

Blackpool Gateway Academy



MUSIC POLICY **February 2020**

Philosophy

Music is a unique way of communicating that can inspire and motivate children. It is a vehicle for personal expression and it can play an important part in the personal development of young children. Music reflects and is fundamental to the culture and society we live in, and so the teaching and learning in music enables children to better understand the world they live in.

Besides being a creative and enjoyable activity, music plays an important part in helping young children increase in self-confidence as well as developing countless other benefits, including the development of skills such as listening and attention, memory and concentration and coordination.

Aims

The aims of music teaching are:

- To foster enjoyment of music.
- To develop pupils' understanding of how music can take a variety of forms and that music can reflect other times and places.
- To foster creativity in all pupils enabling pupils to use music as a form of self-expression.
- To develop pupils' independence, self-esteem, motivation and empathy with others and the ability to work together in a group.
- To develop skills and knowledge in performing, composing, listening to and appraising music.
- For children to have the opportunity to perform for audiences and to watch performances during their school life.

Subject Content

Key stage 1

Pupils should be taught to:

- use their voices expressively and creatively by singing songs and speaking chants and rhymes
- play tuned and untuned instruments musically
- listen with concentration and understanding to a range of high-quality live and recorded music
- Experiment with, create, select and combine sounds using the inter-related dimensions of music.

Key stage 2

Pupils should be taught to sing and play musically with increasing confidence and control. They should develop an understanding of musical composition, organising and manipulating ideas within musical structures and reproducing sounds from aural memory (reciting and discriminating sounds that children can hear).

Pupils should be taught to:

- play and perform in solo and ensemble contexts, using their voices and playing musical instruments with increasing accuracy, fluency, control and expression
- improvise and compose music for a range of purposes using the inter-related dimensions of music
- listen with attention to detail and recall sounds with increasing aural memory
- use and understand staff and other musical notations
- appreciate and understand a wide range of high-quality live and recorded music drawn from different traditions and from great composers and musicians
- develop an understanding of the history of music.

At Blackpool Gateway Academy we aim to make music an enjoyable learning experience. Music is taught by class teachers in all year groups through the Charanga Music Scheme. In Year 2, the children have the opportunity to

learn a stringed instrument with a peripatetic music teacher from Blackpool Music Service. In Year 4 the children have the opportunity to learn a brass instrument with a peripatetic music teacher from Blackpool Music Service. Children also have the opportunity to join the school choir and participate in different events throughout the school year. During their school life we aim for children to encounter a variety of musical experiences to develop their self-confidence and creativity.

Early Years Foundation Stage

We teach music in reception class as an integral part of the topic work covered during the year. As the reception class is 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) which underpin the curriculum planning for children aged three to five. 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.

In the Early Years Foundation Stage children are given the opportunity for musical exploration in both the indoor and outdoor areas. Teaching and learning of rhythm and rhyme are embedded into the Foundation Stage Curriculum. Introduction to musical instruments and skills are introduced through Charanga.

Extra-Curricular Music Opportunities

We aim to provide a range of age appropriate extra-curricular music activities. Choir is offered to all pupils in KS2. Throughout the year, the choir will showcase their talents at different events. As part of the Year 4 curriculum, Blackpool Music Service provides cornet lessons for pupils each week. Each year group is given the opportunity to showcase a musical item they have been practising during their class assembly.

Special Educational Needs

Children are actively involved in music lessons to encourage involvement and to develop a sense of group identity. Music lessons are designed to promote emotional development, expression and reflection. Lessons are differentiated to meet the needs of each individual child.

Resources

Music resources are kept in the 'Music Cupboard' in the music trolley. The instruments have been audited so all staff are aware of the instruments, and how many of each instrument are available in school. Children who are having extra music lessons provided by Blackpool Music Service are responsible for their own instruments.

Assessment and Record Keeping

Assessment should be a constant and ongoing process to help teachers: evaluate learning, plan subsequent work, identify strengths and weaknesses, support pupils learning and to report pupils' attainment. Video evidence is stored on Team Drive under 'Music Evidence'. Each year group has their own folder in which to store videos and pictures of their Charanga lessons, performances, assemblies and any music evidence that shows the teaching and learning of the pupils in relation to the National Curriculum. Staff will also keep a record of children's assessments using the Charanga assessment spreadsheet which is located on the 'Team Drive'.

In Foundation Stage children will be observed during lessons and continuous provision. Observations and photographs will be recorded in 2simple & Individual Learning Journeys. These will inform teacher judgements of children's progress against age related expectations in the Expressive Arts & Design strand of the Early Years Foundations Stage Curriculum. EYFS will also use Charanga to teach units of music.

Monitoring

The Music co-ordinator will monitor the teaching of music across all year groups. Monitoring will include planning, lesson observations, evidence of progress and teacher assessments which will help to ensure continuity, progression and balance across the year groups.

Sophie Collier
Music Subject Leader
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