

Grand Avenue Primary and Nursery School
A Policy for Music

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Overall aim/philosophy

At Grand Avenue we view Music as an integrated part of children's daily life and experience. We see Music as a means of communication using sound as its language. Through this approach we aim to contribute to the overall development of each child.

Aims

To enable the children to

- Find enjoyment in creating music and see themselves as musicians.
- Find a lasting sense of purpose, achievement and fulfillment in musical expression.
- Develop skills to use a range of instruments (including the voice) competently.
- Have opportunities to express their ideas and feelings through musical creation and respond to a range of stimuli.
- Listen to and identify the key musical elements (pitch, duration, dynamics, tempo, timbre, texture and structure).
- Listen to and appreciate music from all cultures.
- Develop an appropriate vocabulary to help them understand and discuss their own work and that of others.
- Develop an understanding of the relationship between sound and symbol.
- Appreciate and evaluate the work of a range of composers and musicians from their own and other cultures.
- To develop social skills and awareness through making music together.

Organisation of music teaching

- We seek to fulfil the aims above through the National Curriculum Programmes of Study. The 'Music Express' scheme is used to support the teaching of music throughout the school as well as materials from the Voices Foundation.
- Music is taught through class teaching, integrated activities and specialist instrumental tuition.
- The Music co-ordinator and each class teacher are responsible for the delivery of the music curriculum, spending 30 minutes weekly, (KS1) to 1 hour (KS2) per week, every other half term, covering composition, performance and appraising.
- Music is taught, wherever possible, through integrated cross curricular teaching and is also taught as a separate subject.

- All children take part in a weekly singing practice led by the music co-ordinator.

Planning, monitoring and evaluation

Planning for Music is undertaken in line with school policy. We seek to embed it in our cross curricular topics, whilst ensuring that it is in line with the schemes of work and progression of skills (known as the skills ladder) devised by the music coordinator. The children are assessed termly against the criteria set out in the skills ladders. Planning indicates gifted and talented pupils along with SEN pupils. Links to Literacy and Numeracy are also identified. The music coordinator monitors the planning termly.

A summary of how the child has achieved overall in the various facets of the Music curriculum will be presented to parents in the annual Record of Achievement.

Extra-curricular music

The music co-ordinator holds two singing assemblies a week, one for Key Stage 1 and one for Key Stage 2, and often holds whole school singing assemblies. Year 6 children who are members of 'Grand Singers' have been trained to help support with these assemblies and to lead them independently when needed. A wide range of repertoire is taught including songs which complement the PSHEE scheme.

The children will be offered the opportunity to participate in various musical activities at different points in their schooling (subject to teacher availability) including two choirs (Little Voices; Years 2 and 3, and Grand Singers; Years 4, 5 and 6). This provides them with the opportunity to take part in termly concerts at school and also in the Borough 'Festival of Voices' at the Rose Theatre. The children are also given opportunities to participate in productions and concerts at strategic points in the year.

Children are also offered instrumental tuition with the Kingston Music Service on a range of instruments including violin, guitar, piano and recorder. The children in Year 5 are provided with whole class string lessons for the duration of the year, provided by KMS. We also provide whole class recorder lessons for children in Years 3, 4 and 6.

All teachers are encouraged to engage the children with as much music as possible, including using music as a stimulus in literacy, using songs to learn facts such as times tables, using music as a means of relaxation, for

example in art lessons or peer massage, using music during PE and for timed activities such as getting changed.

The role of the Music Co-ordinator

- To create, review and monitor the Music policy throughout the school.
- To identify areas for development.
- To provide or organise training in the light of local and national developments.
- To advise and support teachers in their planning and delivery of Music.
- To assess, monitor and evaluate the Music curriculum by class observation.
- To ensure skills are developed throughout the school in a progressive manner.
- To gather evidence of all musical activities within school.
- To ensure there are sufficient resources for Music.
- To promote participation in local events eg Choir competitions, Christmas carols, music festivals and visiting establishments where coffee mornings are held.

Governors will

- To become familiar with the issues surrounding this policy.
- To support the implementation of this policy.
- To ensure funding to support this policy is considered during the budget setting process.

Resources

The Music co-ordinator is able to bid for necessary resources. There is a music room situated in the Annex in which a range of resources are kept, ie instruments, CD's, Music books. (Oak Room) Classes are allocated weekly slots to use this room. Nursery, Reception and Year 1 also have a music box containing a range of instruments which is kept in the classroom. The school also buys into the 'Sing Up' scheme which is an online singing resource and is used across the school.

Equal Opportunities

The teaching of Music at Grand Avenue Primary School reflects the school's Equal Opportunity Policy. We aim to ensure that all pupils have equal access to the Music curriculum, irrespective of race, home language or gender. The school offers all pupils access to instrumental teaching through the Borough's Music Service. All pupils have the opportunity, during the

course of their time at Grand Avenue to participate in music groups, choirs and school productions.

Able and Gifted and Talented pupils

There are opportunities for the more able children to further their development by using the Borough Music Service and participating in the various extra-curricular activities. Teachers will also ensure the needs of more able children are being met by liaison with the music co-ordinator. All staff have a list of children on the Gifted and Talented register and ensure that these children are given appropriate challenge.

S.E.N.

As a staff we are aware that there is a need to adapt the delivery of the Music curriculum in order for children with Special Educational Needs to access the music curriculum.

Appendix

Standards in Literacy

Curriculum targets for Literacy apply to all subject areas.

To ensure high standards in all written work and promote the aims of the school in all subject areas by -

- highlighting the importance of higher order writing skills
- providing opportunities to develop speaking and listening skills
- ensuring the correct use of grammar is a high priority in all written work
- developing positive cross curricular links between Literacy and other subject areas