

Music Development Plan Summary 2024

What is the Intent of the Music curriculum?

Our music teaching aims to follow the specifications of the National Curriculum; providing a broad, balanced and differentiated curriculum and ensuring the progressive development of musical concepts, knowledge and skills.

The aims of our music curriculum are to develop children who:

- Enjoy and have an appreciation for music
- Listen to, review and evaluate a variety of music
- Can sing and use their voices to create different effects
- Create and compose music, both on their own and with others
- Use a range of musical language
- Make judgements and express personal preferences about the quality and style of music
- Take part in performances with an awareness of audience

The music curriculum is shared with parents each term through year group newsletters.

How is the curriculum implemented?

Music teaching at Great Totham delivers the requirements of the National Curriculum through use of some of the Charanga schemes of work, alongside our own schemes which are designed to suit the needs of our children.

Each half term unit has a different focus but an overarching element is the development of musical vocabulary, allowing children to express their feelings and opinions and use the correct terminology in both musical appreciation and composition.

The curriculum also includes weekly singing assemblies where the children learn a specific song from the Great Totham Song Book. This is then performed as a whole school ensemble. Children also sing in Harvest, Christmas and other special assemblies to celebrate key events.

What are the Co-Curricular Opportunities?

Flute and clarinet tuition is offered on a weekly basis. Funding is available for specific children from disadvantaged families.

There is also the opportunity for children to be part of a band through the iRock programme for those interested.

Both of these include opportunities throughout the school year to perform to an audience.

Musical Experiences

Performance is at the heart of musical teaching and learning at Great Totham and children participate in a range of performances during their time at school. These include nativities and Christmas productions (Y5 and KS1), Easter performances (Years 3 and 4) and a Leavers performance (Year 6). Children who are confident are encouraged to perform in solo performances. Parents are invited and welcomed to watch all of these performances whether at school or outside of school. Alongside our curriculum provision for music, children also have the opportunity to join the school choir and to participate in concerts including the Young Voice voices (O2 Arena). The school choir is open to KS2 children. Children in the school choir meet after school and focus on singing in unison, developing harmony, solo performances and having fun!

All curriculum teams at Great Totham Primary have action plans as part of the school development plan. The current priorities for music are as follows:

Improve the quality of singing

The music subject team will review all schemes of work to ensure singing skills are included and show progression across the school. The team will then monitor implementation of the schemes and provide feedback and support to year teams.

Continuing Professional Development

The music subject team will meet with each year group, beginning with those with a member of staff new to the school, to review the resources used in particular Charanga (online Essex resource). The music team will explain the resources and check with staff they have the confidence to deliver the units and provide bespoke training as required for individuals.

Co-curricular Opportunities

Through observation of sessions and perception surveys for children, parents and teachers, the music team will monitor the quality of the flute and clarinet tuition and also the iRock groups. The music team will ensure there is full take up of places and that the offered bursary places are used.

Further improve the provision of instruments

Having completed an audit of musical instruments in the school, the music team will ensure damaged instruments are replaced and that there are sufficient numbers of drums and glockenspiels to conduct whole class teaching. If funds then allow the team will extend the range of untuned percussion instruments to support composition schemes of work.