

St Saviour's C of E Academy

Music Policy

Autumn 2021

Introduction

At Saviour's C of E Academy, we believe that music is a vital part of children's learning, helping them to develop important skills such as creativity, listening and teamwork, and providing them with opportunities for self-expression. We encourage children to listen, to compose, to interpret and to perform rhythms. We ensure that children have the opportunity to listen to a diverse range of musical genres and learn about famous composers not only through our music curriculum but throughout our daily school life. We believe that all pupils should have the opportunity to learn to play an instrument.

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. We provide opportunities for all children to create, play, perform and enjoy music, to develop the skills, to appreciate a wide variety of musical forms, and to begin to make judgements about the quality of music.

The objectives of teaching music in our school are to enable children to:

- know and understand how sounds are made and then organised into musical structures;
- know how music is made through a variety of instruments;
- know how music is composed and written down;
- know how music is influenced by the time, place and purpose for which it was written;
- develop the interrelated skills of performing, composing and appreciating music.

Teaching and learning style

At St Saviour's C of E Academy, 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

Children are offered the opportunity to study a musical instrument our peripatetic teacher. Peripatetic music teaching is provided by Entrust Music Service. These lessons are normally taught to small groups. This is in addition to the normal music teaching of the school.

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.

Early Years Foundation Stage

We teach music in reception classes through all areas of learning as an integral part of the topic work covered during the year. As the reception class is part of the Early Years Foundation Stage of the National Curriculum, we relate the musical aspects of the children's work to the objectives set out in the Early Learning Goals (ELGs) which underpin the curriculum planning for children aged three to five. 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. The children also have the opportunity to explore songs and instruments each week with our school governor.

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. At the end of a unit of work, the teacher makes a summary judgement about the work of each pupil in relation to the National Curriculum.

Resources

We keep resources for music in a central store. Our Entrust Music Specialist also supplies instruments for the school.

The school choir and musical events

We believe that music enriches the lives of people, and so we wish to involve as many children as possible in musical activities. We have a school choir which we encourage all children to join. The choir meets on a weekly basis and, although its primary aim is to enable children to enjoy singing together, it also performs in public on a number of occasions throughout the year. We provide opportunities throughout the year for budding musicians to perform for the school community. This includes solo and ensemble performances as part of assemblies and concerts. This recognises their achievements and celebrates their success.

Roles and Responsibilities

The subject is led by the teaching staff and music specialist. Together with Entrust, the music provision is audited annually to review standards and monitor curriculum provision and ensure training and resources are up to date.

Written Summer 2020

Principal

Chair of Governors

Review Summer 2023

Signed

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