

Willerby Carr Lane Primary School



MUSIC POLICY

Introduction

Music is a means of communication that allows personal expression in a practical and enjoyable way. At Willerby Carr Lane Primary School we are committed to fostering a love of and enjoyment of making music, through having FUN, and to offer opportunities to explore new ideas in sound. Music develops listening skills and self-discipline and offers opportunities for critical appreciation and aesthetic judgement. We aim to provide children with first hand experiences which we hope, are sufficiently absorbing and challenging so as to motivate the child for further investigation. We will try to develop an awareness of a wide range of music derived from a variety of sources and different traditions. We will make every effort to ensure that cross-curricular links are made where possible to assist in the child's realisation of the universal nature of this subject.

Aims and Objectives

Music teaching should offer opportunities for children to:

- develop a sensitive response to sound and an insight, through music, into areas of emotion and experience that cannot be easily verbalised.
- develop the interrelated skills of performing, composing and appreciating music.
- develop social skills and cooperation through making music collaboratively.
- develop the ability to communicate ideas and feelings through the medium of sound.
- know how music is influenced by the time, place and purpose for which it was written
- foster sensitivity to, understanding and enjoyment of as many different kinds of musical experiences as possible.
- to provide pupils with opportunities to develop their musical capabilities in all areas specified by the National Curriculum and Early Learning Goals.

Organisation

Our school uses the national scheme of work for music as the basis for its curriculum planning. We have adapted the national scheme so that the topics that the children study in music build upon prior learning. We also use a combination of commercial schemes, Music Express and LCP. While there are opportunities for children of all abilities to develop their skills and knowledge in each teaching unit, the planned progression built into the scheme of work means that the children are increasingly challenged as they move through the school.

We carry out the curriculum planning in music in three phases (long-term, medium-term and short-term). The long-term plan maps the music topics studied in each term during the key stage. Sometimes the children study music topics in conjunction with other subjects, particularly at Key Stage 1. Through this programme of study we teach the knowledge, skills



and understanding set out in the National Curriculum. The medium-term plans, which we have adopted from the national scheme, give details of each unit of work for each term.

Class teachers and HLTA's, supported by the Music Coordinator, teach music in Key Stage One and Two. In addition to the class lessons, there will be weekly Key Stage assemblies focusing on sung praise led by the Music coordinator in Key Stage 1 and by Mrs Wills in Key Stage 2.

All children in year 4 and 5 have additional music sessions as part of the wider opportunities scheme. These 40 minute sessions are led by LEA peripatetic teachers who are assisted by the class teacher.

Foundation Stage

We teach music to the children in the foundation classes as an integral part of the topic work covered during the year. As the foundation classes are part of the 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.

Inclusion

We teach music to all children, whatever their ability, in accordance with the school curriculum policy of providing a broad and balanced education to all children. Teachers provide learning opportunities matched to the needs of children with learning difficulties, and our work in music takes into account the targets set for individual children in their Sen support plan.

All children will be given equal opportunity to participate to the best of their ability in Music and all contributions will be valued and accepted. The practical nature of much musical activity enables children to perform at their own level of ability and for their own level of ability and for their achievement to be recognised and celebrated. Children will be encouraged to show respect for the music and musicians of other cultures and to appreciate all styles and periods of music.

Resources

All musical resources are kept in two key locations. Percussion and tuned instruments can be found for class use in the Key Stage One hall. The instruments are kept on 2 trolleys which can be wheeled to classrooms around the school. Large instruments (drum kit, keyboards) can be found in the music room. Equipment such as music stands and sheet music can also be found in this location.

Assessment and Recording

Pupil's music capability and work are assessed in line with the programmes of study and reported to parents at the end of each academic year. Ongoing teacher assessments are made which highlight the range of abilities within each class. Differentiation is then accommodated through modification of tasks. Children are encouraged to evaluate their own and others musical composition and performance as one of the key skills of music. Summative assessments are provided by each class teacher at the end of the school year. These are then made accessible to the future class teacher and music coordinator via the school intranet system.

Health and Safety

Children will be taught to use musical instruments correctly and safely. Any wind instrument will be sterilised after use. Care will be taken in the use of electrical equipment and children will be taught the safe operation of such equipment.



Wider Curricular Musical Opportunities

All children within Key Stage Two, are given the opportunity to learn a musical instrument under the tuition of the LEA music service. Those that participate in this are then invited to join the school string group/wind band. There are also opportunities for other children to join either the key stage one or two choirs which are held during lunch times. Opportunities are provided during the year for children to perform; assemblies, church services and performing to the local community (old people's homes, church groups, summer fairs). At the end of each year, concerts are organised for these children to perform some of the pieces they have been practising during the year and to share the progress they have been making with their parents.

