Groups Involved: All year groups  Details: Singing is an integral part of our worship sessions, with all students participating.  Prayer and Praise Sessions:  Frequency: Weekly  Year Groups Involved: All year groups  Details: These sessions combine reflective prayer with uplifting music, allowing students to express their spirituality through song.  Talent Show: Frequency: End of calendar year  Year Groups Involved: All year groups  Details: The talent show is a highlight of the school calendar, offering students the opportunity to showcase their musical skills, whether singing, playing instruments, or performing in bands. Participation is open to all.  Rock Steady Concerts: Frequency: Termly  Year Groups Involved: Yr 1-6 All children participating in Rock Steady music sessions Details: Students from Year 1 upwards who participate in weekly Rock Steady sessions perform in these concerts. These concerts highlight the diverse musical talent within our school and are performed to the whole school community, including parents.  Christmas Carol Concert:  Frequency: Annually in December  Year Groups Involved: Y1-Y6 children  Details: The Christmas Carol concert is a beloved tradition where students come together to perform classic/ modern carols and hymns. The whole school community is warmly invited to join in the festivities.  Community based music workshops- St J took part in Devonport Footprints which involved creating and performing a song and producing a short film. This was shown to the public at Market Hall as part of the Dazzle Week Festival.  St Joseph’s has close links with Plymouth College. 10 of their Music Ambassadors presented to the school to encourage pupils to take up an instrument either at Primary school or High School. |
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**In the future**

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

| * Explore further opportunities for pupils to create music through community based workshops such as The Devonport Footprints productions at Market Hall. * For all pupils to have access to learning an instrument. * Excited for our Production of Wizard of Oz this year! * Continue close links with Plymouth College |
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