

# Music development plan summary: Great Bradfords Junior School

## Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2024-2025
Date this summary was published	September 2024
Date this summary will be reviewed	September 2025
Name of the school music lead	Ula Radomska
Name of local music hub	Essex Music School

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/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.

At Great Bradfords Junior School we offer a music education that engages and inspires pupils to develop a love of music and their talent as musicians. We aim towards diverse experiences that will provide children with broad and culturally rich understanding as well as passion for music. We have created a bespoke project-based curriculum, supported by Charanga scheme, that ensures cross curricular links with the learning covered in foundation subjects and is closely aligned to the National Curriculum of Music. Our learning from Year 3 to 6 progresses through 4 major strands:

- singing
- listening
- composing
- performing/instrumental performance.

The music is being taught to all year groups by a specialist teacher. Additionally, Year 4 has been taught trumpet lessons provided by a specialist teacher from Essex Music School. During the 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 learn to recognise and name interrelated dimensions of music – pitch, duration, tempo, timbre, structure, texture and dynamics - and use these expressively in their own compositions. We strive to remove the barriers for the students with SEND and provide suitable learning opportunities for all children by matching the challenge or the task to the ability of the child using open-ended tasks as well as increasing their complexity for more able learners.

The progress is evident through learning conversations with specialist teachers, class folders (and where possible recordings) and progression documents. Pupil Voice interviews (including all groups of children) have demonstrated increasing confidence when talking about the subject as well as the ability to recall key music vocabulary. At Great Bradfords Junior school, learners are being provided with the practical opportunity to experience a variety of musical instruments: drums, glockenspiels and a variety of percussion instruments, as well as improvise and create their own compositions.

We also ensure that we actively promote our appreciation of music by exposing our students to different genres of music during our assembly times, for example jazz and classical music. Singing, apart from being taught as a part of the curriculum, takes place during each assembly too.

Our curriculum offer is shown below:

MUSIC CROSS-CURRICULUM OVERVIEW

	Autumn 1	Autumn 2		Spring 1	Spring 2	Summer 1	Summer 2	
Year 3	All About Me – Instruments	Maps – Instruments and Orchestra	Whole School Christmas Carol Concert Singing developing singing skills	Stone Age to Iron Age – rhythm	World War II Shelter and Propaganda Poster	River Field Guide	River PowerPoint Presentation	
	Families of instruments. How do they look and sound?	Layout of the orchestra; recognising instruments		Music History /Prehistory - Notation and Playing Drums Rhythm work using key words	Singing – Popular World War 1-2 songs Listening to range of cultural music	Playing an instrument – Glockenspiel (Improvisation) Course and Notation		
Year 4	Litter (Junk instruments)	Geography Global Citizenship Charity/Compassion Songs of Compassion		Shang Dynasty	Roman Britain	DT Buzz-wire game	Food Waste	
	Notation and playing an instrument – Glockenspiel			Pentatonic Scale playing and notating	Composing using China – Pentatonic Scale improvising and composing	Essex Music Services Music Playing – Play It (Trumpets) 10 x lessons		

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Year 5	Monarchy		Space	DT Pulley System	Foodbank Leaflet	Fashion Show
	History of Music and Listening and analysing: Classical Royal Court Music Notation composing features using glockenspiels		Music History Study - Holst 'Planets' Listening Group composition (Live Instruments)	Rap / Hip-hop Digital Composition texture, developing ideas		
Year 6	Climate Change Artwork		Fairtrade Presentation	Fair Trade Class Debate	DT Electric Buggies	Ancient Greeks
	Notation and playing; listening- music about nature and environment. Composition – group work – song or instrumental about nature/environment – music with purpose					

## 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 Great Bradfords Junior school, we are very fortunate to be supported by Essex Music School. The whole class tuition programme they provide, ensures high quality education and is tailored to meet the needs of our students. This is offered to Year 4 in the summer term when the students are being taught to play trumpets.

Singing is an integral part of our assemblies with a wide range of songs being learnt and performed, and our students approach these opportunities with confidence, enthusiasm and joy.

During the course of year, pupils can join, practise and perform with the school choir. The choir also joins in with the annual events of Young Voices and Christmas carol concert at our school, as well as performing at whole-school events such as the Easter Egg Hunt and the Summer Fete.

Every child is being given an opportunity to perform for their parents and peers during the whole school carol concert.

Over the past four years, Great Bradfords Junior School has been working closely with Rocksteady to provide multi-instrumental experiences through playing, singing and performing in a 'rock band' with deliberate efforts towards the support of children qualifying for the pupil premium. Fully funded by the school and subsidised by Rocksteady, rehearsals are during the school day with live performances to parents/carers and students taking place on a termly basis. Rocksteady also offer non-

pupil premium children the opportunity to join an after-school band and perform at the same concert alongside their peers.

## 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.

Music at Great Bradfords Junior School is incorporated in a variety of activities within the school, one of them being assemblies. As well as collective singing, music is being listened to and enjoyed by children with a wide range of themes and genres.

We also provide opportunities for musical experiences that enable children to apply and use music in life and academic context e.g. History or PE. For instance, our Year 3 students experience practical drum playing lessons (African drumming) as a part of their Stone Age to Iron Age project; and the whole school will take part in 'Beat Goes On' Music/PE workshops in the autumn term

The Christmas pantomime, the Christmas carol concert and the Rocksteady concerts allow all students to experience and enjoy live musical performance. Parents and carers are fully supportive of music making at our school and we have a good turn-out at all productions.

## In the future

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

In the years to come, we are going to continue to develop children's composition skills and the notation of this. We continue to develop children's performance skills and to create more occasions for the children to perform throughout the year. We also want to provide our pupils with numerous opportunities to watch/listen to live performances. As a school, we are going to create strong links with the feeder secondary school(s) to look for and manage opportunities for further development and we actively search for links with external music organisations, as well as closely co-operate with Essex Music School, to support our attempts to provide our children with the best music education and experience.