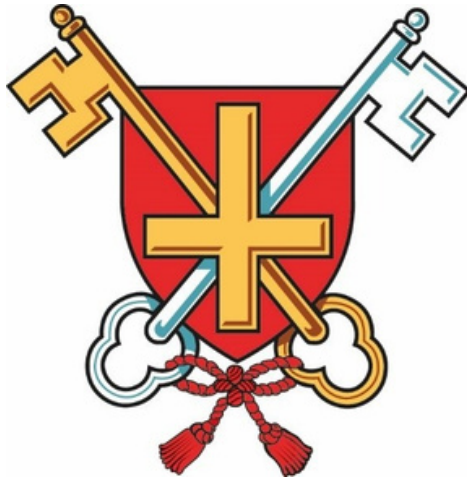




The Creative Arts

St Peter's London Docks Primary
School

2025-2026 Report

Funded by The Hearn Foundation

Executive Headteacher's Introduction

It is a pleasure to introduce this year's report, which reflects on the continued difference The Hearn Foundation has made to the creative arts at St Peter's London Docks.

Through the Foundation's generous support, we have been able to build upon our creative provision and provide our children with opportunities and experiences that enrich their education and encourage them to discover and develop their individual talents.

At St Peter's, we are committed to providing an education that extends beyond academic achievement alone. We recognise the important role that music, drama, dance and the visual arts play in a child's development. Creative experiences give children opportunities to express themselves, develop confidence, collaborate with others and explore new ways of thinking.

The continued support of The Hearn Foundation has enabled us to strengthen this important aspect of school life. It has allowed us to broaden the opportunities available to our pupils and ensure that creativity remains a visible and valued part of their experience at St Peter's.

Within this report, we are pleased to share how the Foundation's funding has been used over the past year and to demonstrate the difference it has made to our children, both through the opportunities they have enjoyed and the skills, confidence and enthusiasm they have developed.

On behalf of our pupils, staff, governors and wider school community, I would like to express our sincere gratitude to The Hearn Foundation for its continued generosity and commitment to our school. Its support enables us not simply to provide creative opportunities, but to encourage our children to be curious, confident and ambitious about what they can achieve.

Sincerely,
Elizabeth Figueiredo
Executive Headteacher



This report outlines how funding, generously provided by The Hearn Foundation, has been used to support and develop Creative Arts provision at St Peter's London Docks Primary School, and considers the impact this investment has had on our pupils and their experiences.



Contents

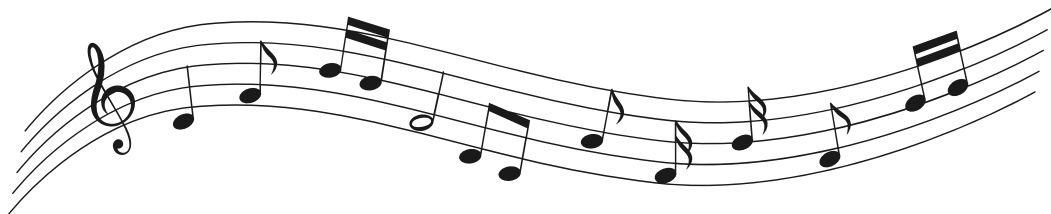
- 2025-2026 Creative Arts Aims
- Creative Leaders
- Extracurricula Music at St Peter's
- Creative Experiences Beyond the Classroom
- Performance at St Peter's
- Wider Impact

Aims

Increase opportunities for pupils to access inclusive and affordable small-group instrumental lessons, making music tuition accessible to more children and families.

Widen and enrich pupils' Creative Arts experiences beyond the classroom, providing opportunities to explore and engage with music, history, culture and literature.

Continue to deepen pupils' musical knowledge and experiences by providing more opportunities to perform, share their talents and build confidence



Creative Leaders



Director: Sarah



Drama facilitator:
Chloe



Music facilitator:
Cheryl

The support of The Hearn Foundation allows St Peter's to bring specialist Creative Arts expertise directly into school. Through our partnership with The Little Creatives, pupils benefit from an experienced team of practitioners who bring creativity, enthusiasm and specialist knowledge to our Music and Drama provision.

The Little Creatives have become an established part of life at St Peter's. Their knowledge of our pupils and school community means that learning can be carefully shaped to engage children with different interests, strengths and starting points. This helps us to remove barriers to participation while ensuring that every child is encouraged to be ambitious, creative and confident.

