

Music Curriculum Overview

Intent

Our music curriculum is designed to foster a love for music and the arts, helping students become confident, creative, and thoughtful musicians. We believe that music is an essential form of expression that allows children to explore their imagination, develop emotional intelligence, and communicate in powerful ways. Through a balanced and comprehensive music program, we encourage children to develop their skills in listening, performing, composing, and evaluating.

Our aim is to create a learning environment where students can develop a deep appreciation for music from different cultures, genres, and historical periods. We provide opportunities for students to explore a wide range of musical activities, from singing and instrumental performance to music technology and composition. Students are encouraged to experiment with different styles of music, using their creativity to produce original pieces and performances.

We also believe that music teaches essential life skills, such as collaboration, perseverance, and resilience. Through group performances, students learn how to work together and listen to one another, fostering teamwork and empathy. We understand that mistakes are a natural part of the learning process, and through reflection and revision, we help students develop the ability to evaluate and improve their musical work.

The curriculum is designed to align with the National Curriculum's aims while celebrating the unique musical interests and cultural diversity of our students. We aim to inspire students to pursue music in their own lives and to understand the impact that musicians and composers have had on the world. By exposing students to diverse musical traditions, we help them build connections to their own heritage and the global community.

Key objectives of our Music programme include:

• **Creativity and Expression**: Encourage students to express themselves through music, whether composing, performing, or improvising, and help them develop their own unique musical voice.

• **Musical Understanding**: Develop an understanding of musical concepts such as rhythm, melody, harmony, and structure, enabling students to confidently engage with and appreciate a variety of musical styles.

• Critical Thinking and Reflection: Foster skills in evaluating and reflecting on their own work and the work of others, helping students become thoughtful and discerning musicians.

• **Collaboration and Performance**: Promote teamwork through group music-making, ensemble work, and live performances, helping students build confidence and work effectively with others.

• Cultural Awareness and Aspirations: Introduce students to the rich diversity of global music traditions and connect them with influential musicians, composers, and performers who inspire creativity and ambition in music.

Implementation and Curriculum Overview

At Downholland Haskayne CE Primary School, our music curriculum is designed to inspire and engage every child, from our youngest learners in Acorn class to our more experienced musicians in Oak class. The curriculum follows a two-year rolling program for EYFS/KS1 (Acorn) and a four-year rolling program for KS2 (Oak), ensuring that all children are given the opportunity to develop their musical skills and knowledge in a progressive and inclusive manner.

In Acorn class, our music activities are carefully planned to support the development of early musical skills, such as rhythm, pitch, and listening. EYFS activities are designed to meet the Early Learning Goals, supporting children's physical, social, and emotional development alongside their musical growth. For example, through singing and action songs, children will be encouraged to use their voices expressively, developing control and coordination. They will also explore a variety of instruments, learning how to use them to create different sounds and rhythms. These activities are woven into the program of study for KS1, where children will begin to develop a greater understanding of musical elements such as beat, tempo, and melody.

In Oak class, the curriculum becomes more complex and builds on the skills developed in KS1. The fouryear rolling program ensures that children in mixed-age groups can access appropriate content and continue to make progress as they grow older. Students will have opportunities to explore more advanced concepts, such as musical notation, dynamics, and harmony. Through a range of hands-on activities, including singing, composing, and playing instruments, children will further develop their understanding of musical structures and apply their knowledge in creative ways. They will be introduced to a variety of musical genres and cultures, exploring classical, jazz, folk, and world music, and learning about influential composers and musicians.

Our music lessons are designed to be interactive and fun, encouraging children to collaborate and perform in groups. By offering opportunities for musical performances and reflection, we aim to build students' confidence and teamwork skills. Additionally, we aim to inspire children's long-term interest in music by connecting them with a wide variety of musical traditions and practices.

Through this carefully designed program, we aim to ensure that all children leave Downholland Haskayne CE Primary School with a broad and deep understanding of music, alongside the confidence and skills to continue their musical journey in the future.

Acorn Class – KS1

Cycles	Autumn 🔭 🚺	Spring	Summer
Cycle A	Exploring Sound	Animals and Nature	Folk Songs and Singing Games
- ,	Introduction to sounds,	Topic Music inspired by	Traditional songs, singing games
	instruments, and voices	animals, nature, and the	
		environment	- Sing simple traditional songs
	- Experiment with different		- Learn singing games and
	sounds (voices, instruments,	- Create sounds to represent	singing techniques
	body percussion)	animals and nature	- Perform in a group, listening and
	- Explore how sound is made	 Experiment with animal and 	responding to other
	and altered	nature sounds through voices and	
	- Create simple compositions	instruments	Performance and Review
	using found sounds	- Perform a short composition	Preparing for a music
		based on animals/nature	performance
	Pitch and Dynamics		
	High and low sounds, loud	Telling Stories Through Music	 Review and refine songs and
	and soft sounds	Using music to tell a story	compositions for performance
			- Perform confidently as a group

