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MUSIC Policy

C. Dowell September 2025

ambition, belief, communication

Music is a universal language that embodies one of the highest forms of creativity. A high-quality music education should engage and inspire pupils to develop a love of music and their talent as musicians, and so increase their self-confidence, creativity and sense of achievement. As pupils progress, they should develop a critical engagement with music, allowing them to compose, and to listen with discrimination to the best in the musical canon.

(National Curriculum, Purpose of Study)

**Overview**

At Bradley Primary School, we will, through the effective teaching and learning of the knowledge, skills and understanding in music, maintain and stimulate pupil curiosity, interest and enjoyment. We will teach towards the National Curriculum requirements for music through the use of the *Charanga* music scheme. We will endeavour to take our children on a musical journey around the world and celebrate a diverse range of musical styles, genres and artists. We will follow the curriculum guidance provided by the subject leader in our Bradley Music Curriculum, to ensure music teaching is as effective and creative as possible, and to ensure that the cultural capital of our children is broad and varied to provide them every opportunity to succeed in the future.

**Intent**

Music is a powerful, unique form of communication that can change the way pupils feel, think and act. At Bradley Primary School, we believe that all children have an entitlement to a broad and balanced music curriculum. We recognise the place that music has for developing expression and creativity through enjoyment. We also recognise the role that music has in raising self-esteem and promoting understanding of different cultures and traditions. As an integral part of culture, past and present, it helps people understand themselves and relate to others, forging important links between the home, school and the wider world.

The teaching of music develops pupils’ ability to listen to and appreciate a wide variety of music and make judgements about musical quality. It encourages active involvement in different forms of music making, both individual and communal, developing a sense of group identity and togetherness.

At Bradley Primary School, we aim to develop an understanding of the interrelated dimensions of music, developing practical skills and enabling children to respond and communicate musical ideas, thoughts and feelings. Opportunity is also given to develop an awareness of musical traditions, styles and cultures. Our spiral music curriculum focuses on spaced learning, with the children referring to and building on existing skills and knowledge in order to make progress as they move through each year group. We aim to further develop cultural capital by providing enrichment opportunities, including enabling the children to experience live music performances in and out of school.

**Implementation**

The music curriculum ensures children sing, listen, play, perform and evaluate. Through the musical program *Charanga*, teachers are able to produce inclusive lessons for all children to access the musical curriculum in a fun and engaging way, further promoting a love of learning. The scheme covers all the requirements of the National Curriculum for Music and the EYFS Curriculum. *Charanga* lessons are planned in sequences to provide children with the opportunities to review, remember, deepen and apply their understanding. The interrelated dimensions of music are taught in lessons so that children are able to use some of the language of music to dissect it, and understand how it is made, played, appreciated and analysed. In the classroom, children learn how to play a variety of percussion instruments. Composing or performing using body percussion and vocal sounds is also part of the curriculum, which develops the understanding of the interrelated dimensions of music without the added complexity of an instrument. At the end of each unit, children perform to other classes or members of staff. Classes also take turns to perform for their families and the whole school at the end of a unit.

The music lessons for children in Year 5 are delivered by Lancashire Music Hub, as all children are learning to play the clarinet. These lessons are paid for by school.

**Impact**

Music can promote fundamental abilities, such as a sense of achievement, self-confidence, interaction with and awareness of others, and self-reflection. Our curriculum will also help children to develop an understanding of culture and history. Children are able to enjoy music in many ways – either as listener, creator or performer. They can dissect music and comprehend its parts. They can sing and feel a pulse.

**Leadership of Music**

The Music Lead will ensure that the teaching, learning and development of the subject is maintained at a high standard by:

* Having discussions with pupils and staff
* Conducting learning walks to observe the coverage of music
* Providing guidance to colleagues
* Scrutinising music floor books and watching video recordings of children’s performances during lessons
* Assisting with maintaining and replenishing resources that are required (within the budget)
* Assisting staff to implement assessment through school
* Ensuring that the curriculum allows for progression across school
* Attending Primary Music Network meetings
* Keeping up to date with change or new initiatives that would support the development of music at Bradley Primary School.

**Enrichment**

Every Christmas we have a week dedicated to music and art, when children watch live music performances and the whole school comes together to watch each year group perform. Children learn to sing a Christmas song of their choice and perform with musical instruments. They learn about the history of the song and the group who originally performed it and study the structure of the song.

Trips out of school are also planned so that children have the opportunity to watch live music performances in different settings.

**Extra-Curricular**

Children in key stage 2 are invited to join the school choir, regardless of their singing ability. The choir takes part in the *Let’s Go Sing* project, learning songs to perform alongside children from other Lancashire schools, at a concert in the spring term at Blackburn Cathedral. The songs cover a wide range of thought-provoking themes and topics that children can relate to and are written in a wide range of musical styles including musical theatre, pop, reggae, ballad and character. The project also meets many of the aims of the National Curriculum for Music. The choir also perform in school and in the local community.

Some children in upper key stage 2 have keyboard lessons and perform for the whole school and parents.

**Music Development Plan**

As set out in the national plan for music education, a summary of our music development plan is published on our website.