Sarah plays a key role in overseeing this provision, including the development of Music and Drama across the curriculum. She also works closely with THAMES to coordinate our programme of after-school music tuition and activities, widening opportunities for children to learn instruments, develop their musical skills and experience performing with others.

Creative Arts remain an important part of our wider educational offer. The school complements the funding received from The Hearn Foundation with its own investment of staff time, resources and expertise. Together, this enables us to offer experiences that go beyond National Curriculum requirements and ensure that creativity, performance and artistic expression remain an integral part of every child's experience at St Peter's.

Increase opportunities for pupils to access inclusive and affordable small-group instrumental lessons, making music tuition accessible to more children and families.

Extracurricula Music at St Peter's

Our partnership with the Tower Hamlets Arts and Music Education Service (THAMES) continues to play an important role in widening access to instrumental tuition at St Peter's. Working with THAMES, our Creative Arts Lead, Sarah, has developed a programme of small-group lessons that enables children at different stages of their musical journey to learn and develop an instrument.

A key priority has been to ensure that cost does not become a barrier to participation. By coordinating affordable small-group tuition and creating opportunities suitable for a range of abilities, we are able to make instrumental learning accessible to an increasing number of pupils and families across our school community.

THAMES Award Students

We are delighted that two St Peter's pupils continued to be recognised as THAMES Award students this year: Thomas, who studies the flute, and Arthur, who studies the violin.

The THAMES Award provides an important opportunity for talented and committed young musicians to further develop their instrumental skills and musicianship. Both pupils have continued to develop their playing this year and demonstrate a strong commitment to their musical learning.

2025-2026 extracurricula music lessons:

- Cello
- Guitar
- Ukulele
- Violin (Advanced, Progressing and Beginner)
- Piano
- Djembe
- Flute
- Clarinet
- Saxophone
- Trumpet
- Trombone
- Drumming

THAMES Celebration Concert

Each year, pupils demonstrating commitment and progress in their instrumental learning are selected by their THAMES tutors to perform at the THAMES Celebration Concert at Shoreditch Town Hall.

In preparation, pupils attend rehearsals alongside young musicians from schools across Tower Hamlets, before coming together to perform as part of a range of ensembles. This provides a wonderful opportunity for our pupils to experience performing collaboratively on a larger stage and to celebrate their musical achievements.



Increase opportunities for pupils to access inclusive and affordable small-group instrumental lessons, making music tuition accessible to more children and families.

Supporting Progression Through Music Grades

As pupils develop their instrumental skills, we want to ensure that they have the opportunity to progress beyond introductory tuition and work towards recognised music qualifications.

The support of The Hearn Foundation has been instrumental in making this possible.

Funding has enabled pupils working towards graded examinations to receive more focused tuition in small 2:1 groups, giving them additional individual attention as they prepare for the increased technical and performance demands of their grades. Funding the cost of pupils entering their graded examinations has removed another potential financial barrier for families.

This investment has resulted in excellent outcomes this year. Across piano, trombone and cello, pupils supported through school achieved 11 graded music qualifications, with three Distinctions, seven Merits and one Pass, ranging from Grade 1 to Grade 3.

These achievements demonstrate not only the developing musical ability of our pupils, but also the value of providing a clear pathway through which children can progress from learning an instrument for enjoyment to working towards formal recognition of their skills.



Widen and enrich pupils' Creative Arts experiences beyond the classroom, providing opportunities to explore and engage with music, history, culture and literature.

Ballet Shoes Project at the National Theatre

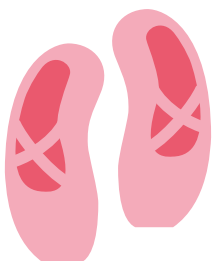
Year 5 had the exciting opportunity to take part in a project with the National Theatre, extending their experience of the Creative Arts beyond the classroom and giving them an insight into both performance and theatre production.

The children visited the National Theatre to see Ballet Shoes, a production exploring the story of three sisters as they discover their individual talents, ambitions and identities, supported by the strength of their family relationships. For many of the children, experiencing a professional theatre production provided an opportunity to see first-hand how storytelling, acting, movement, costume, lighting and set design combine to bring a story to life on stage.

The experience continued back at school when facilitators and members of the Ballet Shoes team visited Year 5 to deliver a practical workshop.

