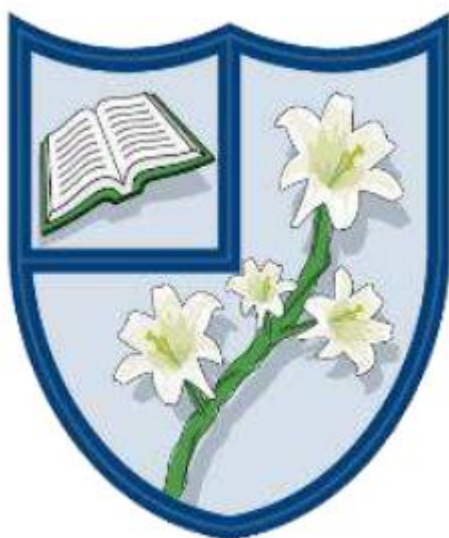


# St Mary's Catholic Primary School

## Music Policy



## Aims and Objectives

Music is a powerful form of communication that inspires, motivates and enriches children's learning. It allows pupils to express themselves creatively and supports their personal, emotional, and social development. Because music reflects the culture, experiences and communities around us, high-quality music education helps children deepen their understanding of the world they live in.

At St Mary's, our music provision is rooted in our **FLOURISH** values:

- **Faith** – encouraging pupils to believe in their own musical abilities and grow in confidence.
- **Love** – fostering joy, compassion and shared celebration through singing and performance.
- **Opportunity** – ensuring every child experiences a rich and varied musical education.
- **Unite** – bringing our school and community together through shared musical experiences.
- **Respect** – appreciating diverse musical traditions and valuing the contributions of others.
- **Integrity** – developing responsible attitudes, commitment and professionalism in rehearsal and performance.
- **Stewardship** – caring for instruments, resources and the cultural heritage of music.
- **Hope** – inspiring children to imagine possibilities for their future through creativity and expression.

We aim to provide opportunities for all children to create, perform, play and enjoy music; to develop appreciation for a wide range of musical genres; and to begin forming opinions and constructive critiques of music.

The aims of music teaching are for children to:

- Know and understand how sounds are produced and organised into musical structures.
- Understand how music is created using a variety of instruments.
- Know how music is composed, recorded, and notated.
- Understand how music is influenced by its cultural, historical and social context.
- Develop the interrelated skills of performing, composing, listening and appraising.

## Teaching and Learning Style

At St Mary's, we strive to make music an enjoyable and inclusive learning experience. We encourage active participation and aim to build the confidence of every child by:

- Developing their ability to sing in tune and in harmony with others.
- Teaching the structure and organisation of music through singing and instrumental work.
- Helping pupils listen attentively and appreciate a variety of musical forms and traditions.
- Building stamina and concentration as pupils progress through the school.
- Encouraging children to explore how music expresses feelings, emotions and stories.
- Teaching disciplined skills such as recognising pulse, rhythm, pitch and musical notation.

This approach reflects our **FLOURISH** values by promoting unity through ensemble work, respect through attentive listening, integrity through commitment, and opportunity through varied musical experiences.

## Music Curriculum Planning

The school music curriculum is broken down into the 7 threshold concepts

1. Pulse
2. Rhythm
3. Melody
4. Active listening and appraising
5. Performing
6. Singing.
7. composition

Our progress map demonstrates the expected outcome for each pupil at the end of year group, giving clear outcomes based on Technical, constructive and expressive skills. This will be achieved overtime through repetition of exercises.

Through toolkits linked to this progress map we teach music through 4 identified components which cover the knowledge, skills and understanding set out the National Curriculum and Foundation Stage Statutory Framework.

## Foundation Stage

Music is taught in the Foundation Stage as part of the topic-based curriculum and within the Expressive Arts and Design strand of the Early Learning Goals.

Musical activities support personal, social and emotional development, mathematical understanding (e.g., counting songs), and knowledge of different cultures through songs from around the world.

This strongly reflects our values of **Love, Respect** and **Hope**, helping our youngest learners grow in confidence and curiosity.

## Music Across the Curriculum

Music plays a valuable role in supporting learning across subjects. Teachers are encouraged to use music and singing to enhance understanding, memory and engagement in a wide range of curriculum areas. This brings subjects to life and creates opportunities for creativity and connection.

## Teaching Music to Children with Special Educational Needs

We provide a broad and balanced music curriculum for all pupils, in line with our commitment to **Opportunity, Love, and Respect**.

Teaching is adapted to meet individual needs, and music activities incorporate targets set out in pupils' Individual Education Plans (IEPs). All children are supported to participate fully and flourish musically.

## Assessment and Recording

Teachers use Assessment for Learning (AfL) strategies to judge musical development during lessons.

At the end of each academic year, teachers make a summary judgement based on National Curriculum expectations or the Foundation Stage Framework. These assessments contribute to end-of-year reports and, in Early Years, to the Foundation Stage Profile.

## Resources

All staff share responsibility for reporting damaged resources or identifying new ones needed to maintain high-quality music provision. Caring for our instruments teaches pupils **Stewardship** and ensures sustainability for future learners.

## Monitoring and Review

The music subject leader supports staff, stays informed about current developments, and provides direction for the subject.

Teachers are encouraged to inform parents if pupils show particular musical talent, including recommending peripatetic lessons or choir participation—offering **Opportunity** and **Hope** for further development.

## Additional Opportunities

- The school choir takes part in community events and visits local venues.
- Whole-school performances—including Christmas productions, assemblies and celebrations—showcase the musical talents of all pupils.
- Pupils who learn instruments both in and out of school are encouraged to perform in assemblies.
- Music played during assembly entry and exit is chosen by staff and children to broaden musical exposure.
- Both KS1 and KS2 participate annually in the **South Tyneside Music Festival** at The Custom House.

These opportunities bring our school together in **Unity**, encourage **Faith** in each child's musical potential, and inspire **Hope** through shared experiences and achievement.