	 Explore pitch through vocal and instrumental play Experiment with dynamics (loud/soft) Recognize and follow dynamics in music 	 Use music to express emotions and tell a story Create sound effects for storytelling Perform a short musical story with classmates 	- Evaluate and discuss the performance
Cycle B	Rhythm and Pulse Understanding beats and rhythm - Identify and clap simple rhythms and pulses - Create rhythms using body percussion and instruments - Perform short rhythmic patterns Celebration and Festivals Music related to celebrations and festivals - Listen to music associated with different celebrations and festivals - Create simple music for celebrations - Perform and respond to festival-themed music	Exploring Instruments Introduction to different musical instruments - Identify different musical instruments and their sounds - Learn to play simple tunes on tuned instruments (e.g., xylophones, glockenspiels) - Explore simple playing techniques (e.g., mallets, plucking, shaking) Music and Movement Linking music with dance and movement - Explore how music and movement are connected - Dance to different types of music (e.g., fast, slow) - Create simple movement	Famous Composers and Simple Orchestra Introduction to famous composers and orchestral music - Listen to music by famous composers (e.g., Beethoven, Tchaikovsky) - Identify basic orchestral instruments - Explore simple orchestral compositions Exploring Genre Exploring different types of music (e.g., classical, pop, world) - Listen to different genres of music - Identify the characteristics of different genres
		sequences in response to music	- Create simple compositions inspired by different genres (e.g., pop, classical, folk)

CHALLENGE

ENGAGE

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Oak Class – KS2

Cycles	Autumn	Spring	Summer
Cycle A	Developing Vocal Skills Exploring Timbre and Texture	Folk Music and Song Music and Storytelling	Music for Celebrations Sound and Silence
	 Develop and perform songs with an understanding of vocal techniques Sing in unison and in simple harmonies Begin to use dynamics and expression when singing 	 Learn traditional folk songs Explore the cultural background of folk music Compose a short song with a narrative focus Perform folk music as a group 	 Learn songs for different types of celebrations (e.g., birthdays, festivals) Create music that reflects the mood of a celebration Perform a celebration-themed piece with instruments and voices
	Rhythms Around the World Creating Soundscapes	Jazz and Blues Musical Improvisation	Developing Composition Skills Music and Technology
		- Learn the basic principles of jazz and blues (e.g., swing, call	 Develop skills in creating original compositions using technology

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	- Explore and identify	and response)	(e.g., music software, digital
	rhythms from different	- Understand the structure of a	instruments)
	cultures	blues composition	- Explore different musical genres
	- Create and perform	- Create and perform a short	and use technology to arrange and
	rhythms using body	improvisational jazz piece	mix music
	percussion and instruments		
	 Understand how rhythm and pulse work together 		
		Jazz and Blues	Deresus Music
Cycle B	Music from Different Cultures	Musical Improvisation	Baroque Music Musical Elements: Structure and
	Pitch, Melody, and Harmony	พนรเวลา ทายางพรสแบท	Dynamics
	Then, melody, and harmony	- Learn the basic principles of	Dynamics
	- Listen to and learn music	jazz and blues (e.g., swing, call	- Learn and explore Baroque music
	from a variety of cultures	and response)	(e.g., Bach, Handel)
	(e.g., African drumming,	- Understand the structure of a	- Understand the use of
	Indian ragas, Latin rhythms)	blues composition	ornamentation and dynamics in
	- Compare and contrast	- Create and perform a short	Baroque music
	different musical traditions	improvisational jazz piece	- Perform and listen to Baroque
	- Perform and create music		pieces
	inspired by world cultures	Pop Music Evolution	
		Music for Dance	Understanding Musical Notation
	Exploring Classical Music		Music of the 20th Century
	Musical Forms and Structure	- Explore the development of	- Study musical notation (e.g., clefs,
	- Understand and explore	popular music (e.g., rock and	notes, rests)
	classical music forms (e.g.,	pop history)	- Learn to read and write basic
	sonata, concerto)	- Understand the relationship	musical notation
	- Listen to and discuss key	between music and dance styles	- Compose using standard notation
	classical composers (e.g.,	 Compose and perform a short dance track 	
	Mozart, Beethoven) - Create compositions based	uance track	
	- Create compositions based		
	on classical styles		
	on classical styles Music for Celebrations	Pop Music Evolution	The Musical Theatre
Cycle C	Music for Celebrations	Pop Music Evolution Music for Dance	The Musical Theatre Performance and Review
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Cycle C	Music for Celebrations		
Cycle C	Music for Celebrations Sound and Silence	Music for Dance	Performance and Review
Cycle C	Music for Celebrations Sound and Silence - Learn songs for different types of celebrations (e.g., birthdays, festivals)	Music for Dance - Explore the development of popular music (e.g., rock and pop history)	Performance and Review - Explore the key elements of musical theatre (e.g., character songs, ensemble pieces)
Cycle C	Music for Celebrations Sound and Silence - Learn songs for different types of celebrations (e.g., birthdays, festivals) - Create music that reflects	Music for Dance - Explore the development of popular music (e.g., rock and pop history) - Understand the relationship	 Performance and Review Explore the key elements of musical theatre (e.g., character songs, ensemble pieces) Create and perform a short
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(e.g., African drumming, Indian ragas, Latin rhythms) - Compare and contrast different musical traditions - Perform and create music inspired by world cultures

Exploring Classical Music *Musical Forms and Structure*

Understand and explore classical music forms (e.g., sonata, concerto)
Listen to and discuss key classical composers (e.g., Mozart, Beethoven)
Create compositions based on classical styles Understand the structure of a blues composition
Create and perform a short improvisational jazz piece

Pop Music Evolution Music for Dance

- Explore the development of popular music (e.g., rock and pop history)

Understand the relationship between music and dance styles
Compose and perform a short dance track Understand the use of ornamentation and dynamics in Baroque music
Perform and listen to Baroque pieces

Understanding Musical Notation Music of the 20th Century

- Study musical notation (e.g., clefs, notes, rests)

- Learn to read and write basic musical notation

- Compose using standard notation