Pupils were introduced to some of the creative processes that take place behind the scenes, exploring set design, costume and prop making. The children were able to experiment with their own ideas and discover the wide range of creative skills and roles involved in producing professional theatre.

The project provided much more than a theatre visit. By combining the experience of watching a live production with practical, hands-on learning, pupils were able to develop their understanding of theatre as an art form and recognise that the Creative Arts encompass a wide variety of talents and career pathways.



Widen and enrich pupils' Creative Arts experiences beyond the classroom, providing opportunities to explore and engage with music, history, culture and literature.



Discovering Chaucer and The Canterbury Tales

Year 6 travelled to Canterbury Cathedral for an immersive workshop exploring Geoffrey Chaucer and *The Canterbury Tales*. Set within the historic surroundings of the Cathedral, the experience gave pupils the opportunity to encounter one of the most significant works of early English literature in the place so closely connected to its stories.

The visit broadened pupils' experience of literature beyond the classroom, introducing them to the language, characters and storytelling traditions of Chaucer's work. It also provided an exciting introduction to literary study that pupils will encounter in greater depth as they move on to secondary school.



Widen and enrich pupils' Creative Arts experiences beyond the classroom, providing opportunities to explore and engage with music, history, culture and literature.

ABBA Voyage – A Unique Musical Experience

Pupils in Years 5 and 6 were given the very special opportunity to experience ABBA Voyage, introducing them to live music and performance in an exciting and innovative setting.

The visit enabled the children to experience the music of ABBA in a completely different way, combining a live band with digital technology, lighting, choreography and spectacular visual effects. For our pupils, it was an opportunity to see how music can be brought together with many other creative disciplines to produce an extraordinary large-scale performance.



The Nutcracker – Experiencing Ballet on the West End Stage

Year 6 had the wonderful opportunity to experience the English National Ballet's production of The Nutcracker, giving pupils the chance to see professional ballet performed at the highest level on a West End stage.

For many of our children, this was a particularly special opportunity to experience a large-scale ballet production. From the skill and precision of the dancers to the music, costumes, scenery and theatrical effects, pupils were able to see how different elements of the Creative Arts work together to create a captivating performance.



Widen and enrich pupils' Creative Arts experiences beyond the classroom, providing opportunities to explore and engage with music, history, culture and literature.

Step into Holy Week – Westminster Abbey

Pupils in Years 2 and 4 had the wonderful opportunity to visit Westminster Abbey to take part in Step into Holy Week, an immersive experience combining drama, storytelling and learning in the remarkable surroundings of the Abbey.

The use of character, role-play and dramatic storytelling enabled the children to become active participants in their learning. Meeting performers in role encouraged pupils to listen, respond, ask questions and use their imaginations, demonstrating the powerful way in which drama can make stories accessible, engaging and memorable.



Widen and enrich pupils' Creative Arts experiences beyond the classroom, providing opportunities to explore and engage with music, history, culture and literature.

Anansi the Spider – Bringing Stories to Life

Year 3 enjoyed a wonderful visit to the Unicorn Theatre to see a live production of Anansi the Spider. The experience linked perfectly with the children's new Literacy topic, Trickster Fables and Stories, in which the traditional tales of Anansi feature prominently.

Seeing a story they had explored in the classroom brought their learning to life in an exciting and memorable way. The children were immersed in the performance, joining in with singing and clapping and experiencing first-hand how storytelling can be transformed through acting, music, movement and audience participation.

As well as enriching their Literacy learning, the visit widened pupils' experience of live theatre and introduced them to storytelling through performance. Opportunities such as this allow children to make meaningful connections between literature and the Creative Arts, while developing their enjoyment, understanding and appreciation of stories from different cultural traditions.



Swans! Planes! Ships! Trains! – London Symphony Orchestra

Key Stage 1 pupils enjoyed an exciting musical experience at the Barbican, attending the London Symphony Orchestra's Swans! Planes! Ships! Trains! concert. The performance introduced children to the sound and spectacle of a live orchestra, using music to explore movement, journeys and the world around them.

Alongside the children's experience, teachers took part in dedicated INSET delivered in connection with the project. This professional development provided staff with ideas, resources and approaches that could be taken back into the classroom, strengthening their confidence in delivering music and ensuring that the impact of the project extended beyond the concert itself.



Widen and enrich pupils' Creative Arts experiences beyond the classroom, providing opportunities to explore and engage with music, history, culture and literature.



