**Curriculum Intent**

At West Kidlington Primary School and Nursery, it is our intent that we make music an enjoyable and interactive learning experience. We encourage children to participate in a variety of musical experiences through which we aim to build the confidence of all children. Mistakes in Music are celebrated, and we use them to support learning. Our teaching focuses on developing the children’s ability to understand rhythm and follow a beat. Through singing songs, delivering the music curriculum in class and as part of our weekly singing sessions with a highly skilled music teacher, children learn technical vocabulary such as volume, dynamics, pitch, beat and rhythm, and the knowledge and skills needed to become the best musicians they can be.

These skills are then consolidated using the music tool Charanga. This school wide, interactive program teaches children to listen and to appreciate different forms of music, as well as play, improvise and compose using a range of tuned instruments and percussion. Children develop descriptive language skills in music lessons when learning about how music can represent different feelings, emotions and narratives – we give them a purpose and reason to respect Music. To develop breadth of music knowledge and appreciation, all children in school are exposed to a different artists showcasing a variety of different genres and styles of music, both modern and classical. Finally, West Kidlington offers an opportunity for children to learn an instrument with Oxfordshire County Music Service (OCMS), with a range of peripatetic teachers available to teach a variety of instruments to individuals and small groups.

The celebration of music across the school also allows pupils with SEMH to develop positive thinking strategies and increase well-being. Both listening to and creating music has been proven to have positive effects on mood and mental health. Furthermore, music can be a tool and mode of expression that allows children from disadvantaged backgrounds to thrive – PP, SEN and EAL children can all benefit from the music curriculum.

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**Curriculum Implementation**

The teaching and implementation of the Music Curriculum is based on the National Curriculum and is embedded within our termly topics. Each topic has an enquiry-based question, and the music curriculum will link this in a creative, simple to grasp, engaging way promoting diversity and inclusion. The progression of knowledge and skills are mapped out on our progression document and further details of the curriculum can be found on the long-term planning which spans over two cycles. Enriching experiences such as Christmas carols, Nativity plays, productions, choir, and individual music lessons developing community cohesion, all add to the wide and varied music curriculum open to all children.

**Curriculum Impact**

Continuous assessment for learning takes place through observations, pupil conferencing and evaluation of learning. Teachers use these formative assessments to inform future lessons; ensuring children are supported and challenged appropriately developing knowledge and skills. Assessments are made against the age-related expectations for their year group. These are recorded and reported at the end of each academic year. Children are rewarded and celebrated when they utilise their skills outside of the classroom.



