

Music



Intent

Our intent is to provide a high-quality music education that engages and inspires pupils to develop a love of music.

Our curriculum ensures pupils experience and understand what music is through listening, singing, playing, evaluating and composing across a wide variety of historical periods, styles, traditions, and musical genres.

Our music sessions teach pupils to sing, to understand how music is created, produced and communicated, and enables them to develop their curiosity for the subject by creating and composing music on their own and collaboratively with others.

Pupils are also given every opportunity to develop their performing skills and appreciation of music through School Productions, Music and Performing Arts festivals and singing in the community.

Implementation

Our music curriculum ensures pupils are provided with opportunities to sing, listen, play, perform and evaluate. This is embedded in the classroom through weekly music lessons as well as our singing assemblies and various concerts and performances.

To ensure high standards of teaching and learning in Music, we implement the Chris Quigley Essentials Curriculum (based on the National Curriculum). Progression is ensured by pupils developing their knowledge and understanding of key concepts through three age specific milestones as they progress through the school.

To aid teacher's planning, we use the Music Express scheme as a basis, supplemented with other resources to support children's learning. Teachers tailor learning to meet the needs and interests of the children in their class. The units for Music are set out in the 2-year long term curriculum plan for each mixed aged class.

Every child has the opportunity to learn to play the recorder in KS2 and various singing projects are undertaken throughout KS1 and KS2.

Peripatetic teachers also come into school to teach instrumental lessons, which provide opportunities for pupils to learn and develop their skills from an experienced specialist teacher. These lessons are available to anyone in KS1 and KS2. Instrumental lessons offered include a wide range of instruments including amongst others, piano, violin, guitar, ukulele and cello. Regular music recitals are arranged for the parents and school to celebrate children's achievements. These performances serve as a great encouragement to all.

In EYFS, this falls under the umbrella heading of 'Expressive Arts and Design'.

The pupils are supported, through child-initiated and adult led activities, to develop the knowledge and understanding to enable them to explore and play with a wide range of instruments and techniques as well as providing opportunities and encouragement for sharing their thoughts, ideas and feelings through a variety of activities in music.

The three 'characteristics of effective teaching and learning' ensure that practitioners consider the different ways that the children learn and reflect these in their planning and practise.

Impact

Pupils develop a love of music. Exposure to high quality teaching means pupils enjoy music, both from the performing and participation point but also through appreciation and evaluation of the work of others.

Pupils sing well across all the key stages because of the high expectations the school has. Children are encouraged to perform solos, duets, sing in small groups and as a whole school. They perform to a high standard in whole school productions and achieve well in competitions. This promotes the children's perceptions of their abilities and their wellbeing. (see The British Voice Association research – www.britishvoiceassociation.org.uk)

During lessons, teachers offer constructive feedback and next steps, with further opportunities to create music, to improve their work and ensure that skills are being developed. Children are also encouraged to reflect on their own learning as well as their peers.

Subject monitoring, including book looks, is carried out by the subject leader and headteacher.