Introducing Our Youngest Children to Live Theatre

At St Peter's, we believe that experiencing the Creative Arts should begin from the very earliest stages of a child's education. This year, our youngest pupils were given opportunities to experience the excitement and magic of live theatre in professional venues.

Children in Nursery and Reception visited the Lyric Theatre to see a live production of The Gruffalo. Seeing a familiar and much-loved story brought to life on stage provided a wonderful introduction to theatre, as the children experienced how characters, music, movement, costume and scenery can transform a picture book into a live performance.

Years 1 and 2 enjoyed the very different theatrical experience of Mama Goose at Theatre Royal Stratford East. The energy and tradition of pantomime gave pupils an opportunity to experience a highly interactive form of theatre, joining in with the performance and enjoying the music, comedy, characters and spectacle.



Continue to deepen pupils' musical knowledge and experiences by providing more opportunities to perform, share their talents and build confidence

Performance Opportunities at St Peter's



Performance is an integral part of our Creative Arts provision at St Peter's. We believe that every child should have the opportunity to experience the excitement of performing, sharing their creativity with others and developing the confidence to take their place in front of an audience.

Throughout the year, The Little Creatives team work alongside school staff to plan and facilitate performance opportunities across the school. From Nursery onwards, every class takes part in a class assembly, providing pupils with the opportunity to showcase the creative skills they have been developing through music, drama, dance and performance.

Pupils experience the process of preparing and rehearsing for a performance, working collaboratively with their classmates and developing the confidence to share their achievements with families and the wider school community.

By embedding performance opportunities throughout the school, we ensure that taking part is not limited to those children who already identify themselves as performers. Every pupil is encouraged to participate, contribute and experience the sense of achievement that comes from creating and performing together.

Continue to deepen pupils' musical knowledge and experiences by providing more opportunities to perform, share their talents and build confidence



Year 6 End-of-Year Production - **The Wizard of Oz**

The Year 6 production is a highlight of the school year and represents the culmination of the children's journey through Music, Drama and the Performing Arts at St Peter's.

This year, Year 6 took to the stage to perform The Wizard of Oz. Every child had a part to play in bringing the production to life, ensuring that the experience was truly inclusive and that all pupils had the opportunity to contribute, perform and celebrate their individual strengths.

The Little Creatives team worked closely with pupils and school staff throughout the process, supporting rehearsals and helping to bring together the different elements of the production.

Acting, singing, music, movement and staging combined to give pupils the experience of working collaboratively towards a full-scale performance.

The final production was performed to an audience of parents and families, giving pupils the opportunity to showcase the confidence, creativity and performance skills they have developed during their years at St Peter's.

For our Year 6 pupils, the production is much more than an end-of-year performance. It celebrates their progression from their earliest performance experiences in Nursery through to confidently taking their place on stage in Year 6. It provides a fitting culmination of the musical and Performing Arts opportunities they have experienced throughout their time at St Peter's and a memorable way to celebrate their achievements before moving on to secondary school.



