

School Music Development Plan

Abbey Farm ET Primary School

Is a new Primary school in Swindon which opened in September 2022 to the first cohorts of Reception Class and Pre-school. We now have a thriving pre-school, two reception classes and a year 1 class.

Our school celebrates diversity, individuality and respects each child's identity and that of their family equally. This enables us to develop the whole child, encouraging all children to excel. Our unique ethical curriculum and our core principles enable us to create a nurturing learning environment which develops the skills children need to be global citizens for the increasingly diverse society in which we live.

As a growing school with a small staff, the newly appointed Specialist Music Lead will support non-specialist colleagues to deliver curriculum music to their own classes over the next two years.

An overview of the school

The school is part of the Educate Together Academy Trust and as such, we are an equality-based school where we live by the mottos 'no child an outsider' and 'learn together to live together'.

There are currently 138 pupils on roll. Due to an annual intake of around 40 pupils (max. PAN 60), many classes are organised in paired year groups.

The New Music Lead is Debbie Golding and is an experienced musician. She will work closely with the Head to drive music provision in the school.

She is a passionate singer who has high aspirations for the children to develop their musical knowledge.

How is the school addressing the 7 key features of high-quality music provision outlined in the National Plan for Music Education?

1	Timetabled curriculum music of at least one hour each week of the school year for key stage 1
	Music is taught through continuous provision and through the Aurora music lessons.
	Children can access the instruments independently with challenges set and cross curricular links made.
	This is delivered by class teachers who have varying levels of confidence in leading music.



	Educate Together Primary
	The Aurora scheme of work is used throughout the school.
2	Access to lessons across a range of instruments, and voice
	Abbey Farm ET Primary School uses peripatetic tutors from Swindon Music Co-operative Service to deliver 1:2:1 music sessions, currently piano which we are looking to broaden as the school grows.
	Five children currently have piano lessons at school.
	The school plans to investigate how they can promote this to parents and carers and will signpost the parents and carers to the GSW HUB's remissions policy.
	Parents and carers pay for peripatetic lessons.
3	A school choir and/or vocal ensemble;
	As a new school we do not yet have a choir. As we move towards the end of the academic year (2024-2025) then we will start to create this using our oldest children - year 2.
4	A school ensemble/band/group
	As a new school the school does not yet have a choir or ensemble.
	The school has clear plans as to how to develop this and has appointed a music specialist from September 2024. She will drive the development of music with the Headteacher.
	Singing Assemblies have begun, starting with yr2, when these children can confidently role model in singing assemblies the yr 1 class will join. After Christmas, the reception children will join in with singing assemblies.
	PPA Music Specialist teacher will have slots to release TA and teacher, this will be the music lead and she will use that opportunity to lead singing and preparing them for singing assemblies.
5	Space for rehearsals and individual practice
	Piano teaching is delivered in the office space directly in-between the children's classrooms, minimising disruption.
	Curriculum teaching in Reception and Year 1 is through continuous provision and is carried out in both the classrooms and outdoor areas. In year 1 additional instruments are provided to enhance this and rotated through.



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	In Year 2 the children have bespoke music lessons that take place in a designated classroom set up as a music room.
6	A termly school performance
	From September 2024 AFET has started to share assemblies with parents. These are plotted for the different classed throughout the year and set in place in September. 2024 will see the first Christmas production for AFET that will include Reception through to Year 2. Children are also given additional opportunities throughout the year to perform for their parents e.g. before a pick up, early morning stay and play sessions.
7	Opportunity to enjoy live performance at least once a year
	Abbey Farm Primary School also buys in live performance roadshows from Swindon Music Service during the academic year which is to inspire all of our children with live music. Additional opportunities as they arise (such as attending the Wyvern Theatre to perform in the music concerts (Make a Noise and KS1 Swindon Music Festival) are also factored in at the start of the year.

What support does this school access from GSW music hub?

- The school accesses Challenge and support from the outreach team of Swindon Music Service
- Staff from the school attend Swindon Music Service CPD sessions
- The school buys in the HUB Music Roadshow



What can other schools take away from this school?

- The school is pioneering the use of the Aurora scheme of work as well as taking part in the review of this classroom evaluation case study via Aurora Orchestra.
- The school seamlessly teaches music through continuous provision both in inside and outside learning spaces.

The newly appointed specialist Music Subject Lead/ PPA teacher is a valuable resource in terms of upskilling other staff to teach music.



• The Music Lead will provide support, act as a role model and mentor to staff. Opportunities will be made for teachers to watch the Music Subject Lead teaching music or leading a singing assembly.

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- The Music lead will deliver in house CPD.
- The Music Lead will identify suitable resources that will support non-socialist teachers in their music teaching.