

A close-up, black and white photograph of piano keys, showing the repeating pattern of white and black keys. The keys are slightly out of focus, creating a sense of depth.

# Music – Subject Leader Mrs Matthews

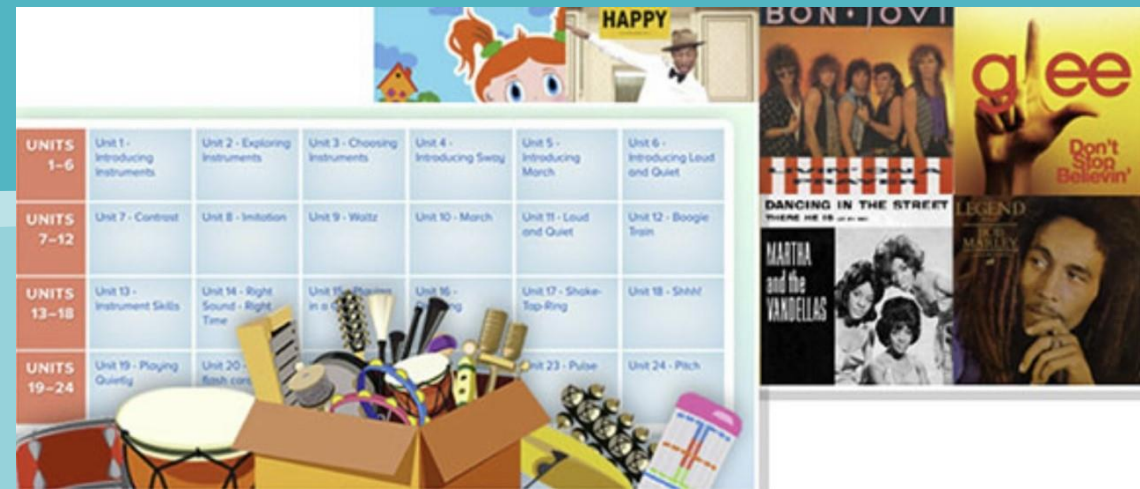
## INTENT

At Abacus Primary School we want to provide a music curriculum which develops learning and results in the **acquisition of knowledge** and **improved wellbeing**. Our intent is to enable each child to reach their full potential in music; encouraging the enjoyment of **singing** and **composing**, and providing children with the opportunity to **perform** in front of an audience both within and outside of school.

We value music because it is a **powerful and unique form of communication** that can change and impact the way children feel, think and act. We believe that teaching music helps the **body and the mind work together**. Children sing regularly and study facets such as body percussion, music appreciation and composition using ICT. They dance to music to help build motor skills while allowing them to practice self-expression. We aim to **nurture and encourage musical development** across the school.

# IMPLEMENTATION

At the core of our curriculum is the clear and comprehensive scheme of work in line with the National Curriculum: **Charanga**. This ensures the progression of skills and knowledge is built on and sequenced appropriately to maximise learning for all children.



Children learn to sing, and alongside developing and playing **instruments**, they understand **pulse, rhythm** and **notation**.

The use of technologies such as O-Generator and Garage Band enables **composition**.



We are very proud of our musical achievements at Abacus. We welcome parents to our **class assemblies** and **productions** throughout the year to share the musical opportunities we have at our school.



Professional, **peripatetic teachers** work within our school, so provision includes experienced, specialist musicians delivering ukulele lessons, acoustic guitar and African drumming. A love of playing an instrument is promoted and encouraged and the ability to do so is celebrated.



Children access extra-curricular activities such as **Abachorus/Glee Club**, **Young Voices** at the O2 and **singing in the local community.**



**YOUNG VOICES**



School trips include the Christmas **pantomime** and **theatre shows.**

### CHILDREN TEAM UP WITH ELDERLY FOR HEARTWARMING SING SONG

CARE home residents joined in with a primary school assembly to sing along in a "heartwarming" moment.

Residents at the Silvana Court care home in Wickford got involved with children at the Abacus primary school in the town, to join a Zoom call for their morning assembly.

They all sang the cheerful You Are My Sunshine, and the care home was presented with a charity award this week as a result.

Together with Music, a nationwide charity which connects care homes with schools through music, gave their prestigious gold award to care home bosses for their performance with the children.

Caroline Mileham, manager of the care home, said: "The residents loved joining the children and to see the smiles on their faces and all the children waving back at them.

"It was a very moving moment. "The charity was so pleased at us for connecting with our community and all the work we are doing to keep our residents connected."



■ Care home - residents at Silvana Court



Children and staff from every year group participated in the **Abacus Masked Singer**



We got to see each other's singing videos when we couldn't be together at school



I loved performing in secret!



Experiencing **music from other cultures** through Bollywood dancing



# IMPACT

All children at Abacus receive a **broad and balanced curriculum**. Every child accesses all subjects on offer at our school. Teachers plan subjects with clear progression of skills and knowledge and where possible use a cross-curricular approach to learning. This ensures children are learning key skills within music.

Children learn to work both independently and as part of a group, ensuring **skills of resilience and teamwork** are promoted within this subject. Children are **enthused and engaged** in the wide variety of music activities on offer.

Opportunities to perform within our school environment and outside of school guarantees our children understand the **significance of music within the wider world** and that these excite and inspire children's thirst for knowledge and participation in this subject.

Music **assessment is ongoing** to inform teachers with planning, lesson activities and differentiation. Target Tracker assessment is completed at the end of each unit to inform leaders of the improvements or skills that still need to be embedded. Music is monitored throughout all year groups using a **variety of strategies** such as class curriculum journals, photographs, class questionnaires, lesson observations and pupil interviews.