

Music development plan summary:

Katherine Semar Schools



Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2023-24
Date this summary was published	24.5.24
Date this summary will be reviewed	September 2025
Name of the school music lead	Mrs Jude Savill
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	Mr Anthony Hull
Name of local music hub	Essex Music Hub
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	Saffron Hall

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.

Katherine Semar Music Curriculum

The National Curriculum for music aims to ensure that all pupils:

- Perform, listen to, review and evaluate music across a range of historical periods, genres, styles and traditions, including the works of the great composers and musicians.

- Learn to sing and to use their voices, to create and compose music on their own and with others, have the opportunity to learn a musical instrument, use technology appropriately and have the opportunity to progress to the next level of musical excellence.
- Understand and explore how music is created, produced and communicated, including through the interrelated dimensions: pitch, duration, dynamics, tempo, texture, structure and appropriate musical notations.

Music is a powerful, unique form of communication that can change the way pupils feel, think and act. Pupils who are disadvantaged or who have SEND can find that music is an invaluable way to express themselves.

Our Approach

At Katherine Semar Schools, we not only meet the expectations of the National music curriculum, but we surpass them.

Taking the National Curriculum as a starting point, we have built our own bespoke curriculum which includes a whole school music progression, detailing the small granular steps of progression that will enable our pupils to make progress and succeed in music. The progression also details the range and scope of music studied, with common themes such as Music that tells a Story, running throughout the whole school, as well as year group specific listening. Music learning is supported by a wide range of music from many cultures, periods, styles and genres which pupils listen and respond to. This is carefully planned and includes a selection of great composers, including living composers.

[. *Music Progression 2023-24 updated.docx*](#)

[*Music Long term plan updated Dec 2022.docx*](#)

Whole Class Music Lessons

Each Year group, from EY to Y6 have an hour of music teaching with our music specialist every week of every term across the whole year. Music also permeates school life and therefore, pupils receive far more musical experiences than the class curriculum music allows.

Resources

The greatest resource we have in school is our team of experienced music teachers. We have a specialist music teacher, a visiting local composer and choral conductor who runs choir and orchestra in KS2, a team of peripatetic teachers and support staff who run extra -curricular music clubs. Many of our class teachers also play instruments.

We draw upon a wide range of high -quality resources to enhance and support our music teaching at Katherine Semar Schools. Resources such as Charanga, Yustudio (music technology), Royal Opera House Create and Sing, BBC 10 Pieces are selected carefully and embedded within our progressions, to enrich our curriculum.

One-off resources such as Music Hub workshops, visiting performers and events at Saffron Hall are also utilised when opportunities arise.(see Musical Experiences, below)

Whole Class Ensemble Teaching (WCET)

Embedded in the KS2 curriculum is the opportunity for ALL pupils to learn a musical instrument. Whole class ensemble tuition ensure that pupils have the opportunity to revisit and build upon skills from previous years.

Year 3---Recorder

Year 4—Recorder

Year 5—Recorder/glockenspiels

Year 6---Ukulele

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.

Instrumental Lessons

In KS2, pupils are offered the opportunity to learn an instrument in 1-1 lessons in addition to the WCET (see above). We have a large group of highly qualified private instrumental teachers offering lessons in the following instruments:

Violin

Piano (we have 3 piano teachers)

Drums

Guitar

Flute

Saxophone

Clarinet

Voice

Disadvantaged pupils are encouraged to learn an instrument and the school offers financial support.

Our peripatetic music teachers all offer pupils the chance to work towards preparatory tests, music exams and performance grading.

The music lead, in consultation with instrumental teachers, has produced a “**Katherine Semar Guide to Practising**” which aims to support pupils and parents alike to



Guide to
practising.docx

practise effectively in order to make optimum progress.

Our curriculum is enhanced with the help of local composer and conductor Janet Wheeler who runs our Junior Choir and Orchestra. Her expertise and knowledge of repertoire gives the pupils further opportunities to develop their musicianship.

Junior Choir (Years 4-6) This is a paid for club, which gives the members a high-quality singing experience, with a termly performance. (Non-auditioned)

Orchestra (Years 3-6) This is a paid for club which build pupils’ musicianship skills and ensemble playing. (Members are invited to join on the recommendation of their music teachers) Termly opportunities to perform to school and parents.

Young Voices Choir Every two years, Year 5 and 6 choir members have the opportunity to take part in the wonderful experience. Extra rehearsals for this take place at lunchtime.

Recorder Club KS2 (lunchtime club for improvers—all welcome)

Music and Drama club.KS1 This is a paid for club which takes place in our dedicated music room, after school.(Not auditioned)

Show Choir KS2 This is a paid for club which is open to years 3-6. It takes place in our dedicated music room, after school.(Not auditioned)

Disadvantaged pupils are encouraged to join a club and the school offers financial support.

Instrument Loans

The school owns a number of musical instruments including violins, guitars, clarinets and saxophones which can be loaned out to pupils at a marked discount from Music Shop Hire.

