



Grafton Primary School - Music Development Plan - 2025 - 2026

Part A - Curriculum Music

In accordance with Ofsted's most recent inspection framework, an outstanding Music programme at Grafton Primary School is guided by a clear intent that outlines the school's ambitious intentions for Music education. The intent statement for Music at Grafton Primary School demonstrates a deep commitment to providing a broad, balanced, and high-quality curriculum that inspires and engages all pupils.

The intent of the Music curriculum at Grafton Primary School is to foster a love of music and cultivate musical skills in every pupil. This includes developing an understanding of various musical genres, styles, and traditions, as well as nurturing creativity and self-expression through music. The curriculum aims to ensure that all pupils have the opportunity to perform, compose, and listen to a wide range of music, thereby promoting cultural capital and enhancing their cultural awareness.

Our Music curriculum utilises Charanga's Original Scheme to teach our mainstream learners. This scheme is designed in alignment with the National Curriculum for Music and the non-statutory Model Music Curriculum (MMC) Guidance issued by the DfE in 2021. It also offers comprehensive support for each year group through clearly-sequenced units and lessons, encompassing lesson plans, assessment tools, a structured learning progression, and a rich array of engaging songs and resources.

Key Features:

- The scheme caters to children aged 5–11, providing six self-sufficient units per year.
- Each unit is divided into six steps, offering flexibility in pacing to suit the academic year.
- 'I Can' statements accompany Key Learning and Outcomes for easy reference alongside assessment grids.
- The initial step introduces the unit's focus, with progressive development in subsequent steps.
- The culmination of each unit includes assessment through dynamic performances and activities.

The Charanga Original Scheme is a valuable resource for educators seeking a comprehensive and structured approach to music education. With its detailed lesson plans, assessment tools and engaging materials, the scheme facilitates effective teaching and learning experiences for children across the different age groups.

Grafton Primary delivers the Anyone Can Play (ACP) unit within Charanga for our SEND learners. This is a Scheme of Work devised by the Music Unlimited team and developed through 30 years of classroom experience. The scheme builds on a collection of original songs and pieces and provides a range of age-appropriate, accessible material to underpin and support students on their musical journey. This inherently flexible scheme empowers the non-specialist teacher to deliver music to students from P1 to P8.

Music is taught once a week for between 45 minutes and an hour in each stage (EYFS, KS1 and KS2). Through the Original Curriculum scheme, each key stage is introduced to a variety of instruments. For example, in Year 1 and 2, students have the chance to learn the sweet melodies of the ocarina, while Year 3 and 4 dive into the enchanting sounds of glockenspiels. As they progress to Year 5 and 6, pupils expand their musical horizons further. Year 5 receive music tuition lessons once a week from the local authority through the Barking and Dagenham Community Music Service, where they learn to play a larger musical instrument eg trumpet. To deepen their skills, Year 6 children have the opportunity to receive individual trumpet lessons, funded by their parents. In addition to instrumental learning, every child experiences the joy of singing through their whole-class

ensemble teaching sessions. With a blend of instrument playing and vocal exercises, our students embark on a musical journey together.

In supporting our music curriculum at Grafton Primary, we have established partnerships with various Local Music Hubs. One such partnership is with the Community Music Service, operated by The London Borough of Barking and Dagenham (LBBD) Music Education Hub (MEH). This collaboration involves working with a network of local, regional, and national providers and schools within the borough. Through the MEH, LBBD's aim is to offer top-tier opportunities for children and young people in LBBD. This includes providing Year 5 and 6 children the opportunity to watch an orchestra perform at Christmas time. This magical experience enables the children to see a wide range of instruments, learn the distinctive sounds and promote a love for music.

To further develop music within the school and offer wider opportunities, Grafton Primary has also partnered with Rock Steady Music, a renowned music education organisation. Rocksteady Music provides children with the unique opportunity to learn an instrument and participate in a band setting. Music teachers from Rocksteady Music visit Grafton Primary weekly to conduct engaging 30-minute lessons, where students learn to play various instruments including drums, guitar, bass, keyboard, and vocals as part of a band ensemble. Each term culminates with the children showcasing what they have learned in live performances to their peers as well as parents and carers.

