

# Music development plan summary: 2025-2026

## Greenvale Primary School

### Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2025-26
Date this summary was published	September 2024
Date this summary will be reviewed	July 2026
Name of the school music lead	Allison Whale
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	
Name of local music hub	Kent Music Hub
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	

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.

**Curriculum** – At Greenvale Primary School, we use the Music Express Scheme across the school.

Our scheme of work fulfils the statutory requirements of the National Curriculum (2014). 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 inter-related dimensions: pitch, duration, dynamics, tempo, timbre, texture, structure and appropriate musical notations.

At Greenvale Primary School we make music an enjoyable learning experience. We encourage children to participate in a variety of musical experiences through which we aim to build up the confidence of all children. Singing lies at the heart of good music teaching. Our teaching focuses on developing the children's ability to sing in tune and with other people. Through singing songs, children learn about the structure and organisation of music. We teach them to listen to and appreciate different forms of music. The Music Express scheme supports our children to learn singing skills and build up a repertoire of songs. This is enhanced with carefully selected songs from 'Out of the Ark Music' which we use in our assemblies.

As children get older, we expect them to maintain their concentration for longer, and to listen to more extended pieces of music. Children develop descriptive skills in music lessons when learning about how music can represent feelings and emotions. We teach them the disciplined skills of recognising pulse and pitch. We often teach these together. We also teach children to make music together, begin to understand musical notation, and to compose pieces.

Each class teacher uses the scheme and adapts it to ensure every child can access and enjoy music within our school. The Music Express scheme offers choice of which units to teach in each term per year group. This allows for cross curricular links and builds on previous learning. Sequencing and progression are clear, starting in Reception and then continuing with weekly Music lessons in KS1 and lower KS2 (we currently only go up to Year 5). We explore music through the inter-related dimensions of music: performing, listening, composing and the history of music. We focus on developing the skills, knowledge and understanding that children need in order to become confident performers, composers, and listeners. Children will develop the musical skills of singing, playing tuned and un-tuned instruments, improvising and composing music, and listening and responding to music.

Music Express also includes SEND lessons so is inclusive for all. Teachers are provided with a wide range of resources –

- Lesson banks for all year group.
- Song banks (with over 350 diverse songs)
- Knowledge bank (with videos and a glossary for staff and pupils)
- Warm ups
- Skill builders (to ensure a solid, progressive understanding of beat, rhythm and pitch is maintained)
- Instrumental resources

**Implementation** – In accordance with the National Curriculum, we ensure that coverage of knowledge and skills is developed sequentially throughout the school. We have adopted the Music Express Scheme, to ensure that children receive quality music lessons weekly. Music is taught as a discrete lesson usually lasting 30 minutes in KS1

and 2. Other opportunities such as Singing in assemblies and cross curricular links and curriculum days allow pupils to consolidate their music learning and experience making music together as a group. We also offer whole class Ukulele lessons in Year 5 and 1:1 instrument lessons across the school.

Music Express provides a classroom-based, participatory and inclusive approach to music learning. Throughout the scheme, children are actively involved in using and developing their singing voices, using body percussion and whole-body actions, and learning to handle and play classroom instruments effectively to create and express their own and others' music. Through a range of whole class, group and individual activities, children have opportunities to explore sounds, listen actively, compose and perform. During music lessons, children are given opportunities to learn music-specific vocabulary in a meaningful context. The elements of music are taught in classroom lessons so that children are able to use the language of music to discuss it, and understand how it is made, played, appreciated and analysed. They will learn to recognise and name the interrelated dimensions of music - pitch, duration, tempo, timbre, structure, texture and dynamics - and use these expressively in their own improvisations and compositions. The children are given opportunities to apply their skills and given a chance for collaboration through composition.

### **Lesson Delivery –**

Music Express is made up of different units, each unit has three lessons so two units are taught per term. Within each music session there will be the following elements:

1. Clear learning objectives that include the vocabulary to be recapped / taught. NC links (cross curricular).
2. Three teaching activities (clear plans that include what resources are needed).
3. Ways to support and extend the learning.

