**Teaching Music at Dove Bank**

**Subject Statement**

*Music touches the very heart of our humanity and a sense of the wonder of music has touched human societies throughout history. Music education offers young people the chance to understand, perform and create in an aural dimension that often sits outside our capacity to describe in words. For many pupils, the music they love will be part of the narrative of their lives and bring colour to the experiences that shape them.*

The Music Framework; OFSTED

At Dove Bank Primary we view music as 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 people. Music reflects the culture and society we live in, and so the teaching and learning of music enables children to better understand the world they live in. Besides being a creative and enjoyable activity, music can also be a highly academic and demanding subject. It also plays an important part in helping children feel part of a community. We provide opportunities for all children to create, play, perform and enjoy music, to develop the skills, to appreciate a wide variety of musical forms, and to begin to make judgements about the quality of music.

The objectives of teaching music in our school are to enable children to:

* know and understand how sounds are made and then organised into musical structures;
* know how music is made through a variety of instruments;
* know how music is composed and written down;
* know how music is influenced by the time, place and purpose for which it was written;
* develop the interrelated skills of performing, composing and appreciating music.

**Subject Leader & Expert Teachers**

Within school we have a wealth of experience in the teaching of music. Details of staff are detailed below:

* Lydia Smith is our choir leader and music subject leader and has had theatrical vocal training.
* Joanne Woodward has experience in leading music at previous establishments and has an instrumental background.
* Gillian Bowler plays wind instruments including recorder and tenor and leads our extra-curricular recorder club.
* Alicia McLaren has a love of singing and delivering music.

**Curriculum Organisation**

At Dove Bank Primary School, we make music an enjoyable learning experience. We encourage children to participate in a variety of musical experiences through which we aim to build up the confidence of all children. Singing lies at the heart of good music teaching. Our teaching focuses on developing the children’s ability to sing in tune and with other people. Through singing songs, children learn about the structure and organisation of music. We teach them to listen to and appreciate different forms of music. As children get older, we expect them to maintain their concentration for longer, and to listen to more extended pieces of music. Children develop descriptive skills in music lessons when learning about how music can represent feelings and emotions. We teach children to make music together, to understand musical notation, and to compose pieces.

The award-winning music scheme Charanga has been carefully chosen in order to ensure that all children are given the opportunity to cover the music national curriculum whilst at Dove Bank. Charanga gives staff high quality planning to follow as well as a list of key vocabulary for each Key Stage and a set of interactive resources available on the whiteboard. Therefore, ensuring that both musicians and non-musicians have the confidence, professional knowledge and tools to deliver exciting and progressive music lessons. Charanga is a flexible scheme which allows staff to differentiate where appropriate for all needs and its specific SEND curriculum allows for more personalised teaching where necessary. At Dove Bank, we have adapted the Charanga scheme to suit the needs of our children. The scheme has been carefully adapted for all year groups (EYFS, KS1 & KS2) to ensure that as children progress through school, they develop a critical engagement with music, allowing them to compose, and to listen with discrimination to the best in the musical ability.

**Early Music Development**

We teach music in Nursery and in the Reception class, as an integral part of the nursery rhyme and story led 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 around them. Children have regular opportunities to participate in a range of singing activities, which is modelled by all adults in the provision. This builds children’s confidence, along with developing new vocabulary and improving listening and concentration skills.

**Subject Specific info**

All learners from EYFS to Y6 receive a weekly **music** lesson supported by **Charanga**. KS2 learners are taught music for approximately 1 hour a week and Key stage 1 for 30 minutes a week. The **Charanga** **music** **scheme** allows children to experience a new topic and style of **music** every half term.

All staff in school have their own individual login and password giving them access to the music scheme. Charanga provides staff with high quality planning which allows them to deliver clear, concise and challenging lessons. For each lesson Charanga provides staff with adaptable materials such as IWB resources, music, lyrics, key terminology and knowledge organisers. In order to help staff adapt and differentiate lessons according to the needs of the pupils, Charanga offers differentiated resources for those who have SEND and gives those who are ‘gifted and talented’ the opportunity to follow written music.

The music leader has written in depth medium term plans for each year group which coincide with the Charanga scheme. Theses outline the vocabulary, skills and knowledge progression expected to be seen in each year group.

To help enhance lessons, a range of musical instruments from untuned and tuned percussion (such as glockenspiels, drums etc) are available for teachers to use from our music resources store cupboard located next to our Reception classroom. We also have subscriptions to music services such as ‘Out of the Ark’ to provide teachers with a plethora of musical repertoires to support their delivery of the curriculum.