Rock Steady will lead a launch assembly on Friday 3rd October 2025, to exhibit this exciting opportunity.

Part B - Co-Curricular Music

At Grafton Primary School, we are dedicated to providing our pupils with a comprehensive music education that promotes creativity, self-confidence and a sense of achievement. Our extracurricular music tuition program offers pupils in Years 5 and 6 the opportunity to delve deeper into the world of music, exploring the various dimensions of pitch, duration, dynamics, tempo, and structure.

In partnership with Rocksteady Music, Grafton Primary School offers a unique opportunity for children in EYFS to Year 6 to learn to play musical instruments and form a rock band. Through the Rocksteady Music program, pupils can explore their musical talents and develop their skills in a supportive and engaging environment. While the program is fee-based, we are proud to offer two free spaces to children eligible for pupil premium, ensuring that all students have access to this enriching musical experience.

Grafton Primary School is pleased to present an innovative offering of Conductive Music Technology workshops; a unique opportunity for our Year 3 pupils to immerse themselves in the world of Music Technology. This engaging program, which is fully funded by the school, fosters a rich connection between music and computing. Through the use of the Makey Makey electronic device, pupils can delve into the realm of sound design, crafting their own soundtracks by experimenting with various tones and adjusting sound frequencies. Furthermore, pupils have the chance to record their voices, offering them the ability to manipulate the sound properties, such as pitch. This initiative aims to inspire creativity and technological experiences among our pupils, offering a dynamic learning experience at Grafton Primary School.

For Year 5 pupils, we provide Community Music Service lessons funded by the school, allowing pupils to learn instruments such as the guitar and trumpet. These lessons aim to nurture pupils' passion for music and provide them with the tools to excel in their musical journey. The year culminates with a school concert whereby pupils can showcase their developing skills and talents to their peers and families.

Part C - Musical Experiences

Grafton Primary School is working with Rocksteady Music to provide music lessons to students in EYFS, KS1, and KS2. This is a great opportunity for students to learn how to play an instrument and be part of a band. There are five bands in total, with nine spaces available. Students can choose to learn drums, guitar, bass, keyboard, or vocals. Each child receives a weekly 30-minute session and practise with other members of their band. The goal is for the children to perform their learned instrument at the end of term concert. There are three concerts throughout the year: autumn, spring, and summer. This is a fantastic opportunity for the children at Grafton to showcase their talent, feel like part of a team, and grow in confidence.

In the future

Currently, our Year 1 pupils are engaged in learning to play the ocarinas, while our Year 2 pupils are mastering the art of playing the Glockenspiels. Our primary goal is to empower Key Stage 1 pupils, by allowing them to demonstrate their instrumental skills during class assemblies. This will not only foster a sense of accomplishment among the pupils but also offer parents a glimpse into their child's musical journey and progress within the school's curriculum.

We also intend to introduce music within our assembly programme, to develop understanding and enjoyment in a wider repertoire of music.

In the past academic year, Year 5 children participated in the Royal Opera House CREATE (Create and Learn) programme, culminating in them showcasing their musical and movement talents in a live-streamed performance from the Royal Opera House. This year will look to enrol in similar wider-curriculum experiences, including the annual Young Voices concert at the O2.

Grafton Primary School is a Rights Respecting school, with the belief that pupils should be actively engaged in shaping their learning experiences. To uphold this principle, Grafton Primary School places a strong emphasis on promoting 'pupil voice'. As part of this initiative, we will actively seek input from pupils across all year groups regarding their preferences and aspirations within the music curriculum. By incorporating the valuable feedback provided by our pupils, we will tailor and refine our music curriculum to align with their interests and learning needs, thereby ensuring a more personalised, inclusive and engaging learning environment for all.