Music at St Mary's RC Primary School

At St Mary's RC Primary School, music is taught weekly from EYFS to Year 6 by a specialist teacher from Rochdale Music Service. Our progressive curriculum develops singing, instrumental playing, listening, composing and performing, while introducing children to a wide range of musical genres, cultures and historical periods. Through our Musician of the Month initiative, pupils discover musicians from different backgrounds and traditions, broadening their musical knowledge and appreciation.

Music is an important part of school life, with annual Christmas and Summer concerts, the EYFS Nativity, collective worship and choir performances providing regular opportunities for children to share their talents. Last year, our Year 3 pupils took part in a whole-class music project at St Mary's the Baum, where classes performed in front of parents and other schools before coming together to play as a larger orchestra. These experiences help children develop confidence, teamwork and enjoyment in performing to an audience.

Beyond classroom lessons, our growing brass band and increasing number of pupils receiving peripatetic lessons in brass, guitar, keyboard and drums provide further opportunities to develop musical skills. Music technology is a key area of development for 2026–2027. Pupils across Key Stage 2 will take part in a music technology unit using Charanga YuStudio, creating, editing, recording and presenting their own musical work in response to a stimulus. We aim to gradually embed these skills across Key Stage 2, alongside developing inclusive musical opportunities that nurture creativity, build confidence and ensure every child can enjoy making music.

