

Music Rationale

Our ambitious and knowledge rich music curriculum seeks to give every child a solid foundation of musical skills to build on from their starting point. We have applied recommendations from the 'Model Music Curriculum' 2021 to create a well sequenced and coherent 'spiral' curriculum, through Charanga. We aim to enrich the lives of our children through music.

Charanga – 'Charanga's music curriculum works as a 'spiral'. The children will regularly revisit prior musical learning in order to refresh, consolidate and then build upon knowledge, skills and attitudes. This approach will form holistic, resilient, confident and informed musicians over the course of the curriculum. For this reason, Assessment Criteria may overlap heavily from unit to unit and year to year. This does not mean that the students are unnecessarily repeating the 'same old thing all the time', but rather that the essential core elements that make a well-rounded musician are ever-present as a focus and constantly improved upon, keeping the learner in an ideal 'zone of development' between comfort and challenge.'

Model Music Curriculum - 'Music is all around us. It is the soundtrack to our lives. Music connects us through people and places in our ever-changing world. It is creative, collaborative, celebratory and challenging. In our schools, music can bring communities together through the shared endeavour of whole school singing, ensemble playing, experimenting with the creative process and, through the love of listening to friends and fellow pupils, performing. The sheer joy of music making can feed the soul of a school community, enriching each student while strengthening the shared bonds of support and trust which make a great school.'

In EYFS, children will build their listening skills while making connections to the world around them. Our children will become confident movers and singers while exploring the sounds of different instruments, animals and the world around us. They will begin to name the elements of music.

In KS1, children will focus on each element of music in more detail. Year 1 will complete a course, 'Chimes 1' using a tuned instrument for a term. Year 2 will then complete the following course 'Chimes 2' to build on their prior learning and prepare them for music in KS2. They will be able to read and play some notes on a tuned instrument. Towards the end of KS1 children will be challenged further to combine the elements of music when improvising and composing. KS1 children will have multiple opportunities to develop confidence through performance, including, but not limited to a Nativity production.

In KS2, children will build on their prior learning by exploring melodies, chords and develop their notation skills from their starting points. In Year 3 children will complete a recorder course, 'Blown Away Recorder Book 1' for a term, this will then be built on in Year 5 when the children complete 'Blown Away Recorders Book 2'. Children will then revisit and build on their recorder skills by spending 1 term completing 'Additional Recorder Repertoire'. During Year 4, children will continue their learning through Charanga, with the addition of 1-hour, weekly Ukulele tuition, provided by the Music Service. Each year group will have multiple opportunities to perform across the year.

Singing collectively connects us as a school, as a community, as people. We recognise and respect we are all different, unique and valued. We follow an inclusive rolling program for whole school singing. We apply Makaton signs to all our songs.

We are inclusive and support our children and their interests further by providing extra-curricular activities, such as choir. We work closely with the Music Service to provide more opportunities for our children to perform on a national stage, including but not limited to 'Symphony Hall, Primary Proms'.

Our music curriculum will give all pupils help our children SHINE!