SCYM

We are proud to promote links with Saffron Centre for Young Musicians which is a Saturday morning music school at SWCHS, affiliated with Guildhall school of Music and Drama. Four pupils received bursary to attend, following recommendation from our music lead.

Saffron Music Festival

Pupils are encouraged to enter the annual Music Festival at SWCHS. Several of our pupils have taken part and won medals on voice, drums and violin.

Rehearsal and Teaching Rooms We have a dedicated, well-equipped music room in which class music lessons take place. We also have two excellent music practice

rooms in which many of our 1-1 lessons take place. These practice rooms can be offered to pupils to practice their instruments with a parent supervising, after school.

Pupils are also encouraged to practice their instruments during After school club, in the library space.

Saffron Walden Children’s Orchestra

We promote the holiday workshops and concerts offered by the SWCO. **Essex Music Hub** The school has worked with Essex Music Hub, to utilise their workshop experiences for schools.

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.

Assemblies

Singing is a golden thread which runs throughout our music teaching across key stages. We hold weekly singing assemblies, in which the whole school gathers together to learn new songs and sing old favourites.

Singing features frequently in class assemblies and is used to mark special occasions such as the Coronation, Mothers Day, Father’s Day

Our programme of assembly music is planned carefully to focus on a range of musical genres. Diversity within this programme is actively planned for.

Musical Events planned for 2024-25

Term/Month	What	Who	Audience
October	Harvest Festivals	All pupils in EY-Y4	Parents
November	The robot and the bluebird at Saffron Hall	All Y2 pupils	Y2 pupils
December	Christmas Productions	All pupils in EY-Y5	Parents
December	Carol Services	All pupils in EY-Y2 All teachers and pupils in Y3-Y6 Junior School Choir	Y2 Parents KS2 Parents

		Junior School Orchestra	
December	Spirit of Christmas—St Mary's Parish Church	Junior School Choir	Parents/other schools
December(biennial)	Christmas Fete	Choir	Parents/other pupils
January (biennial)	Young Voices Concert—O2 Arena	Young Voices Choir(Y5-6)	Parents/other schools
March	Spring Showcase	KSJ Orchestra KSJ Choir Soloists	Parents/Junior school
April	National Youth Orchestra at Saffron Hall	KSJ Orchestra	Orchestra pupils/other pupils from local schools
May	May Day Celebrations	All pupils in EY-Y2	Parents/Y3 pupils
June	Summer Fete	Orchestra	Parents/other pupils
June	Summer Concert	Junior School Choir	Parents/Y2-5
June	Saffron Lodge Care Home	Young Voices Y6 pupils	Care Home residents
June	KSJ's Got Talent	Teachers select an act for each class and year groups vote for their chosen act to go through to the final.	Parents and pupils
July	Count Me In at Saffron Hall (Tim Redmond and Alexandra Dariescu	All Y5 pupils	Y5 pupils/other schools

July	Y6 Production	All Y6 pupils	Junior school plus Y2/parents
July	Y6 Leavers' Assembly	All Y6 pupils	Parents

Further opportunities for music -making

We run a Creative Arts week every 4th year across both schools with an overarching theme, in which all pupils experience a range of arts such as art, dance, drama, music, often with a multicultural focus.

We encourage pupils to take part in our annual Christmas song or carol composition challenge.

We extend this in Creative Arts week, to include a composition challenge relating to the theme for that week eg The Environment.

Further opportunities for performing are encouraged with our annual KSJ's Got Talent competition, in which many pupils choose to share musical skills such as songwriting, singing dancing or instrumental playing.

Pupils having instrumental lessons both in or out of school are encouraged to be a Guest Performer in assemblies across both school, in order to inspire more pupils to take up an instrument and to give valuable performing experience.

In the future

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

Handover of music lead

- The current music lead and specialist teacher is retired at the start of the year. Provision has been made for significant hand-over opportunities for the incoming teachers (for KS1 and KS2) eg lesson observations and team teaching.
- **Succession planning for Orchestra**---new members are invited to join orchestra in the Summer term if they are ready, so that they can benefit from support from more experienced Y6 pupils.
- Further invitations will be sent out in September, on the advice of instrumental teachers. It is planned that orchestra will meet on a different day next year to enable the new KS2 music teacher to join.

New instrumental pupils

- Preparations for new KS2 pupils to take up instrumental lessons occurs in the Summer term. Junior pupils perform in assemblies in infant and Junior school, to

encourage new starts. Instrumental teachers will lead assemblies, especially for “rare” instruments such as brass, to encourage uptake.

WCET

- Consider introducing ukulele into Year 5, to replace recorder.
- Consider using music hub to provide some WCET and/or workshops next year eg samba for Year 5 (PLAC funding)

Continue to advertise instrumental loan scheme

Opera Project

There is a planned opera project for this year, between SWCHS and local primary schools.

Further information (optional)