

Music development plan summary: Greenway Primary School

Overview

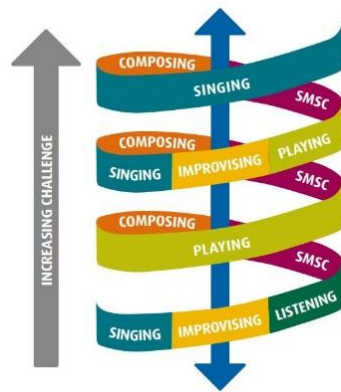
Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2024-2025
Date this summary was published	10 October 2024
Date this summary will be reviewed	Autumn 2025
Name of the school music lead	Mr J Pettifer
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	
Name of local music hub	Hertfordshire Music Service
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.

At Greenway Primary and Nursery School we follow a bespoke music curriculum created by our music specialist Mr J Pettifer. It has been designed to follow the National Curriculum and includes many elements taken from the 2021 Model Music Curriculum. The curriculum has been edited and refined over a number of years to ensure measurable, inclusive progression from Early Years through to Year 6. Unlike some subjects, progression in music is known to be non-linear i.e. the same skills grow and develop at different rates and need constant revisiting. To accommodate this our music curriculum at Greenway operates on a spiral model. This ensures that children through the key stages are regularly revisiting and developing core musical skills which directly relate to the National Curriculum:



- Singing
- Composing
- Improvising
- Playing
- Critical engagement (focussed listening)
- Social, moral, spiritual, and cultural (SMSC)

Class music lessons in Early Years and Key Stage 1 are based on Kodaly methodology which centres around the use of movement, action songs and singing games to introduce and develop core musical skills which will provide a foundation for broader musical development in Key Stage 2.

At Key stage 2 we use the spiral curriculum idea to continue development of skills from KS1 but we also increase the emphasis on composing, performing and instrumental activities so that children have opportunities to develop their expressive, creative and technical abilities.

Critical listening activities form a regular part of lessons across the key stages and are planned to ensure a wide variety of styles and genres which reflect both the rich history and diversity of music in general and the cultural experiences of children in the school.

At Greenway, curriculum music is delivered to Reception-Yr 6 in the school for 30 minutes per week by our specialist Mr Pettifer. Class teachers are also in possession of all music planning and regularly liaise with Mr Pettifer so that they can further develop music activities during class time. In addition a singing specialist, Mrs O'Brien visits weekly and provides a 30 minute session with KS1 and KS2. In this way we are able to provide 1 hour of music provision per week for all children in the school

Music lessons across the key stages at Greenway are planned to be accessible to all children regardless of disabilities or special educational needs. To this end there are notes about how we support children with special educational needs in each module of our music schemes of work. Our music specialist Mr Pettifer also regularly liaises with the INCO and class teachers so that he is aware of any specific issues which may affect individual children in their lessons. Some children with specific needs are provided with 1:1 support so that they can fully access the music curriculum.

Part B: Music tuition, choirs and ensembles

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.

To compliment our whole class curriculum music lessons, we provide a wide variety of Co-curricular music opportunities at Greenway School. All of these activities are open to every child regardless of ability.

Instrumental lessons

Currently we offer one to one and small group tuition in recorders, guitars and flute and we are investigating the possibility of introducing others.

In the longer term we aim to develop further and create small ensembles and possibly a school orchestra so that children have the opportunity to rehearse perform together.

At Greenway we have worked closely with Hertfordshire Music service who have provided whole class 'first access' weekly instrumental lessons for our Y4 children. From Sept 2024 we will continue to provide the same opportunities for our Y4 children now working with an independent music consultant. This is offered in addition to their regular curriculum music provision.

School Choir

A weekly lunchtime choir is led by our singing specialist Mrs O'Brien and open to all KS 2 children. The choir rehearses a wide variety of material ranging from religious music, songs from different cultures around the world and modern pop songs. This gives opportunities for children to perform at many different events throughout the school year both in and out of school. Each year the choir perform at St Albans Cathedral for our local Hospice remembrance service. Last year the choir also entered a Choral competition and progressed to the final. Both experiences offered the choir two very different memorable performances. We will be attending/entering both opportunities again this year.

Part C: Musical performances

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.

Singing

There is a weekly KS1 and KS2 30 mins singing session led by Mrs O'Brien during which children can further develop their singing skills and enjoy a variety of songs, both spiritual and secular. Singing sessions provide the opportunity to learn and rehearse songs for the various festivals and events which take place throughout the year and also enjoy the experience of group singing for its own sake.

Musical material is also always included in our regular non-singing assemblies and is carefully curated to reflect the themes in the assembly itself and the diverse cultural capital in our school. We are also planning to introduce a new broader Music assembly in Sept 2024 led by Mr Pettifer which will give children a chance to develop their knowledge, understanding and enjoyment of wider musical styles and techniques.

Shows and performances.

At Greenway we have a strong tradition of musical shows and performances. In addition to the annual singing assemblies and concerts for events such as Harvest Festival, Christmas and our summer concert, every year the Early Years classes are involved in a musical Nativity performance. Singing, both solo and in groups plays a central role in these performances and helps to build confidence and performing abilities.

At the end of the summer term year 6 rehearse and perform a summer show. Probably the flagship event of the school year, this is a fun musical production which involves opportunities for solo, small group and large chorus singing.

During the coming year we are planning to introduce a music sharing assembly in which children who learn instruments can perform for the rest of the school. Working towards a performance of this kind can be very motivating for children and gives them a great opportunity to develop their performance skills.

In addition to the above, every year we take our Year 5 class to the O2 arena in London to participate in the 'Young Voices' singing event during which they have the opportunity to rehearse and perform with thousands of children from other schools and some well known stars.

In the future

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

- During the 2024/25 school year we plan to expand the offer of small group and individual instrumental lessons to children by options for different instruments.
- Eventually we would like to create a small ensemble or orchestra so that instrument learners have a chance to perform in groups
- We will be investigating the possibility of inviting local ensembles and musicians into school so that children are able to hear and see real musicians performing live.
- We will be looking into the possibility of taking children to events outside school which give children the opportunity to experience live musical performances in a variety of musical styles.