



**Ocean Academy Poole**  
an Aspirations Academy



# MUSIC

# OCEAN ACADEMY

## **Purpose of this document:**

The purpose of this document is to outline the planning intent and implementation of the Primary Music curriculum at Ocean Academy. In response to the latest educational research and guidance, our planning and approach have been reviewed to ensure that the music curriculum provides the highest quality education for our pupils. This document aims to ensure that all staff understand the agreed high expectations, while establishing and maintaining a consistent approach to the teaching and learning of music across our school. By providing all learners with access to high-quality music teaching and learning opportunities, we aim to foster a deep appreciation of music and its benefits. Effective music teaching requires not only a well-structured and progressive programme but also its consistent application across the school. This approach ensures excellent progress and attainment for all children, irrespective of ability, gender, or socio-economic background.

## **Underpinning evidence:**

1. Ofsted Research review: Music
2. The forgetting curve, Ebbinghaus
3. Cognitive Load Theory, Sweller
4. Principles of Instruction, Rosenshine
5. Metacognition and Self-regulated Learning, EEF
6. Feedback, EEF Teaching and Learning Toolkit
7. Mastery Learning, EEF Teaching and Learning Toolkit

# INTENT

## **Introduction and Aims**

At Ocean Academy, our aim in teaching music is to inspire pupils to sing confidently and use their voices to create and compose music both individually and collaboratively. We strive to deepen their understanding of how music is created, produced, and communicated, fostering an appreciation for the creative process. Our curriculum encourages children to perform, listen to, review, and evaluate music from a wide range of historical periods, genres, styles, and traditions, nurturing a lifelong love of music and a rich cultural awareness.

*“Music is a universal language that embodies one of the highest forms of creativity. For many pupils, the music they love will be part of the narrative of their lives and bring colour to the experiences that shape them. Learning about music is a vital part of a broad and rounded education. Taught well, music gives pupils the opportunity to make music, think more musically and, crucially, become even more musical.”*

At Ocean Academy, the aim of Music is:

- **Foster Creativity and Expression:** Encourage children to express themselves through music and develop creativity through the learning of an instrument and opportunities to perform.
- **Develop Listening Skills:** Cultivate active listening abilities to appreciate and analyse various styles, genres, and cultures of music.
- **Build Musical Skills:** Teach foundational skills in rhythm, melody, pitch, and dynamics, enabling children to perform, compose, and improvise.
- **Promote Teamwork and Collaboration:** Encourage participation in group activities such as singing in a choir, playing in ensembles, and collaborative performances.
- **Boost Confidence and Enjoyment:** Create opportunities for children to perform, helping to build self-esteem.
- **Encourage Cultural Awareness:** Expose students to music from diverse traditions, fostering respect and understanding of different cultures.
- **Integrate Technology in Music:** Encourage the use of modern tools and software to explore music production and composition (YuStudio)
- **Inspire Lifelong Learning:** Lay the foundation for continued engagement with music as a listener, performer, or creator.

## **Curriculum sequencing, breadth and progression**

The Music curriculum studied at Ocean Academy Poole has been designed to give the opportunity to learn the basics of a ukulele and develop year after year. This is then combined with other elements of music to have them ready to develop their music ability when they move beyond primary level.

The subject leader has carefully considered the topics to maximise development throughout their time and revisit parts every year to embed the skills.

## **Lesson Structure**

Each lesson is designed to provide a balanced and engaging musical experience, fostering skill development and enjoyment.

1. Warm-Up Activity  
Lessons commence with a structured warm-up activity, typically involving rhythm or percussion. This exercise prepares students for focused learning while reinforcing key musical concepts.
2. Skill Reinforcement  
Students revisit a previously learned ukulele piece to consolidate their knowledge and enhance their confidence navigating the fretboard. This segment ensures consistent progress and reinforces foundational skills.
3. New Material Introduction  
A new ukulele song is introduced, often incorporating an additional chord based on prior progress. Over time, students build a repertoire of chords and progressions, laying a strong foundation for more advanced musical exploration. Connections are drawn between these chords and well-known songs to provide context and inspire further interest in music.
4. Singing Focus  
To provide variety and maintain engagement, students then shift focus to the vocal elements of the song. This segment enhances their understanding of melody and expression, preparing them to integrate singing with instrumental performance in subsequent sessions.
5. Consolidation and Conclusion  
Lessons conclude with an interactive activity or game centred on rhythm, percussion, or musical notation. This reinforces key concepts while ensuring students leave the session with a sense of accomplishment and enthusiasm for future lessons.

This structured approach ensures that each session is purposeful, balanced, and aligned with the overarching objectives of our music programme.