# Music development plan summary: Grange Junior School

## Overview

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| Detail | Information |
| Academic year that this summary covers | 2024-2025 |
| Date this summary was published | December 2024 |
| Date this summary will be reviewed | August 2025 |
| Name of the school music lead | Lynette Barton, Grange Infant and Junior School |
| Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different) | Jennifer Pound |
| Name of local music hub | Gloucester, Swindon, Wiltshire Music Hub |
| Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place) | Swindon Music Service |

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.

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| At Grange Junior School, our pupils actively explore and expand their knowledge and understanding across the curriculum. As Staff, we aim to help each individual become a caring, confident and curious young person who has a passion for learning and a desire to be the best that they can. As a result of this, we have carefully designed a curriculum which is underpinned by our Golden Threads.  Each of our golden threads has a particular role to play and as a school community we have carefully considered why each one is important.  **Values Intent** – Having values underpinning our curriculum is important because:   * It prepares all pupils for their future by developing their own moral compass * It helps pupils explore how to behave and engage with learning and others * They help prepare children to be effective citizens * Six key values: respect, bravery, resilience, support, reflection and aspiration.   **Knowledge and Skills Intent** – Knowledge and skills are one of our golden threads because:   * It is important to ensure children understand that skills and knowledge have equal importance currently children have more knowledge * It allows us to model the important connection between both * We want to ensure that children revisit previous knowledge and skills to remember more and know more * Improving both skills and knowledge provides children with a range of transferable skills.   **Language Rich Intent** – Our curriculum is language rich; we believe this is important because:   * Children typically have good conversational language but our aim is to improve their Tier 3 vocabulary to enable them to be more confident and precise in their explanations across all curriculum areas * Rich vocabulary gives them the tools to take more risks in their learning * We are ambitious for all when it comes to closing the ‘word gap’ * We want to challenge them in their use of language   **Connections Intent** – Our aim is to ensure children can make connections in their learning. We think this is important because:   * It enables us to create equality between subjects and their importance * It means we can make real life connections – beyond the classroom – which give us a ‘hook’ for learning * It helps broaden children’s awareness of why what they learn is relevant to them * It allows us to make connections between current and previous learning – where does this learning fit? * It helps to build those links between school, home, the local community and wider world   **Active and Enriched Intent** – Ensuring our learning is enriched and active is important to us at Grange Junior School because:   * This enables us to give children a voice * It provides more opportunity to make children responsible for their own learning * It means learning is multi-sensory which is ambitious and inclusive for all * It allows us to increase pupils’ cultural capital beyond their current experiences by deepening and varying their opportunities – exposing children to elements of life they are not as familiar with * This encourages children to be risk takers   We believe that pupils flourish and progress when they are able to access the curriculum. Every pupil has this entitlement and should be able to feel successful in their learning experiences.  We structure learning experiences carefully so that pupils always feel encouraged and motivated. Teachers use a variety of methods to promote learning and the development of key skills. Some lessons might be very teacher led; others are highly interactive. Sometimes, we might ask children to work independently, while on other occasions they will work on a specific task as a group.  **Our Intent for our Music Curriculum:**  Our vision is to enable our children to learn to sing, play an instrument and create music together, and have the opportunity to progress their musical interests and talents. Therefore, we provide opportunities for all children to create, play, perform and enjoy music both in class and to an audience. At Grange, we value music because it is a powerful and unique form of communication that can change and impact the way children feel, think and act. We believe that teaching music helps the body and the mind work together. Music is all all-inclusive and give all our children the chance to shine, no matter of their background and academic abilities. Overall, we aim to nurture and encourage musical development across the school.  **Our Implementation at Grange Junior School:**  Our whole curriculum is shaped by our school vision, which aims to enable all children, regardless of background, ability, additional needs, to flourish to become the very best version of themselves they can possibly be. Music teaching at Grange delivers the requirements of the National Curriculum using the Charanga Scheme of Work. Charanga Musical School Units of Work provide children to understand musical concepts through a repetition-based approach to learning which enables a more secure, deeper learning and mastery of musical skills. Children are also immersed in the works of composers from diverse backgrounds. This is embedded in classroom activities as well as the weekly singing assemblies, concerts and performances, the learning of instruments.  **What Music looks like at Grange Junior School…**  At Grange, we provide children with a varied and wide-ranging musical experience, both in and outside of curriculum Music lessons. Children learn to listen to and appraise music from a range of styles, genres and eras, commenting on the musical features and their personal response; to perform confidently and musically to an audience for a range of different purposes; and to compose their own music in response to a given stimulus or framework, based on their learning within a unit of work. The National Curriculum stipulates that every child should have the opportunity to learn an instrument at primary school. In LKS2, children will explore classroom percussion instruments, such as tambourines, drums and glockenspiels as well as will learn how to play the recorder. In Year 5, children will always receive a whole term of Whole Class Instrumental Teaching provided by Swindon Music Service. Year 6 will have the opportunity for Musical Theatre to perform at the end of the school year. In addition, during weekly Singing Assemblies, children enhance their vocal techniques and discuss the musical features of the songs they are singing. Also, pupils are given the opportunity to further their knowledge of the musical canon and exposing them to a wider range of genres from throughout the ages while listening to different pieces during assemblies. Furthermore, we have ‘Music of the Week’ which is played at children enter the classroom in the morning, enter and leave assemblies and in the dinner hall at lunchtime, which provides with the chance to expand their knowledge of musical genres. In addition, our pupils experience live music as an audience member twice a year (Swindon Music Service Road Show concerts).  Rocksteady Music Schools provide weekly small-group tuition, providing our children the opportunity to receive age-appropriate music lessons, to be part of a school ensemble and to perform in concerts three times per year to the rest of the school and their parents.  The Swindon Music Service provide 1:1 guitar and piano lessons, providing our children with the opportunity to receive age-appropriate music lessons.  Further to this, all our children have regular opportunities take part in concerts in school – this includes our annual carol service, singing at our Christmas and Summer Fayre’s. Children also have the chance to join the Grange Junior School Choir. They learn important skills in singing as an ensemble and perform at events in and outside of school, include events organised by our PTA and the Swindon Music Service.  **Impact:**  Music is a cornerstone of the broad and balanced education that every child should receive. It touches hearts and minds; it celebrates and challenges, and it connects us and moves us.  In the same way that we teach children literacy and numeracy to prepare them for adult life, we also give our pupils the musical tools they need for a lifetime of music-making and enjoyment. For some, music will be the foundation of a career; for others, it will provide experiences and skills which develop their creativity. For many, music will simply be a source of joy, comfort and companionship throughout their lives.  Our music curriculum is published on our school website and can be accessed here: <https://grange-jun.swindon.sch.uk/learning-education/curriculum/subject-overview>  Music is timetabled weekly across the school so that all children have regular access to music lessons as part of a broad and balanced curriculum offer. We are currently developing a new, bespoke lesson scheme for our school that follows on from the musical learning at Grange Infants’ School and aims to cover the new Model Music Curriculum as recommended by the government. Assemblies are also used as additional time where children learn songs and practise singing. |

