

Music

Curriculum Statement



Intent

Our Music Curriculum incorporates the skills and knowledge outlined in the National Curriculum. It has been designed to engage and inspire our children to develop both a love of music and their talents as musicians. Effective teaching will ensure that our children have the opportunity to create, play, perform, listen to, appreciate and enjoy music from different countries, eras and genres and by different composers. The children will also learn to sing and to use their voices; to create and compose music; have the opportunity to learn a musical instrument and to use technology appropriately. We believe that it is vital to widen and build the children's musical vocabulary so that they are able to understand and explore how music is created, produced and communicated, including through the inter-related dimensions of pitch, dynamics, tempo, timbre, texture and structure. The children will be taught how to read musical notation and will be encouraged to use notation when recording their own compositions

St. Mary's has a strong musical tradition and was one of the first schools to achieve the Platinum Sing Up Kite Mark. Our fantastic choir perform at community and local events and all of our children are given the opportunity to play a musical instrument.

Implementation

Music is taught through a topic based/creative curriculum and is delivered throughout school by a member of staff who is a music specialist. The curriculum is sequenced so that skills and knowledge can be built upon and transferred to other areas of learning.

In Key Stage 1 the children are taught to use their voices expressively and creatively. They will sing songs, chants and rhymes. The children will have the opportunity to play tuned and untuned percussion instruments and will experiment with, create, select and combine sounds using the inter-related dimensions of music. The children will have the opportunity to listen to music with sustained concentration and will be encouraged to use appropriate musical vocabulary when responding to music. Performing is central to KS1 music and the children will be given lots of opportunities to take part in musical performances, both individually and as part of a group.

In Key Stage 2 the children will be provided with opportunities that will enable them to play and perform in solo and ensemble contexts, using their voices and playing musical instruments with increasing fluency, accuracy, control and expression. They will learn to appreciate and understand a range of music drawn from different traditions and from great composers. The children will listen with attention to detail and recall sounds with increasing accuracy and memory. Musical compositional skills will be developed throughout KS2 and the children will be taught how to read and use musical notation. When composing and talking about music, the children will be encouraged to use the inter-related dimensions of music.

Pre and post topic assessments are completed in order to show progress and to highlight any knowledge gaps and a 'fast five' activity is used to start off every topic lesson in order to re-inforce and consolidate knowledge from the previous lesson. Teachers refer back to previous learning and share with the children how their learning will be developed and built upon in the next lesson/class so that facts and knowledge can be connected, rather than being taught in isolation. Music trackers are completed at the end of each topic in order to record which children are working below, at or above expected levels and interventions are delivered when needed. Our Music Curriculum is fully inclusive and activities are designed/differentiated to ensure that all children are able to participate.

Impact

St. Mary's strong musical tradition will continue to go from strength to strength and music will remain at the heart of the school. Many of our children will play a musical instrument and choir numbers will remain high. The children will accurately use the dimensions of music and musical notation when composing and will perform confidently in front of others. The children will be able to listen with concentration to the work of composers and will use correct musical vocabulary when talking about pieces of music and their own compositions. Our children will possess the relevant skills and knowledge needed for the next stage of their musical education and many will continue to take part in musical activities during high school and on into adulthood, demonstrating a real and genuine love of music.

