Music Development Plan

Landau Forte Academy Greenacres

'Every child should receive a great music education. Learning about music and having the opportunity to play musical instruments and make music together is a vital part of a rich and rounded education. Music plays a key role in brain development. It helps to develop language, motor skills, emotional intelligence and collaboration skills' (Department for Education, 2024).

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2025/2026 2026/2027
Date this summary was published	September 2025
Date this summary will be reviewed	July 2026
Name of the school music lead	Miss Bethany Harper
Name of local music hub	Entrust Music Service Staffordshire

This is a summary of how our school delivers music education to all our pupils across three areas

A. Music Curriculum
B. Extra-Curricular Music
C. Future Curriculum

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: Music Curriculum

This is about what we teach in lesson time and how much time is spent teaching music.

Model Music Curriculum

Our school's music curriculum is informed by the model music curriculum (March 2021), non-statutory guidance for teaching music from Key Stages 1 to 2.

Our music curriculum is designed to foster a love for music and performing. Music should be an enjoyable experience and a way of expressing ourselves. Children participate in a range of musical experiences, building up their knowledge and confidence at the same time. They develop their understanding of rhythm, pitch, technical vocabulary and learn how music is structured. As children's confidence and skills build, they enjoy the performance aspect of music. Children experience listening to a variety of music from different culture, eras and genres whilst also exploring different key composers from musical history and present.

Music Express

At Landau Forte Academy Greenacres, we follow and deliver a music scheme which aligns with the Primary National Curriculum and supports guidance from the Model Music Curriculum. 'Music Express is an award-winning, cross-curricular primary music programme used by thousands of schools across the UK' (Music Express, 2024). Music Express is a scheme for both specialist and on specialist music teachers to help deliver opportunities to explore music, vocabulary and notation in depth.

Opportunities for Music

Music is taught from EYFS all the way through to Year 6. All children receive 1 hour of dedicated music a week.

The duration of music lessons is dependent on each music lesson, but to stay in the guidelines of the Model Music Curriculum, the children engage in an hour of music throughout the week for both Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2.

In Each Key Stage

Early Years and Key Stage 1 have 30 minute lessons along with a 15 minute class vocal ensemble and twice a week listening to various musical composers and genres during assemblies.

Key Stage 2 have 45 minute lessons per week along with our designated Key Stage 2 weekly 15-minute singing assemblies. They also have opportunities each week in assemblies to listen to various musical composers and genres.

Musical Opportunities

Music sessions within class will be structured based on Music Express lesson plans, with adaptations where necessary. In-class music sessions include a range of whole class singing, rhythm making, ensemble work, body percussion exploration, instrument play, pattern making and seeking.

Guidance from Model Music Curriculum sets out sequences of learning including the key area of Listening. Therefore as a school we promote the children to listen to various genres and cultural music in two assemblies a week as this contributes towards the steadily increasing development of musicianship alongside their music lessons.

Currently, in Year 2 the children learn to play the recorder and at the end of term they perform as a band ensemble to the school.

In Year 3, we offer whole class musical instrument tuition provided by Staffordshire Music Services, where the children learn how to play as an ensemble with the violins.

In Year 4 the children learn to play the Ukulele, again these are whole class lessons provided by the Staffordshire Music Services.

We encourage individuals to take up musical instrument tuition (the number of individuals playing an instrument has increased for this academic year). We currently work in partnership with the Entrust

Music Service and use their expertise and guidance to support our music curriculum here at Greenacres.

Music Inclusivity

At Greenacres 100% of children engage in and take part in Musical Experiences.

We recognise that in all classes, children have a wide range of musical ability, and so we seek to provide suitable learning opportunities for all children by matching the challenge of the task to the ability of the child. We achieve this in a variety of ways:

- setting tasks which are open-ended and can have a variety of responses;
- setting tasks of increasing difficulty;
- providing resources of different complexity, depending on the ability of the child;
- using classroom assistants to support the work of individuals or groups of children;
- visual aids play a crucial role in our teaching approach, interactive whiteboards to engage and support children of all learning styles.

