



MARYPORT CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL

Music Policy

‘Teach children to choose the right path and when they are older they will remain on it.’ – Proverbs 22:6

At Maryport Church of England Primary School, our mission is to create a happy, safe and successful learning environment which will clearly reflect Christian values. This will enable our pupils to develop their unique potential and a love of learning which promotes aspirations and prepares them well to live life in all its fullness. As a Church of England School, we encourage our children to live a life rooted in faith and love.

Introduction

Music is all around us and as a result it permeates through the whole school curriculum whether this is singing number songs to increase our understanding of mathematics, singing Christmas songs to give a deeper understanding of the Christian Festival or developing our bodies through movement and dance.

Music is at the heart of Christian faith and offers opportunities to join together collectively in song to affirm, explore and develop Christian worship.

Music connects us to people and places in our ever-changing world and connects the school to the local community when we sing for and with local people and groups.

It is also creative, collaborative, celebratory and challenging. Through ensemble playing, experimenting with the creative process and, through the love of listening to friends and fellow pupils performing, music offers many opportunities for learning self-expression.

At Maryport Primary, we believe that the sheer joy of music making can feed the soul, enriching each student and the wider community while strengthening the shared bonds of support and trust which make a great school.

Aims and objectives

Music is 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 their skills, to appreciate a wide variety of musical forms, and to begin to make judgements about the quality of music.

Our aims are to:

- Give opportunities to perform, listen to, review and evaluate music across a range of historical periods, genres, styles and traditions, including the works of great composers and musicians.

- Learn to sing and to use our voices to create and compose music on our own and with others.
- Have the opportunity to learn a music instrument
- Use technology appropriately to support our understanding and enjoyment of music
- Understand and explore how music is created, produced and communicated
- Help children understand the interrelated dimensions of music (pitch, duration, dynamics, tempo, timbre, texture, structure and appropriate musical notations).

Our key objectives are:

Key Stage 1 – Pupils are taught to use their voices expressively, play instruments musically, listen to a range of high-quality music and experiment with and create music using the interrelated dimensions.

Key Stage 2 – Pupils are able to build on the learning from KS1 gaining increasing confidence and control whilst continuing to:

- learn to play and perform in solo and ensemble contexts,
- improvise and compose music,
- develop their listening skills with increasing aural memory,
- increase their understanding of musical notation
- appreciate and understand a wide variety of music
- develop an understanding of the history of music

Approaches to teaching and learning in Music

At Maryport C of E 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.

Additional music teaching

Beyond the weekly formal music lessons, the school offers guitar lessons from a peripatetic music teacher. These take place during term time once a week during the school day and are open to KS2 children.

Music curriculum planning

Our school uses the national curriculum for music as the basis for its curriculum planning. While there are opportunities for children of all abilities to develop their skills and knowledge in each teaching unit, the progression planned into the scheme of work means that the children are increasingly challenged as they move through the school.

The Early Years Foundation Stage

We teach music in Reception and Nursery classes as an integral part of the topic work covered during the year in addition to our time spent with the peripatetic music teacher. In the Early Years Foundation Stage we relate the musical aspects of the children's work to the objectives set out in the Early Learning Goals (ELGs). 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.

Assessment for learning

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. 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.

Resources

The school has a dedicated music room in which we store a range of resources, including drums and percussion instruments. The school also has a piano located in the main hall. Each class room has audio visual equipment and iPads which can be used for music work.

Musical events

The school attends a regular calendar of events with a choir. These include Maryport festivals and Rotary Christmas Carol Services. The choir also sing at local residential homes. We aim to include as many children as possible in the choir services and feel that the school's attendance at community events supports key role in engaging with and supporting the local community. The choir is drawn in the main from years 2-6.

Roles and Responsibilities

The subject is delivered by a peripatetic Music teacher who teaches from Nursery to Year 6. This teacher is supported by staff from each year group during lessons. The subject lead has regular meetings with the peripatetic teacher to ensure that the medium-term plans are in line with the school's aims, objectives and priorities for the year.

Review

This policy will be reviewed regularly. Its effectiveness will be monitored by the Music Subject Leader and will be based upon discussions with other members of staff, observation of children's work and re-evaluation of teaching plans.

Last revision date: March 2020

Next revision date: March 2023