



# Music

## Subject Leader Report 2024-2025



Subject Leader: Andy Done

### Autumn Term

Music at Masefield Primary School is a vibrant and integral part of the curriculum, delivered in partnership with *Alfa Education*. This collaboration ensures high-quality teaching and learning while providing opportunities for pupils to learn to play a range of instruments.

#### Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS)

In Nursery and Reception, children have been introduced to the joy of music through nursery rhymes and simple songs. The focus this term has been on developing their understanding of rhythm and rhyme. It has been delightful to witness the children's excitement as they learn new language and vocabulary, fostering both musical and linguistic development.

#### Key Stage 1 (KS1)

In Years 1 and 2, the focus has been on controlling pitch and pulse. Building on this foundation, pupils have progressed to singing with expression and clear diction, as well as performing with control in beat and rhythmic parts. During Autumn 2, the children began preparing songs for their Nativity performance, showcasing their growing confidence and ability to perform in front of an audience.

#### Key Stage 2 (KS2)

For pupils in Years 3 to 6, music lessons have centred on playing with pulse, exploring ostinato patterns, and improvisation. This work culminated in class performances prepared for the upcoming Christmas Concert. The enthusiasm for music has extended into weekly singing assemblies, where children have learned and performed a wide repertoire of songs, enriching the whole school community.

A particular highlight this term was the introduction of ukuleles for Year 4 pupils. Each child received their own instrument and began learning to play, a journey we eagerly anticipate following throughout the academic year.

#### Enrichment Activities

To broaden pupils' musical experiences, the school vocal band have performed Christmas carols at Tesco and participated in a joint choir performance at BWFC stadium. These events have been invaluable in building pupils' confidence and community spirit.

Additionally, small group tuition has been offered to pupils who have selected to pursue specific instrument lessons. The progress made by these students has been outstanding, further reflecting the strong musical ethos at Masefield.

#### Next Steps

Looking ahead, the focus will be on developing pupils' knowledge of reading music and providing further opportunities to experience and play a wider range of instruments. These steps aim to deepen musical understanding and foster a lifelong love of music.

Music at Masefield continues to be a source of joy and creativity, providing pupils with skills that extend beyond the classroom and into their wider lives.



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### Spring Term

Music at Masefield Primary School remains a dynamic and essential part of the curriculum, delivered in partnership with Alfa Education. This collaboration continues to provide high-quality teaching and learning, enabling pupils to explore and develop their musical abilities through a range of instrumental and vocal experiences.

**Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS)** In Nursery and Reception, children have continued to engage with rhymes and simple songs, with a strong emphasis on language development. It has been wonderful to see their enthusiasm as they expand their vocabulary through music, fostering both their musical and linguistic skills.

**Key Stage 1 (KS1)** In Years 1 and 2, the focus has been on rhythm and rhyme. Pupils have progressed in their musical journey by developing their ability to sing with expression and clear diction. Additionally, they have worked on performing with control, keeping a steady beat, and mastering rhythmic patterns.

**Key Stage 2 (KS2)** Pupils in Years 3 to 6 have been immersed in learning to play steel pan drums. They have developed confidence in playing as part of an ensemble, refining their coordination and teamwork skills through group performances.

**Performance and Enrichment Activities** A key highlight this term was the end-of-term concert for parents and carers. The event began with a whole-school song, followed by each class showcasing their musical learning from the term. The concert was a fantastic opportunity for pupils to demonstrate their progress and share their enjoyment of music with the wider school community.

To further enrich pupils' musical experiences, the school vocal band has continued to meet weekly, learning new songs and choruses, which were also performed at the concert. Additionally, small group tuition has been available for pupils who have chosen to pursue specific instrumental lessons. The progress made by these students has been exceptional, reflecting the strong musical culture at Masefield.

**Next Steps** Looking ahead, the focus will be on enhancing pupils' understanding of musical notation. While notation is already incorporated into lessons and recorded in each class's 'big book,' monitoring has identified opportunities for further refinement to ensure even greater depth of learning.



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### Summer Term

Music at Masefield Primary School has continued to thrive this year, with high-quality delivery and excellent pupil engagement across all year groups. We are proud to report that the music curriculum has been successfully delivered in partnership with Alfa Music Education, whose specialist teachers have provided weekly music lessons to every class from EYFS to Year 6.

Each class has had the opportunity to learn and perform with at least two different instruments over the course of the year. These have included a range of tuned and untuned percussion, as well as recorders, ukuleles, and keyboards in Key Stage 2. The opportunity to experience a variety of instruments has allowed children to develop their technical skills, coordination, and confidence in performance.

In addition to weekly lessons, every class has attended a live music concert this year, enriching their cultural experiences and providing inspiration through exposure to professional musicians. Pupils have also performed in concerts themselves, whether in-class showcases, assemblies, or larger whole-school events. These performance opportunities have helped build confidence, teamwork and a real sense of achievement among our pupils.

Across the curriculum, children have made good progress in their understanding of musical notation, rhythm, rhyme, pitch, and song structure. Pupils are increasingly confident in identifying musical elements and are developing a strong musical vocabulary. Singing has been a key strength, with all classes participating in group singing and using their voices expressively and musically.

Pupil voice indicates that children thoroughly enjoy their music lessons and look forward to learning new pieces and performing together. Music has remained a joyful and inclusive subject at Masefield, offering opportunities for creativity and self-expression to all pupils.

We would like to thank Alfa Music Education for their continued partnership and commitment to excellence in music education. Their specialist expertise has significantly enhanced the delivery of our curriculum and ensured a high-quality musical experience for all children.

Next steps will include continuing to strengthen links between classroom music and extracurricular opportunities, including choir and instrumental clubs, as well



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as exploring opportunities to embed more cross-curricular links between music and other subjects.