Assessment sheets are provided for each year group to identify pupils working at, towards and beyond.

**Music in EYFS** - The Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) statutory framework introduced in September 2021 recognises that every child deserves the best possible start in life to help them to thrive. The Music Express units have been written to support the delivery of this revised framework and to help support dedicated practitioners to provide activities, opportunities and scaffolding to ensure children develop and make progress in their learning through the educational programmes of the EYFS. Musical learning is an intrinsic part of the holistic EYFS provision provided in this resource. Original songs and chants and new lyrics sung to traditional melodies forge strong links with the theme of each starting point, and carefully selected pieces of recorded music develop listening skills. Children's creative responses are encouraged through singing, playing, movement and dance.

**Planning** - Our Curriculum Overviews show which of the Music Express units and NC objectives we are covering each term. The Music Express plans follow our curriculum

and progression of skills document to ensure that attainment targets are securely met by the end of EYFS, Key Stage 1 and KS2 (once we have a Year 6). Individual lesson plans include guidance on adaptive teaching to allow all children to access the music lessons and subject specific guidance is provided for teaching staff to allow non-music specialists to teach with confidence.

## **SEND**

We will strive to remove barriers to learning for pupils with SEND. Adopting a positive and proactive approach will ensure that children with SEND are able to express themselves and take an active part in lessons. Explicit instructions and scaffolding will enable all pupils to achieve and succeed in music. Music Express includes SEND lessons.

**Assessment** - On-going Assessment for Learning (AfL) practices within class and group sessions, including the sharing of and reference being made to the learning objectives and self and peer assessments of understanding, outcomes and progress. Assessments are used diagnostically by teachers to evaluate learning and inform teaching and by teachers and senior leaders within the accountability process to evaluate individual and groups of children's standards and achievements and provision and to inform future provision and school development. O Track is used at three assessment points in the year for formative assessment. At the end of the year, the teacher makes a summary judgement about the musical skills and development of each pupil in relation to the National Curriculum or Foundation Stage Framework which is shared with the Music Lead and included on the Music Action Plan.

## **Resources**

We have a range of percussion instruments. This are stored in our large Music resource cupboard or in our music classroom

- Classroom percussion instruments
- Piano
- Tuned percussion instruments such as chime bars and bells
- Xylophones & glockenspiels
- Songbooks and Production packs
- CDs
- Music stands
- Guitars
- Ukuleles
- Drums
- keyboards
- IT -we have i pads and laptops to use across the school

## 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.

Singing takes place in assemblies that are outside of Music lessons. We have a choir after school club.

## 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.

We include singing into our assemblies daily where the children can learn new songs and enjoy singing as part of a large group.

In Term 2 we have FS and KS1 Nativity performances. The children will have the opportunity to perform to their peers as well their parents and carers.

Children in Year 5 will receive lessons on Music Technology from Kent Music Hub and Ukulele lessons from a qualified tutor.

All parents have the opportunity to sign their child up for 1:1 instrument lessons from qualified tutors.

## In the future

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

**Pupil Premium** - update the register of Pupil Premium children engaged in extracurricular music activities; review budget and ensure equality of provision for children who cannot afford to access paid-for provision.

**CPD and capacity planning** – Plan further CPD for classroom teachers to increase confidence in singing in the classroom and delivery. CPD in teaching whole class instrument lessons in KS1 (use Kent Music Hub for this).

**Performance opportunities** – Broaden the range of performance opportunities for children in school and beyond for parents to attend. Children receive instrument tuition and those in the choir to perform to others.

**Pupil Voice:** To continue to respond to pupil voice. Last year, children let us know that they would like to listen to more music in the dinner hall and have opportunities to perform and play instruments outside and to have a stage for singing/dancing etc.

**Parental involvement:** Create a list of parents/carers who play musical instruments who would be willing to come in to perform in classrooms or assemblies.

## Further information (optional)

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.

Useful information can also be found for the Kent and Medway Music Hub can be found [here](#)

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