

March 2024

Dear Parents/Carers

Subject: Music Education During Ramadan

I hope this letter finds you well. As we approach the Muslim Holy month of Ramadan, I would like to address an important topic related to music education here at Grace Academy Darlaston.

During Ramadan, we recognise the importance of respecting religious practices and sensitivities. While fasting and prayer are central to this sacred month, we also acknowledge that music can be a valuable educational tool. Therefore, we have the following guidelines in place:

1. **Educational Purposes:** Students may be asked to listen to music for educational purposes during school hours. This includes music lessons, performances, and related activities.
2. **Respectful Selection:** We ensure that any music played aligns with the values and principles of Ramadan. Our teachers carefully curate content to avoid anything that may cause offense or conflict with religious observance.
3. **Sensitive Approach:** We encourage students to be mindful of their peers' practices and beliefs. Sensitivity and understanding are essential as we create a harmonious learning environment.

Music plays a vital role in our whole school curriculum and contributes to a broad and balanced Arts provision for all pupils. It is taught as part of the National Curriculum, and our aim is to ensure that during this time every child has the opportunity to:

1. **Perform, Listen, and Evaluate:** Students will be engaging with music across various historical periods, genres, styles, and traditions. They will also explore the works of great composers and musicians.
2. **Develop Musical Skills:** Students will continue to learn to sing, create and compose music individually and collaboratively. All students also have the chance to learn a musical instrument and use technology appropriately.
3. **Understand Music Creation and Communication:** During this time, we will explore how music is created, produced, and communicated, covering aspects such as pitch, duration, dynamics, tempo, timbre, texture, structure, and musical notations.

If you have any concerns or specific requests regarding your child's participation in music activities during Ramadan, please feel free to contact Claire Jones at ClaireJones@darlaston.graceacademy.org.uk. We are committed to accommodating individual needs while maintaining an inclusive and respectful atmosphere.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "J Anstey". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'J'.

Julie Anstey
Principal