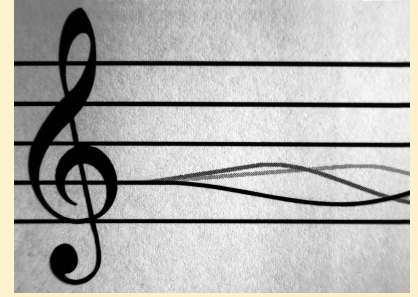




## Arts/Wellness Department

### Music Curricula Grades K-5



Norwell Public Schools' grade K-5 music curriculum is aligned to the [Massachusetts Arts Curriculum Framework](#), last revised in 1999, through its weekly 45-minute general music classes in grades K-5 and its optional beginning band program offered in weekly 30-minute lessons to students in grades 4-5. Music education at the elementary level in Norwell is designed to be child-centered and collaborative with a focus on developing student independence and self-motivation. Our curriculum is structured to help students become skilled listeners who are capable of performing in front of an audience, open to a world of new experiences, able to make reasoned decisions about what they value in culture, able to give and receive meaningful feedback, and be musically active throughout their lives.

The music program at the Cole and Vinal Schools offers a wide range of educational opportunities that address students at the developmental level specified by the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education as *by the end of grade 4* and, in some cases, *by the end of grade 8*, and to prepare them for further study at the middle school level. Concepts introduced in early grades continue to be developed each year in greater depth and complexity alongside the introduction of new concepts and skills.

The **Arts/Wellness Department** believes that musically proficient students should have the opportunity to engage meaningfully with music through the four processes summarized best by the 2016 [National Core Arts Anchor Standards](#).

**Creating:** Conceiving and developing new artistic ideas and work.

**Performing:** Realizing artistic ideas and work through interpretation and presentation.

**Responding:** Understanding and evaluating how the arts convey meaning.

**Connecting:** Relating artistic ideas and work with personal meaning and external context.

#### Grades K-2 (General Music)

Steady beat  
Loud/soft, Fast/slow  
Responding physically to music  
Basic vocal technique  
Basic instrumental technique  
Partner songs  
Solfege

#### Grades 3-5 (General Music)

Written notation  
Recorder technique  
Sight singing  
Improvisation/composition  
Responding to conductor's cues

#### Beginning Band

Instrument assembly and care  
Proper posture/carriage  
Embouchure, air and tone production  
Basic articulation skills  
Self-awareness/error detection  
Reading/playing in limited range

[1999 Massachusetts Arts Curriculum Framework](#)  
[2016 National Core Arts Standards](#)