

*'Without music, life would be a mistake.'* Friedrich Nietzsche.

### Curriculum Aims and Principles

At Greet, we are driven by a collective mission of ensuring that children understand that there are **no limits to what they can achieve**. It is through this relentless ambition and high expectations that we seek to **achieve excellence** for our children, to develop their **social intelligence** and their understanding of how to live **ethical lives**. Our school mission and values form the drumbeat of day-to-day life at Greet. They are the driving forces behind our curriculum design.

Our curriculum has the children of Greet at its heart. It is rooted in our school, our families and our local community whilst ensuring learners are also taught about national and global issues. We endeavour to give our children a strong sense of their own identity and their place in the world, and to respect the same for others. They will know the story of humankind, its place in history and how they can have a positive impact on the future, so they are fully prepared for the challenges of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century.

All of our curriculum areas are carefully planned and mapped using **our core curriculum principles**. These ensure our curriculum is: **values driven**; focused on **the essentials**; **coherent, connected** and **cumulative**; incorporates **carefully selected knowledge**; **vocabulary rich**; **ambitious**; and **builds cultural capital**. Please see our 'Curriculum Aims and Principles' document for more details.

For all subject areas we have **carefully selected and sequenced the key knowledge and vocabulary** our children need to build the foundations of future academic success. Knowledge and vocabulary are **explicitly mapped on our medium term plans**. This knowledge and vocabulary is **delivered as a minimum requirement**. Content is arranged sequentially and logically with key concepts are revisited in a range of contexts within a year group, across year groups and across subjects. Our curriculum threads link key themes across the school.

### Music at Greet

Music is a universal language that embodies one of the highest forms of creativity. A high-quality music education should engage and inspire children to develop a love of music and their talent as musicians, and so increase their self-confidence, creativity and sense of achievement. As children progress, they develop a critical engagement with music, allowing them to compose, and to listen with discrimination to the best in the musical canon.

Our music curriculum **aligns closely to the National Curriculum** and provides our pupils with the opportunity to:

- perform, listen to, review and evaluate music across a range of historical periods, genres, styles and traditions, including the works of the great composers and musicians.
- learn to sing and to use their voices, to create and compose music on their own and with others, have the opportunity to learn a musical instrument, use technology appropriately and have the opportunity to progress to the next level of musical excellence.
- understand and explore how music is created, produced and communicated, including through the inter-related dimensions: pitch, duration, dynamics, tempo, timbre, texture, structure and appropriate musical notations.

At Greet Primary School we teach **an ambitious, knowledge music curriculum** through the use of the Charanga scheme of work. This ensures that our music curriculum content is mapped **sequentially and logically** with **key vocabulary and knowledge revisited** to support children to **know more and remember more**. Charanga enables children to develop their understanding of musical concepts through a repetition-based approach to learning.



Our specialist music teacher helps children to master using their voice as an instrument before moving on to play instruments – Charanga primarily focusses on learning music through the glockenspiel. Learning about the same musical concept through different musical activities supports deeper learning and mastery of musical skills.

Each unit of work is based around a song and comprises the of strands of musical learning which correspond with the national curriculum for music:

1. Listening and appraising
2. Musical activities (Warm-up Games, Singing, Playing instruments, Improvisation, Composition)
3. Performing

## EYFS

In EYFS children explore, use and refine a variety of artistic effects to express their ideas and feelings. They create collaboratively, sharing ideas, resources and skills. Children listen attentively, move to and talk about music, expressing their feelings and responses. They sing in a group or on their own, increasingly matching the pitch and following the melody. Children explore and engage in music making and dance, performing solo and in groups.

## Key Stage 1

In key stage 1 children learn how pulse, rhythm and pitch work together. Children look at pulse, rhythm and pitch in different styles of music and look at the history of music and learn some of the language of music.

## Lower Key Stage 2

In lower key stage 2 children explore and develop their playing skills and look at music from around the world, celebrating our differences and being kind to one another

## Upper Key Stage 2

Children continue to develop and improve their playing skills, listening and appraising music, improvising using instruments in the context of a song to be performed as well as learning to compose and perform their own music.

Our curriculum is enhanced through specialist music teaching provided by Services for Education. All pupils participate in weekly Sound Tots lessons in Nursery. In Year 3 children learn the recorder and in Year 4 children learn to play a musical instrument. Children who show a particular interest or flair in Year 4 then have the opportunity to continue to play the instruments in Years 5 and 6.

Pupils are taught to sing through weekly singing assemblies giving them the chance to encounter a wide selection of music as well as the chance to perform in public.

## Entitlements

Through the Music curriculum every child will:

- receive a 45 minute music lesson with our specialist music teacher each week.
- take part in a weekly singing assembly with our specialist music teacher.
- learn to play a musical instrument in Year 3 and Year 4.
- have the opportunity to join our school choir in KS1.
- have the opportunity to join our school ensemble orchestra in KS2.
- take part in a class or year group performance assembly each year which incorporates their music learning.
- experience a live music event in an external venue.

## Assessment

We assess children' learning of music in the following ways:

- start and end of unit performance videos.