'Music has a rare and unique ability to bring people together; music making can make a whole class, school and community feel connected to others and part of something bigger' model music curriculum (March 2021).

Part B: Extra-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.

At Landau Forte Academy Greenacres, we pride ourselves on offering a diverse array of musical opportunities to our students, beyond the core curriculum. We recognise that engaging in music learning not only enriches lives but also plays a vital role in shaping individuals. Research shows that musical experiences during childhood can significantly boost brain development, especially enhancing language acquisition and reading skills (Brain and Creative Institute, 2016). By actively participating in music-related activities, our students not only nurture their musical talents but also sharpen their cognitive abilities. From choir performances to instrumental lessons, our school provides a platform for students to explore their musical interests and talents. We have been accredited by Entrust Music Services with a Silver award for our Excellence in Music Provision.

Music Tuition

We pride ourselves on offering a diverse range of music tuition opportunities in partnership with Entrust Music Services. All our external music teachers hold accreditation through this partnership, ensuring the highest quality of music education for our students. Through these lessons, we aim to nurture a love for music and cultivate the musical talents of our pupils. Currently, our pupils can learn to play a variety of instruments including:

- saxophone
- clarinet
- flute
- keyboard/piano
- drums
- Guitars
- violins

Tuition Fees

Children can express their interest for starting music lessons by completing the online sign up form to formally register interest. All information about the pricing of lessons and instrument hire will become available to parents/carers in a letter once their child has shown an interest in tuition lessons. Children who are eligible for Pupil Premium funding can have access to subsidies, to support the payment of lessons and instrument hire.

Christmas Choir

Our in-school choir programme consists of Key Stage 1 and 2 pupils which is an after-school free extra-curricular group, provides an inclusive and safe space for students to explore singing, performance and expression. Besides regular rehearsals, we showcase our talents during our school Christmas Fair, at St Editha's Church and during a school assembly. Most importantly, we prioritise having fun while developing musical skills and building confidence in our young performers.

Musical Group

Pupils can make progress in music outside of lesson time for free by joining one of the 7 music centres across Staffordshire. Whatever your interest, age, or level of ability there is a Music Group to suit you run by the Music Service in Staffordshire.

All Music Groups are completely free of charge for children living, or attending school, in Staffordshire.

You can find out more on their website: https://entrustmusic.co.uk/music-groups/#tamworth

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.

At Landau Forte Academy Greenacres, we are proud to provide a diverse range of musical and performance opportunities for our students. In addition to participating in ensemble singing groups, pupils have the chance to showcase their talent at various events throughout the academic year. This includes performances at the Whole Class Ensemble Concert, class assemblies, Christmas Nativities and a spectacular musical production for Key Stage 2. These opportunities not only allow our students to develop their musical skills but also foster confidence and a sense of achievement through public performances.

Concert

The Whole Class Ensemble Concert Tamworth takes place at the Coton Centre and is a highly anticipated event at our school, offering a platform for Year 3 and 4 pupils to showcase their dedication and hard work over the past year. Last year 1000 young musicians across Staffordshire schools performed this concert at Birmingham Symphony Hall. This annual concert provides an opportunity for the students to perform as part of a large ensemble including other primary schools. It is a moment for our young performers to receive recognition and praise for the countless hours they have dedicated to practice their musical skills. The concert not only allows them to shine in front of the school community but also celebrates their commitment and hard work to a larger audience including parents/carers, too.

Musical Productions

Our musical productions play a significant role in the academic calendar, especially at the culmination of each phase.

- Early Years-We start with our youngest learners in EYFS who showcase a singing filled Christmas performance.

- Key Stage 1 (Year 1 and 2) perform a Christmas Nativity, including singing and acting, showcasing the abilities of our youngest learners.
- Key Stage 2 students (Year 3, 4, 5 and 6) perform a Musical Production, displaying their growing talents and creativity. The children rehearse during and after school from the Autumn term through to the end of Spring when the performances take place over several afternoon and evenings.

