



[Music Policy](#)

[Mission Statement:](#)

St Mary's is a welcoming school who: learn together; live out Catholic values; celebrate all achievement and believe all is possible in Christ's hands.

[Intent](#)

From their first day to their last at St. Mary's we support our children on a journey of learning and faith.

In learning, we want our children, by the time they leave our school: to be numerate and literate, to have received their full entitlement in all areas of the curriculum, and to have to opportunities to succeed in areas of particular interest to them.

At St. Mary's we want to ensure all children develop a love of learning for Music. We want the music lessons to be fun and inspiring, engaging the children with songs, lyrics and movement, as well as practical, hands-on music making, We want to give the children opportunities to be reflective and expressive, developing their own appreciation of music with the opportunities we provide as a school.

The 2014 National Curriculum for Music aims to ensure that all pupils:

- perform, listen to, review and evaluate music across a range of historical periods, genres, styles and traditions, including the works of the great composers and musicians
- learn to sing and to use their voices, to create and compose music on their own and with others, have the opportunity to learn a musical instrument, use technology appropriately and have the opportunity to progress to the next level of musical excellence
- understand and explore how music is created, produced and communicated, including through the inter-related dimensions: pitch, duration, dynamics, tempo, timbre, texture, structure and appropriate musical notations.

[Implementation](#)

[Music Curriculum:](#)

At St. Mary's we use 'Charanga' as a scheme of work, which offers a topic-based approach to support children's learning in music. A steady progression plan has been built into Charanga ensuring consistent musical development throughout the school, from Reception to Year 6. By using this scheme of work, we can ensure that the children are fulfilling the aims for musical learning stated in the National Curriculum.

Charanga provides a classroom-based, participatory and inclusive approach to music learning. Throughout the scheme, children are actively involved in using and developing their singing voices,

using body percussion and whole body actions, learning to handle and play classroom instruments effectively to create and express their own and others' music. Through a range of whole class, group and individual activities, children have opportunities to explore sounds, listen, appraise, compose and perform.

All children are actively encouraged and given the opportunity to learn to play a musical instrument, from standard untuned/tuned percussion instruments to individual instrumental lessons with visiting peripatetic staff on a weekly basis.

Musical opportunities in school include; weekly class music lessons taught during alternating half terms and hymn practises for special occasions such as Harvest, Christmas, Easter, Saints days and First Holy Communion, leaver's mass.

Extra-curricular activities include Choir, participation in the 'Sing Together' concert, at King George's Hall, visiting musicians providing live musical performances and school performances which showcase children's musical talents along with weekly listen and appraise reflection during assembly.

Roles and Responsibilities

The Music Subject Leader will:

- Establish a secure profile of Music in school.
- Manage the implementation of the school policy, updating the policy and scheme of work on a regular basis in line with new initiatives
- Order and update appropriate and sufficient resources
- Model high quality teaching of Music
- Identify needs and arrange INSET so that all staff are confident in teaching and assessing
- Keep abreast of new developments and communicate these to staff
- Take an overview of the whole school planning to ensure that there is continuity and progression between year groups and learning is effectively planned for
- Attend appropriate courses and maintain links with the Lancashire advisory team/Lancashire Music Service
- Monitor and evaluate standards in teaching and learning by listening to performances, conduct pupil interviews and monitor any work in books
- Use assessment and monitoring of History to inform future planning
- Update school Development Plan on an annual basis to maintain and raise standards
- Support, guide and motivate teachers and other colleagues.
- Report to governors
- Identify opportunities for Music in the wider school curriculum.

The class teachers will:

- Plan and deliver Music lessons as appropriate to their class
- Assess the work and progress of pupils and communicate to the subject leader
- Report the progress of pupil progress to parents.

Impact

Assessment, Record Keeping and Reporting:

As music is a practical subject, assessment may be done by focussing on a small group at a time on certain tasks or skills, observing the children, discussing their work or self/group/teacher evaluation against criteria from the National Curriculum programmes of study and end of year expectations. Children are assessed according to age related expectations in line with curriculum requirements. A portfolio of class performances and other practical music activities are uploaded to the school server to celebrate pupil achievements. This information is recorded and monitored by the subject leader.

Review:

The subject leader will review the policy annually. Policy updated November 2020.

Review date: November 2021

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NB: Impact of COVID-19 *As in many schools, music teaching has been restricted during lockdown. Pupils who paid for instrumental music lessons (with peripatetic staff from LMS) were offered online support if they wished to continue to practise their instrument. Opportunities for singing at home were provided to all pupils, and as a school we celebrated VE Day with songs and listening opportunities. There was also the Chorley Big Sing organised by Chorley Sports Partnership which choir were due to take part in, but again, was done virtually with children joining in live online at home. On our return in September, the advice from Government was followed closely and the decision was taken to follow COVID-19 secure lessons on Charanga, which included a 'No Singing' policy for whole classes inside and for choir). Outreach work from Blackburn Diocese and the Sing Together project has been put on hold this year. Instrumental teaching has continued safely, with correct and appropriate PPE and social distancing, teaching one child at a time.*