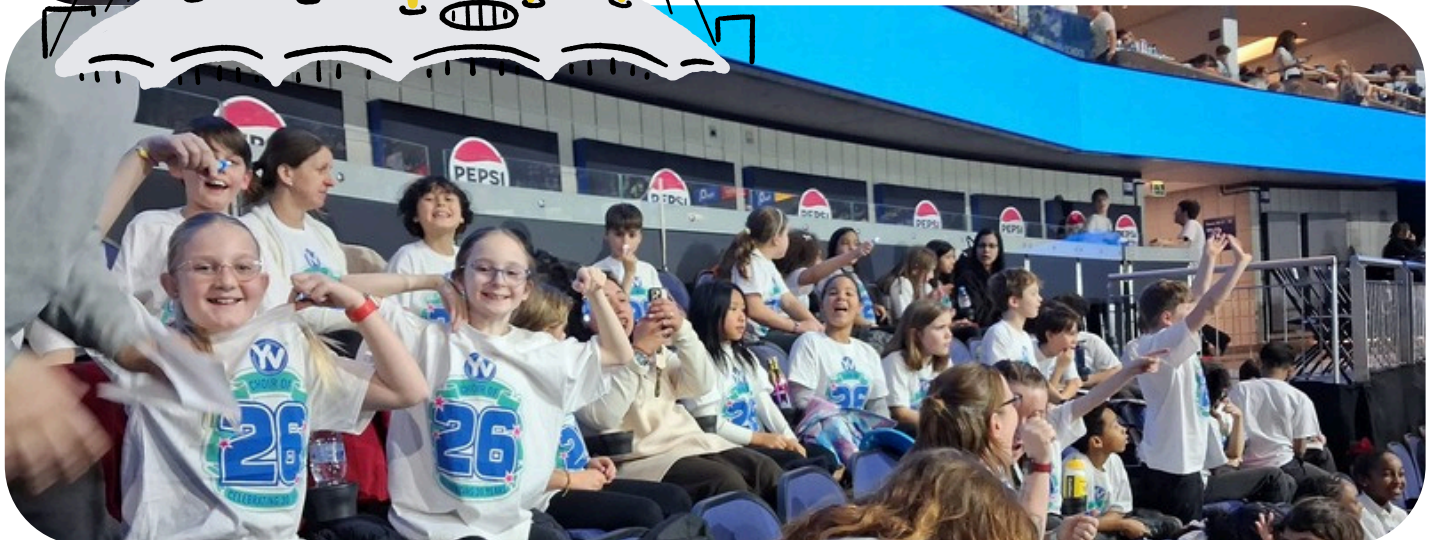
Continue to deepen pupils' musical knowledge and experiences by providing more opportunities to perform, share their talents and build confidence



Young Voices 2026 at the O2 Arena

Year 5 had the unforgettable opportunity to take part in Young Voices at The O2, performing as part of a huge children's choir in one of the country's most iconic entertainment venues.

On the day, the children joined thousands of other young singers to perform alongside professional musicians and artists in front of a large audience. Experiencing the scale, atmosphere and excitement of a professional arena gave pupils a very different perspective on live music and performance.



Continue to deepen pupils' musical knowledge and experiences by providing more opportunities to perform, share their talents and build confidence

Christmas Performances



Christmas provides another important opportunity for pupils across St Peter's to develop and celebrate their performance skills, with children from the Early Years through to Year 6 taking part in performances for families and the wider school community.



From a child's first Nativity to performing as part of a Key Stage 2 choir, these events form an important part of the progression of Performing Arts at St Peter's. They give every child the opportunity to perform, build confidence and share their developing musical and creative talents with their families and the wider school community.



Continue to deepen pupils' musical knowledge and experiences by providing more opportunities to perform, share their talents and build confidence

Showcasing Music

As the number of children learning an instrument at St Peter's continues to grow, providing opportunities for pupils to perform and celebrate their musical achievements has become an increasingly important part of our music provision.

Every child who receives instrumental tuition is given the opportunity to perform in a recital during the Spring Term. These recitals provide pupils with a meaningful goal to work towards and the experience of preparing a piece of music to share with a live audience. Performing allows children to celebrate their progress, build confidence and take pride in the musical skills they are developing.

The continued growth of instrumental tuition at St Peter's has been particularly exciting. We now have so many children learning instruments that we hold a separate piano recital alongside our wider instrumental recital, ensuring that our growing number of young musicians all have the opportunity to perform.

Our school choir also provides pupils with regular opportunities to take their music beyond the school gates and use their talents within the wider community. Throughout the year, the choir works with the Royal London Hospital, performing at the hospital on several occasions to help raise funds. These visits give children the valuable experience of performing in a public setting while also demonstrating how music can bring enjoyment to others and make a positive contribution to the community.

The choir also performed at the Stepney All Saints Musical Celebration, strengthening our federation links and giving pupils the opportunity to perform alongside and for members of our wider school community.



Beyond the Arts: The Wider Impact of the Hearn Foundation

Ascension Days Outings 2025



Edie Hearn Nursery Provision

The Edie Hearn Nursery continues to provide our youngest children with an exceptional start to their journey at St Peter's. Children benefit from a rich, nurturing and stimulating environment where they can explore, play, create and develop a love of learning from the very beginning.



Continuing Our Speech and Language Support



Building on the success of last year's provision, we have continued our partnership with Magic Words, an independent speech and language therapy service, to provide targeted specialist support for children with identified speech, language and communication needs.

Continued funding for this provision allows us to identify and address barriers to communication early, ensuring that children receive specialist support when they need it and are better equipped to engage confidently and successfully in school life.



With thanks and appreciation to The Hearn
Foundation