All of these productions demonstrate how dedicated and confident Greenacres pupils are to perform and sing in front of large audiences. To enhance their understanding of performance, previously we have been lucky enough to take our young children to see the musicals in London and Birmingham of 'The Lion King' and 'Aladdin'.

Annually we visit the theatre to give the children an opportunity to experience live performance. We take the whole school to the theatre and this is always a joyous afternoon and widens our children's understanding of different views and interpretations of well-known stories and films. The children understand that we are sharing space and an experience with the artists who are performing, as well as sharing the experience with fellow audience members.

Class assemblies

All year groups from Reception to Year 5 perform a class assembly. The children enjoy sharing their classroom based learning in a variety of songs and storytelling, children work hard to learn lines and words from new songs during performance rehearsals. Class assemblies are shared with the school, their families and friends and give an opportunity for those children who feel confident to shine.

Finally, Year 6 takes the stage with an end-of-year leavers' production, marking their transition to secondary education with a memorable performance. They showcase individual, group and year group talents from dance, musical instrument playing and singing and acting.

These productions are not only for the school community but also for parents and carers, creating moments of pride and unity as we celebrate the artistic growth and achievements of our students.

In the future

At Greenacres School, we understand that it is important to continue to raise the profile of music. Music not only fosters creativity and emotional intelligence but also nurtures critical thinking and teamwork skills (Department for Education, 2023). By continually elevating the prominence of music in our school, we are investing in the holistic development of our students.

Therefore, we aim to instil a lifelong appreciation for music in our students, nurturing a generation of well-rounded individuals ready for life outside of school.

In the future, we plan to foster and provide opportunities for the following:

- Termy school performances
- listening to more live performances
- Develop best practice

Termly School performance

A termly school performance will foster creativity, collaboration and celebration as part of bringing our school community together through the shared endeavour of whole-school singing. By performing as part as a school ensemble young musicians develop essential teamwork, communication and listening skills that are transferable to various aspects of their lives. Furthermore, a termly performance gives children the chance to showcase their talents in performances such as school assemblies, Christmas

Nativities, a summer concert and Musical Production fostering a sense of achievement and boosting their confidence.

In order to perform as a whole school ensemble we will perform in Church for celebrations such as Harvest, Christmas and Easter.

To ensure equality for our non-religious children there are opportunities to sing and perform in whole school ensembles during our school musical production as well as joining in with seasonal singing for Winter and Spring.

Listening to live performances

Witnessing live performances holds immense educational value for students beyond the confines of a classroom. Experiencing music being played live nurtures a deeper appreciation for artistic expression, fostering creativity and cultural understanding. Furthermore, live performances encourage active listening, critical thinking and emotional engagement, which are integral components of a well-rounded education.

Performances will be delivered by Entrust (Staffordshire's Music Hub) who will demonstrate a range of instrument playing and performing as part of a band.

Other opportunities to listen to live performances will be performed by our children at Greenacres. The children will perform together as part of a band to show to the school their instrument abilities.

Year 2 will perform on the recorders.

Year 3 will play various songs they have learned on the violins.

Year 4 will perform the Ukulele presenting the chords they have learned to play through a variety of songs.

Individual children will perform their instruments alongside the tutor in a celebration assembly of the variety of musical talents we have in school, in an assembly in the Summer Term.

Develop best practice

We will revisit model music curriculum (2021) to identify any areas of best practice which may enhance the Curriculum we offer. Learning walks will take place during music lessons to ensure there are opportunities for deepening children's skills and knowledge of music particularly for those children in school who learn an instrument. Music vocabulary will be a focus of these learning walks to ensure children are exposed to the correct age appropriate vocabulary and progression is being made across the school.

Further information

Other local music education organisations and contacts are listed below.

The Department for Education publishes a guide for parents and young people on how they can get involved in music in and out of school and where they can go to for support beyond the school. You can also find more information about music in schools through our music partner, Entrust Music Service Staffordshire. Here, you will find a range of resources, information and guidance on schools' musical learning journeys within Staffordshire.

Additionally, you can find more non-statutory guidance on the delivery of Music Education in schools through the model music curriculum.