

Christ Church C of E Primary School Music Policy



Intent

Our vision for music is that we provide every child with high quality music experiences which engage and inspire them. We provide opportunities for all children to create, play, perform and enjoy music and to appreciate a variety of music styles. We aim for every child to leave Christ Church Primary School with a range of musical skills, knowledge and an understanding and love of music which they can carry with them for the rest of their lives.

Implementation

At Christ Church Primary School, we encourage children to participate in a variety of musical experiences through which we aim to build up the confidence of all children. As a singing school, singing is an integral part of our school life and our teaching focuses on developing the children's ability to sing in tune, developing their expression and ability to listen to others

Pupils' understanding of music will be developed through activities which bring together the requirements of performing, composing, listening and appraising. Children are taught to make music together with tuned and un-tuned instruments and to compose pieces. They are also taught to sing and play in time controlling the sound and pace. They are taught different ways to represent sounds graphically and symbolically.

Impact

Children will:

- enjoy and appreciate a wide variety of musical styles;
- explore how sounds are made, and how music is produced by a variety of instruments;
- develop imagination and creativity;
- build a sense of pulse and rhythm;
- understand a range of musical vocabulary;
- develop the interrelated skills of composition, improvisation, performance and appreciation;
- enjoy a wide range of songs and sing in tune;
- develop positive attitudes and to experience success and satisfaction in music.

Teaching and Learning

Music in the Early Years

We teach music in our foundation unit as an integral part of the topic work covered during the year. As part of the Early Years Foundation Stage of the National Curriculum, we relate the musical aspects of the children's work to the objectives set out in the Early Learning Goals (ELGs). Music contributes to a child's personal and social development. Counting songs foster a child's mathematical ability, and songs from different cultures increase a child's knowledge and understanding of the world. Our Foundation unit also have access to the Charanga Music Scheme.

Key Stage One and Two Curriculum

Our school uses the Charanga scheme as the basis for its curriculum planning. This scheme has an integrated, practical, exploratory and child led approach to musical learning.

The learning within this scheme is based on:

- Listening and Appraising,
- Musical Activities (including Creating and Exploring)
- Singing and Performing.

While there are opportunities for children of all abilities to develop their skills and knowledge in each unit, the progression planned into the scheme of work means that the children are increasingly challenged as they move through the school. All musical learning in the scheme is based around the Interrelated Dimensions of Music; pulse, rhythm, pitch, tempo, dynamics, timbre, texture, structure and notation.

Additional music teaching

Children can play the recorder in Year 4 and in year 5 as a whole class and there is a small selected group that meet weekly to further enhance their skills. There is also a Key Stage 2 choir which children are encouraged to join.

In order to enrich the musical experiences of all our children, Christ Church Primary School currently welcomes an external musician who works with the different year groups for a number of weekly sessions over the school year.

We also provide peripatetic trumpet instrument tuition. Lessons are taught to small groups of children from. Parents are requested to purchase or hire the instrument and pay the additional music lesson fees on a weekly or termly basis.

Musical events

Children take part in singing practice, assemblies and have opportunities to perform in public, for example groups have children have been invited to sing in the local community and at Remembrance services in the local area, in care homes and at local events such as the Easter Passion, the Victorian Christmas market and the annual Christingle held at Christ Church.

Our children are also given the opportunity to listen to a range of music at the beginning and end of our assemblies. At Christmas time, the whole school takes part in a musical performance and at other times of the year classes or the whole school get together to provide appropriate musical entertainment.

Resources

The following resources are available to aid the teaching of music at Christ Church Primary School;

- Sing Up music scheme – all teachers and TA's have individual logins sound
- system, laptop and projector in the hall
- a range of musical resources on CD which includes classical, popular and cultural music
- a selection of un-tuned percussion instruments
- tuned instruments – glockenspiels and recorders
- tuned instrument lessons – trumpets and keyboard

Assessment

Children demonstrate their ability in music in a variety of different ways. Teachers will assess children's work in music by making informal judgements as they observe them during lessons. Video recordings are made of live musical performances for the children to use as self-assessment. On completion of a piece of work, the teacher will assess the work and give oral feedback. Older and more able pupils are encouraged to make judgements about how they can improve their own work. Individual class teachers will keep samples of children's work in music for their own evidence. The Music Progress Map enables teachers to assess whether children are working below, above or at the expected level at the end of each year.

Equal opportunities

Activities should be carefully planned by the class teacher and be differentiated where appropriate for children with SEN and equally the more able and Gifted and Talented children. All resources/materials have been reviewed with equal opportunities in mind, e.g. race, gender, ethnicity. Learning experiences in music will be available to every child, regardless of race, gender, class or ability. Pupils will be encouraged to value social and cultural diversity through musical experiences. They will listen to, and participate in, a variety of experiences in a positive and constructive role.

Inclusion

We recognise that in all classes, children have a wide range of musical ability, and so we seek to provide suitable learning opportunities for all children by matching the challenge of the task to the ability of the child. We achieve this in a variety of ways:

- setting tasks which are open-ended and can have a variety of responses
- setting tasks of increasing difficulty
- grouping children by ability and setting different tasks for each group
- grouping children in mixed ability groups
- providing resources of different complexity, depending on the ability of the child
- using classroom assistants to support the work of individuals or groups of children