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 has had theatrical vocal training.
- Joanne Woodward is our Music leader and 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.

The award-winning music scheme Kapow has been chosen because of the way it ensures a development of a range of skills, including listening and appraising, creating sounds and performing, as well as improvising and composing. Skills have been carefully tracked alongside units from the scheme to ensure progression and continuity from EYFS through to Year 6.

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 our Music scheme, which is Kapow. KS2 learners are taught music for up to 1 hour a week and Key stage 1 for 30 minutes a week. The scheme allows children to experience a new unit 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. Kapow provides staff with high-quality planning which allows them to deliver clear, concise and challenging lessons. For each lesson Kapow provides 'How to' videos to support the teacher, as well as providing resources for the children. Five central skills have been identified and can be found on the Dove Bank 'How to be a great musician' posters, which are available on Teams. These skills have been mapped out to link with activities throughout each unit taught and can be used to highlight the importance of musical skills, alongside knowledge.

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.

A music specialist teaches music weekly, offering specialist teaching to a whole class and individual lessons to children who have been identified as children who may particularly benefit from this enrichment.

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 or in a 'floor book'. On completion of a piece of work, the teacher assesses the work and gives oral or written feedback as necessary to inform future progress. Older pupils are encouraged to make judgements about how they can improve their own work. At the end of a unit of work, the teacher makes a summary judgement about the work of each pupil in relation to the National Curriculum, and records these in the foundation Subject Assessment folder.

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. They will experience performing through their own class assemblies and all year groups will participate in a performance that ha a strong musical element, at least once per year.

Music and Computing

Information and communication technology enhances the teaching of music, where appropriate, in all key stages. Children use computer programs to compose or record music and compose pieces using technology. Equipment such as microphones are accessible to the children.

SMSC

Spiritual	Music helps to promote spiritualism in that music can be a major part of many spiritual celebrations including in that of major religions as well as in meditative and well-being practises. At Dove Bank, we encourage this aspect of the curriculum through the experience and the emotion of listening and responding to music, composition and performance. We encourage our pupils to express their feelings verbally when appraising a piece of music. Where pupils are sensitive about expressing their feelings, we support them appropriately so that they have the confidence to do so. Spiritual skills are further developed by encouraging children to be inspired and creative when composing their own pieces of music during lessons. Furthermore, pupils have the opportunity to express themselves not only in classroom sessions, but throughout a plethora of extra-curricular and additional teaching opportunities.
Moral	We encourage our children at Dove Bank to engage in critical discussions of musical performances both from other students and visiting artists. Where there is a specific cultural or social reference that is explicit in a piece of music, we encourage our children to reflect upon this. Where children have presented their own work, we ensure fair and objective assessment and evaluation of their composition. Improving on their performances requires self-discipline, resilience and commitment which we foster here in school.
Social	Children engage in group tasks to encourage a sense of unity and collaboration, enabling them to be aware of their own individual abilities and strengths. From Early Years, we encourage children to be part of an ensemble and to know how to perform with pride. We also encourage the skills of independence and resilience. Where they are

	required to express their feelings, students are encouraged to do this sensitively with an awareness of the needs of others. Our music curriculum is aims to grow confident performers in all age groups.
Cultural	Music supports cultural development by looking at how musicians and performers from a range of cultures have had a significant impact globally and this area of learning is heavily supported by our Kapow curriculum. It also helps children to understand how important music is to the economy and culture of the UK, as well as other cultures. Music is an inherently cultural and social experience as people enjoy going to musical performances. Children learn that music is a great tool for bringing communities and cultures together as one.
Student Wellbeing	There's considerable evidence pointing to the power of music to heal, calm and unify. Music is a natural go-to in this area. It has the potential to yield great benefits for whole school communities, which is why here at Dove Bank, we use music as a tool to ensure our children's mental and physical wellbeing. We come together weekly as a school to sing and listen to various genres of music in everyday practice.

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. Enrichment opportunities are offered to those children who may otherwise miss out on a unique experience, for whatever reason.

Children can experience electrical instruments through our 'Rock Steady' tutor that offers lessons once per week. Some children are supported financially to access this, by the school.

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, culminating in a Summer concert for parents to attend.

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.