## 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.

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| Our school works in partnership with the Gloucester, Swindon, Wiltshire Music Hub, the Swindon Music Service and Rocksteady Music Service to provide pupils with additional whole class tuition, small group instrumental lessons and the opportunity to perform in vocal ensembles outside of school. Our Year 5 children learn a woodwind instrument through a 10-week tuition programme, facilitated by a music specialist. Further to this, all our children are offered the opportunity to learn to play an instrument in a Rock and Pop band. This small group tuition is provided on a weekly basis by Rocksteady Music Schools. The Rocksteady bands perform to the rest of the school, as well as to their parents, three times per year.  Assembly time is also set aside on a weekly basis for singing. Children are introduced to new songs and enjoying practising, rehearsing and performing together.  Peripatetic lessons are also available for parents and carers to sign their child up to. This service provides additional, peripatetic music tuition. Pupils enjoy performing music they have learnt.  Our choir get the opportunities to perform outside of school as an ensemble and alongside other choirs. These performances are organised by the Swindon Music Service and our PTA. |

## 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.

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| At the start of every assembly, upon entry to the classroom in the morning, and in the dinner at lunchtime, the children listen to a piece of music. One piece is chosen per week, to give children exposure to a wide range of musical genres based on the Model Music Curriculum.  We have whole school singing assemblies on a weekly basis, but our children also have other regular opportunities to take part in musical events, such as singing in an ensemble at the Christmas and May Fayres, the Year 6 Summer Production, the Year 6 leavers’ performance, Christmas Voice Festival and the Swindon Juniors’ Voice Festival.  In addition to the opportunities our children get to perform, they also experience live music performances at least twice per year when we have live Music Roadshows which are organised by our local Music Service and performed by professional musicians. |

## In the future

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

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| It is the intention of the leadership team to:   * Plan additional opportunities for children to engage in musical events (e.g. attendance at events such as ‘Young Voices’). * Arrange for each year group to rehearse for and perform a piece of music they have been working on during directed music lessons, once per year. * Develop a long-term plan and medium-term plans that clearly lay out the learning objectives and child outcomes for each term’s music lessons and to publish this music curriculum on our website. * Continue to work in partnership with Rocksteady Music Schools to give our children the chance to receive instrumental lessons. * Collaborate with an external provider to deliver and engaging World Music Day event that will get the children excited about Music. * Gradually phase in the new lesson scheme with the aim of making dedicated music lessons more engaging and more purposeful, with clear outcomes, so as to cover the New Model Music Curriculum. * To develop a yearly plan for the ‘Song of the Week’ that can then be adapted in following years to ensure it meets the need of our children and the recommendations of the New Model Music Curriculum. * To create the opportunity for Y3 and 4 children to perform to their parents at the end of their sequence learning to play the recorder. * To create the opportunity for Y5 children to perform to their parents at the end of their lesson sequence learning to play the clarinet. * Enrol our choir for the Young Voices 2026 event. |

## Further information (optional)

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| Oxfordshire County Music Service:  Centre for Music  Bayswater Road,  Oxford  OX3 9FF  [music.service@oxfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:music.service@oxfordshire.gov.uk)  [www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/music](https://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/residents/music-service)  Area Manager: Jonathon Wakefield |