The music leader is part of the Music Mark Association which provides useful updates, training and resources to staff. School also receives more localised music updates and CPD offers from Entrust music service.

**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. Evidence towards these judgements is encouraged by the music leader, to be filmed/recorded using staff iPads. On completion of a piece of work/performance, the teacher assesses the work and gives oral or written feedback as necessary to inform future progress. Older pupils are encouraged to evaluate and make judgements about how they can improve their own work. At the end of each half term, teachers record judgements against National Curriculum standards through use of the Charanga objectives, in a foundation curriculum assessment folder. Interim Key Stage Expectation documents and Assessment Logs are available for teachers to download and use from Charanga.

**Music across the Curriculum**

**English**

Music contributes significantly to the teaching of English in our school by actively promoting the skills of reading, writing, speaking and listening. Children develop their language skills through singing songs, with attention to diction, meaning, rhythm and rhyme. They use and develop research skills, when finding out about the history of music and musicians. Music is also used to stimulate discussion or creative writing. Through working with others in a musical setting, children develop their ability to communicate ideas effectively, using new and challenging vocabulary.

**Mathematics**

The teaching of music contributes to children's mathematical understanding in a variety of ways. Children who study the structure of music are observing patterns and processes. Talent in music is often linked with talent in mathematics, as the rhythm and structure of music is mathematically based.

**PSHRE**

Music contributes significantly to the teaching of personal, social and health education and citizenship. Through the common goal of making music, children learn to work effectively with other people, and to build up good relationships. Music is the basis of many social activities, and has an important role to play in the personal development of many young people. It has a vital role to play in building self-confidence. Participation in successful public musical performances is sometimes one of the most memorable things young people do at school.

**SMSC**

Creating, performing or listening to music can sometimes be a moving and even spiritual experience. We encourage children to reflect on the important effect that music has on people’s moods, senses and quality of life. Children at Dove Bank have the opportunity to encounter music from many cultures, for example African Drumming days, and, through their growing knowledge andunderstanding of the music; they develop more positive attitudes towards other cultures and societies.

**Mental Wellbeing**

Music plays a significant role in ensuring that children and staff have a good mental wellbeing. Music has the power to uplift school morale and boost positive emotions throughout the school for example, during whole school signing assemblies.

**Music and Computing**

Information and communication technology enhances the teaching of music, where appropriate, in all key stages. Children use computer programs to compose music, for example using Purple Mash or the Garage Band app. They also use ICT to enhance their research skills, whether through the Internet or on CDs. They might experiment with editing voice recordings, which involves the use of a digital sound recorder for example using iPads.

**Additional Music Teaching**

Children are offered the opportunity to study a musical instrument with a peripatetic teacher. Peripatetic music teaching is provided by Staffordshire Entrust Music Service. School have identified children with pupil premium eligibility to take part in these lessons as part of the school’s service agreement with Entrust. This is in addition to the normal music teaching of the school, but usually takes place during curriculum time. We are lucky enough to support pupil premium children, who wish to have music lessons on particular instruments, so that there is no financial barrier stopping them from achieving their true potential.

**Extra-Curricular Activities**

At Dove Bank Primary we aim to provide further opportunities for personal, spiritual, moral, social and cultural development through the teaching of Music.

We aim to develop the children’s knowledge within the classroom but it allows children to explore their love of music further through the links we have with, Young Voices, local theatres, and Staffordshire Music Partnership. This ensures that all children from any background are exposed to cultural experiences that they may not get elsewhere.

During music lessons and work with outside agencies children are encouraged to express their own opinions and let their creativity flow. Each child is taught how to respect their peers and embrace the cultural diversity within the school.

At Dove Bank Primary we have a school choir and recorder ensemble, who attend musical events throughout the academic year.

We believe that music enriches the lives of people, and so we wish to involve as many children as possible in musical activities. We have a school choir which we encourage all children from Y2-6 to join. The choir meets on a weekly basis and, although its primary aim is to enable children to enjoy singing together, it also performs in public on a number of occasions throughout the year.

We provide opportunities throughout the year for budding musicians to perform for the school community. This includes solo and ensemble performances as part of assemblies and concerts. This recognises their achievements and celebrates their success. Staff are asked to identify children to the music leader, who show particular interest in music or demonstrate high level skills within music.

More recently, we have introduced ‘Rocksteady’ sessions into our extra-curricular provision, who offer children paid for music lessons in the form of a school band. Parents and peers are invited termly to share and celebrate the children’s performances.