Music Development Plan

Over the past two years, George Grenville Academy has evolved its music curriculum to a 45-minute lesson every week, delivered by a specialist music teacher. Lessons are practical in nature, with performing, composing and listening featuring in all topics. Our Kodály inspired approach means singing plays a vital part in every lesson. This approach ensures that the music curriculum is accessible to all, whilst differentiation within lessons ensures all pupils are suitably challenged.

In early years, we focus on developing a sense of beat and pitch, and their ability to explore and combine different sounds. We cover a wide range of subjects, including Stories in Music, Graphic scores and Carnival of the Animals. They use a variety of untuned and untuned percussion within all topics.

In year one, Children continue to develop their understanding of beat and pitch, whilst also learning to read and play simple notation using the Kodály method. Topics covered include, Samba, Waltz and March, and djembe drumming. They use a variety of tuned and untuned percussion, as well as djembe drums.

In year two, children continue to learn to read and play simple notation using the Kodály method. The aim is that by the end of the year, they will be comfortable reading and playing rhythms using ta (crotchets) titi (quavers) and taa, (minims) and pitches using do, re, mi and so. We cover a wide range of topics, including Famous Composers, Pentatonic Music and Ukuleles. Children will use a variety of tuned and untuned percussion, djembe drums and ukuleles throughout the year.

Children continue to build on their understating of rhythm, pitch and notation in **year three.** Topics covered include Music from around the World, Orff arrangements on tuned percussion and The Eras of Classical Music, where listening skills are really worked on. They use a variety of tuned and untuned percussion, ukuleles, djembe drums and recorders.

In year four, children begin with a unit of work on rhythm, where they solidify prior learning and are introduced to tika tika. (semi quavers) Other topics covered include Early Music and Ukuleles. They play a variety of instruments including tuned and untuned percussion, ukuleles, djembe drums and recorders.

In year five, Children become familiar with more complex rhythms, (including dotted rhythms) and read and use all notes of the scale. A wide range of topics are covered, including The Blues and Peter and the Wolf. Instruments used throughout the year include glockenspiels, ukuleles, djembe drums and keyboards.

In year six children continue to develop their understanding of more complex rhythms using the Kodály method, including triplets. They will learn to distinguish between major and minor keys. A melody writing project ensures they can read and write notation in the treble clef. Other topics covered include Music from World War II, Chords, scales and Rock, and Roll and Film Music. A wide range of instruments are used including glockenspiels, ukuleles, djembe drums and keyboards.

Instrumental Programme

Buckinghamshire Music Trust offer lessons on a variety of instruments at George Grenville Academy. Currently our take up is quite low, and this is something we would like to work on going forward.

We are working closely with BMT to make this as affordable as possible for all our parents. 50% discounts are offered for children who are eligible for Free School Meals or come from low income families who just don't meet that threshold.

Extra-Curricular

- GGA has a school Choir that form for special events, including Young Voices and Christmas Celebrations.
- All Children take part in either a Nativity (KS1) or a Christmas Performance (KS2) where they perform a variety of songs and instrumental pieces.
- GGA takes part in the Echoes events hosted by the Music Trust, most recently taking all of year four to sing and create the percussion section of the orchestra.
- In Term three there is a big end of year musical production which all children in Key Stage 2 take part in.

Approved: Sarah Harrison Head of School
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