

Music development plan summary: St Columba's Catholic Primary School Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2026-2027
Date this summary was published	Sep 26
Date this summary will be reviewed	Sep 27
Name of the school music lead	Helen Evans
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	Claire O'Donnell
Name of local music hub	Cumbria Music Hub
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	Westmorland and Furness

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.

You will find our school music curriculum on the school website. We use the Charanga scheme to support the development of skills throughout school. This scheme is used with adaptations to support all pupils including those with SEND and those who are gifted.

Link to Charanga is here: <https://westmorland.charanga.com/site/>

For more, see the school information guidance on curriculum and on SEND for [maintained schools](#) and for [academies and free schools](#).

There is an allocation of 1 hour per week of music from KS1 -2. This is made up of the Charanga scheme, instrument tuition and singing.

- Charanga is a school music curriculum based on the National Curriculum.
- Children at St Columba's have the opportunity to sing weekly and learn a range of music in hymn practice, children are given the opportunity to sing a range of

material from Latin Chants/Motets in keeping with the tradition of the Church and popular music both old and new. They are taught to sing in 2-part harmony and sing a range of rounds and styles.

- From January 2027, children will be given the opportunity to learn the recorder, keyboard and Ukulele. This is sequenced throughout school so that children are progressing correctly throughout. All music tuition at St Columba's is free to children with Pupil Premium money being used where appropriate.
- School has partnership with the Cumbria Westmorland and Furness partnerships to support curriculum music.
- St Columba's have 4 live performances at Christmas for ALL children, Easter and a show in the summer term for Y4/5/6 children.
- School is involved with the South Lakes music school and attend and participate in their shows.
- We have specialist teachers in school teaching music.
- Our own staff include musicians and singers to support, perform and be musical role models.

Part B: Extra-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 Columba's we offer:

- Weekly School Choir - lunchtimes - for years 3,4,5,6
- One-to-one keyboard tuition (from January 2027)
- Small group treble recorder tuition - lunchtime extra-curricular club
- 'Rock Steady' band tuition – vocals, drums, keyboard, guitar

Children are encouraged to make progress in music outside of lesson time in the following ways:

- If children are developing a particular interest or aptitude for an instrument (including voice), parents are contacted and help is offered to find suitable music tuition locally.
- Children are encouraged to join our school choir.

We work closely with the Cumbria Music Hub attending workshops / concerts etc and also the South Lakes Music 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.

Participation in various musical experiences including:

- Weekly singing in hymn practice / assembly - all ages
- Singing at Mass (St Mary's) - all ages
- Solos and cantors in Mass (both at St Mary's and in the school hall)
- Christmas Plays and performances in the school hall and St Bernard's (separate for EYFS / Yr 1 & 2 / 3 / Yr 4,5&6)
- Participation in Cumbria Hub's 'The Big Sing' October 2026 (subsidised) for yr 4/5/6
- Termly 'Rock Steady' band performances for parents
- Carol singing at The Round House, Singing for the Blind, The Indoor Market - school choir
- Participation in the 'Brilliant Barrow' project – schools singing event
- Termly singing / performance at parent coffee afternoons - all ages
- Musical performance by Patsy Gillam (local musician) - guitar and singing - for children learning ukulele for the whole school
- Summer Show by years 4,5,6 for parents

In the future

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

2027-2028

We are hoping to increase the amount / range of music tuition that we offer - including a wider range of instruments / teachers coming into school to offer individual / group tuition.