



THE VILLAGE SCHOOL MUSIC DEPARTMENT-

Enrichment Opportunities

WHY ENRICHMENT IN MUSIC?

Music is not merely a fun hobby but also a subject in which children can develop and progress over time if they are given the opportunity to build on previous learning. At The Village we do not buy in “one-off” activities or provide additional music provision without linking these to our curriculum and the pupils’ prior learning. Enrichment in music should complement, augment and support other music work in the school (Ofsted 2012).

If you come to The Village School, you will have a solid, evidence-based music curriculum supported by enrichment opportunities to build on this learning. First and foremost, every pupil has a music lesson every week with a specialist teacher, based on the Sounds of Intent framework and linking to themes being covered throughout the school and other lessons. Their progress within these lessons is assessed and mapped. The list of enrichment activities below makes up only a few examples of what we do to enrich this curriculum and to inspire our students further....

VILLAGE 1: Moving Around in music.....

- All classes attend the “MINI MUSIC” club every Friday afternoon, in the dining area. They come along for an interactive sing song and early years musical activities including music and movement
- All classes have the music curriculum enriched by having one “Music Moves” lesson every week in addition to their ordinary music lesson, In these sessions children develop their vestibular, tactile and proprioceptive senses and children on the STEPPING STONES pathway benefit from use of the resonance boards.
- Some learning takes place beyond the music room in order to enrich the curriculum. For example, visits to the Bandstand in the school garden to

explore outdoor sounds and walks up on to the roof to use our outdoor instruments.

- Children learn alongside their peers from our local mainstream primary, Oliver Goldsmith School, to celebrate festivals such as Hannukah and Christmas.
- For one whole week in July, we celebrate “One World Week” and the children are visited by musicians and artists from many backgrounds and cultures.

KEY STAGE 2: Beginning to explore the wider world of music...

- All classes attend the “MINI MUSIC” club every Friday afternoon, in the main hall. They join in an interactive sing song developing further music and movement skills
- Children are selected to take part in a Primary Choir for The Brent Music Service choir competition which is held bi-annually.
- In Key Stage 2 children develop a partnership with Oliver Goldsmith Primary School where we regularly meet to celebrate festivals such as Eid and Diwali and we attend joint workshops led by other partner organisations such as The Wigmore Hall so that the children have the opportunity to learn alongside their mainstream peers.
- Children in LANES classes undertake their first Arts Award in Key Stage 2 and as part of this they attend live concerts and workshops both in and out of school, working with arts professionals and children from other primary schools. Children on the TRACKS and STEPPING STONES pathways also access the live concerts in school.
- In July, we celebrate “One World Week” and the children take part in interactive concerts and workshops by musicians and artists from many backgrounds and cultures.

KEY STAGES 3 & 4: Budding Performers...

- Students are invited to auditions each year for a place in our school band who regularly perform both in and out of school. Regular engagements include the Kingsbury High School and Oliver Goldsmith School evening concerts, the National Festival of Music for Youth in Birmingham and “Brent Makes Music” at Wembley Arena.
- In Key Stage 3, students develop a partnership with Kingsbury High School music students and their 21 nominated “music ambassadors”. Our LANES students work alongside them to study for Arts Awards and they will often

rehearse and perform together in joint music ensembles. As part of the KS3 and KS4 arts awards our students attend live concerts and workshops, alongside KHS students, at The Wigmore Hall and in school and they will also spend time working with professional musicians from “Live Music Now”.

- Learning outside the classroom enriches the music curriculum for our secondary age students. For example, visits to the Welsh Harp Environmental Centre to explore outdoor sounds, trips to concerts at prestigious venues in Central London and visits to hear early instruments played at the Royal Academy.
- Children on the STEPPING STONES pathway have enrichment sessions with our resident guitarist and are encouraged to express themselves and interact with a whole range of songs.
- In July, when we celebrate “One World Week”, the children take part in interactive concerts and workshops by musicians and artists from many backgrounds and cultures. Many will now perform themselves too.

KEY STAGE 5: Developing a specialism...

- All students on KS5 work on externally accredited courses for music, following a range of options according to their pathway. They will follow a more specialised study of an aspect of music and this will be enhanced by trips and visits focussing on the area of study.
- Classes from Key Stage 5 regularly attend lunchtime “Discovery” concerts at the LSO in Old Street. Those who are able attend by tube and others by minibus. In these concerts students focus on different instruments and genres of music.
- Students with Autistic Spectrum Conditions take part weekly in the school’s ‘Percussion Workshop’, a therapeutic music intervention which helps support Personal, Social and Emotional Development.

References:

Ofsted. (2012). *Music in schools: sound partnerships*. England: OFSTED

