



Music Policy

St Mary's Church of England (A) Primary School keeps children safe by ensuring and promoting the safeguarding and welfare of all children in its care: all policies support the most current "Keeping Children Safe in Education Guidance" and "Safeguarding Policy", are fully consistent with the "Every Child Matters" agenda, and fully support the principles of equal opportunities for all.

At St Mary's Church of England Primary School, we provide opportunities for all children to create, play, perform and enjoy music, to develop skills and appreciate a wide variety of musical forms. We embrace the National Curriculum purpose of study which states:

"Music is a universal language that embodies one of the highest forms of creativity. A high quality music education should engage and inspire pupils to develop a love of music and their talent as musicians, and so increase their self-confidence, creativity and sense of achievement. As pupil's progress, they should develop a critical engagement with music, allowing them to compose, and to listen with discrimination to the best in the musical canon."

National Curriculum 2014

The objectives of teaching music at St Mary's C of E Primary School are to:

- Encourage our children's understanding and enjoyment of music through an active involvement in listening, composing and performing;
- Provide the opportunity for children to develop their individual skills, sharing experience and cooperating with others;
- Help children to develop an awareness of musical traditions and developments from a variety of cultures.

Teaching and Learning Music at St Mary's C of E Primary School

At St Mary's C of E Primary School, we aim to make music an enjoyable learning experience. We

encourage children to participate in a variety of musical experiences through which we endeavour to build up the confidence of all children. Children are given the opportunity to discover, explore and develop technical skills through practical music lessons.

Weekly 'Charanga' sessions and half termly music workshops have been introduced to develop skills and understanding of our music curriculum. Mucklestone Music Mash continues to promote choral skills and develop a whole school orchestra. We attend numerous events throughout the year and perform at least termly.

We aim to meet as far as possible the requirements of the National Curriculum. Pupils' understanding of music will be developed through activities which bring together the requirements of performing, composing, listening and appraising. Children are taught to recognise the musical elements of:

- duration
- dynamics
- pitch
- tempo
- timbre
- texture

Children are taught to make music together, to understand musical notation, and to compose pieces. They are also taught to sing and play in time, controlling the sound and pace. They are taught different ways to represent sounds graphically and symbolically.

One of the main methods employed to help children to access and engage with music in school is singing. Our teaching focuses on developing the children's ability to sing expressively, in tune and with other people. This is achieved through weekly song and praise and Music Mash events. Through singing songs, children learn about the structure and organisation of music. We teach them to listen to and appreciate different forms of music from various backgrounds and cultures. Worship songs are also linked to various annual celebrations and festivals such as Harvest, Christmas, Remembrance and Easter.

As children get older, they are expected to maintain their concentration for longer, and to listen to more extended pieces of music. Children will be enabled to develop descriptive skills in music lessons when learning about how music can represent feelings and emotions. Children are also taught how to use technology as a tool for creating, manipulating and storing sounds.

To aid the teaching and learning of music at St Mary's C of E Primary the following musical resources

are available:

- Interactive whiteboards and computers
- Keyboards
- Tuned and un-tuned percussion instruments
- A range of musical resources on CD which includes classical, popular and cultural music
- Recorders
- Various music books and Charanga

Historically we have been provided with the opportunity for a whole class to have an instrumental teaching scheme, which is provided by Staffordshire Music Hub. Whole class weekly violin lessons were led by Beth Hughes. These lessons helped the children to further develop their skills in making music together and understanding musical notation.

The teaching and learning of music at St Mary's C of E Primary School also takes place in various extra-curricular clubs. This provides further opportunities for children to develop an appreciation and enjoyment of music.

- Music Mash Club
- singing lessons (School Choir)

These lessons are delivered by music teachers and/or regular teaching staff.

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. Video recordings are made of live musical performances for the children to use as self-assessment. Other sound based methods are also employed to capture children's

performances.

On completion of a piece of work, the teacher will assess the work and give oral or written feedback. Older and more able pupils are encouraged to make judgements about how they can improve their own work. Assessment is used as a tool for helping children to make future progress.

Individual class teachers will keep samples of children's work for their own evidence.

The Role of the Music Subject Leader

- The Music Subject Leader will take responsibility for monitoring the standards of children's work and the quality of music teaching in school.
- The Music Subject Leader will support colleagues where needed in their teaching and provide appropriate staff development training where necessary. The Music Subject Leader will also keep staff up-dated with examples of musical activities and useful teaching resources.
- The Music Subject Leader will keep samples of children's work in a portfolio, which will be used to demonstrate the level of achievement in music in school.
- The Music Subject Leader will keep informed about current developments in Music, through attending various training sessions and accessing a range of resources. This will enable the Music Subject Leader to provide a strategic lead and direction for this subject in the school.
- The Music Subject leader will lead the school choir and organise both internal and external performances for the school's choir.
- The Music Subject Leader will maintain the instruments.
- The Music Subject Leader will liaise with the Music Service and peripatetic music teachers.
- The Music Subject leader will organise termly musical concerts.
- The Music Subject Leader will carry out any necessary risks assessments for music related trips.