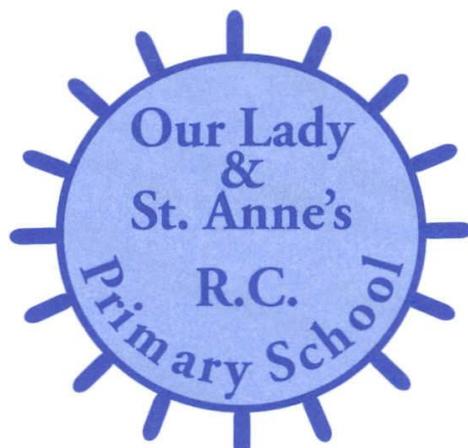


Music Policy

2017-18



Our Light Shines Always

We want the best teaching, the best opportunities and the best support and encouragement for every child.

We are a friendly, happy, Catholic school, where everyone is valued for their individuality and special gifts.

Named personnel with designated responsibility for: Music

Academic year	Designated Lead	Chair of Governors	Review Dates
2017-18	Charlotte Hamblin	Christine Baker	January 2018

Safeguarding Statement:

At Our Lady & St. Anne's RC Primary School we respect and value all children and are committed to providing a caring, friendly and safe environment for all our pupils so they can learn, in a relaxed and secure atmosphere. We believe every pupil should be able to participate in all school activities in an enjoyable and safe environment and be protected from harm. This is the responsibility of every adult employed by, or invited to deliver services at Our Lady & St Anne's RC Primary School. We recognise our responsibility to safeguard all who access school and promote the welfare of all our pupils by protecting them from physical, sexual and emotional abuse, neglect and bullying.

Aims and Objectives

Music is a universal language that embodies one of the highest forms of creativity. It is a vehicle for personal expression and it can play an important part in the personal development of individuals. Music reflects the culture and society in which we live and so the teaching and learning of music enables children to better understand their surroundings.

Besides being a creative and enjoyable activity, music plays an important part in helping children increase in self-confidence. We provide opportunities for all children to create, play, perform and enjoy music; to develop their skills, to appreciate a wide variety of musical forms and to begin to form opinions on their enjoyment of different musical styles.

There are four main objectives of teaching music in our school. These are to enable children:

- to perform; through singing and using their voices and by having the opportunity to learn a musical instrument in Key Stage 2, which will allow them to progress through levels of musical excellence.
- to compose; by creating music on their own and with others by using technology and instruments appropriately.
- to transcribe; through knowing and understanding how music is created, produced, communicated and then organised into musical structures, including pitch, duration, dynamics, tempo, timbre, texture and structure.
- to describe music; by listening to, reviewing and evaluating music across a range of historical periods, genres, styles and traditions, including the works of the great composers and musicians.

Teaching and Learning

Here at Our Lady & St Anne's, we make music an enjoyable learning experience. We employ a specialist music instructor who teaches music across Early Years, Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 one day a week in addition to our class teachers. 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. This is embedded in whole school hymn practices as well as Collective Worships.

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 them the disciplined skills of recognising variations of pulse and pitch.

We also teach children to make music together through the understanding of musical notation and in composing pieces. This can start in Key Stage 1, where children learn the names of some of the notes and use this to create their own rhythmic patterns.

In Key Stage 2, all children have the opportunity to play a tuned instrument, where they use their previous knowledge and understanding of musicality to play pieces of music, both individually and as part of an ensemble. We recognise that in all classes children have a wide range of musical ability and so we seek to provide suitable learning opportunities for all children by matching the challenge of the task to the ability of the child. We achieve this in a variety of ways:

- setting tasks which are open-ended and can have a variety of responses
- setting tasks of increasing difficulty
- grouping children according to the nature of the lesson
- providing resources of different complexity, depending on the age and ability of the child
- using classroom assistants to support the work of individuals or groups of children and to inform the assessment process.

The Contribution of Music to Teaching in Other Curriculum Areas

English

Music contributes significantly to the teaching of English in our school by actively promoting the skills of reading, writing, speaking, listening and drama. Children develop their language skills through singing songs, with attention to diction, meaning, rhythm and rhyme.

Music is also used to simulate discussion or creative writing. Through working with others in a musical setting, children develop their ability to communicate ideas effectively.

Mathematics

The teaching of music contributes to the children's mathematical understanding in a variety of ways. Children who study the structure of music are observing patterns and processes, especially when looking at the intervals of notes on a staff. Talent in music is often linked with talent in mathematics, as the rhythm and structure of music is mathematically based.

Personal, Social and Health Education (PSHE) and Citizenship

Music contributes significantly to the teaching of personal, social and health education and citizenship. Through the common goal of making music, children learn to work effectively with other people and to build up good relationships. Music is the basis of many social experiences and has an important role to play in building self-confidence. Participation in successful public musical performances is sometimes one of the most memorable things children do at school.

Physical Education

During PE sessions, children respond to music through dance and movement, either in groups or individually, often using a story or text to stimulate the movement.

Music and Inclusion

At our school, we teach music to all children, whatever their ability and individual needs. Music forms part of the school curriculum policy to provide a broad and balanced education to all children. Through our music teaching, we provide learning opportunities that enable all pupils to make good progress. We strive hard to meet the needs of those pupils with special educational needs, those with disabilities, those with special gifts and talents and those learning English as an additional language and we take all reasonable steps to achieve this.

We enable pupils to have access to the full range of activities involved in learning music. Where children are to participate in activities outside the classroom, for example in a musical festival at another school, we carry out a risk assessment prior to the activity to ensure that the activity is safe and appropriate for all pupils.

Assessment for Learning

Assessment for learning is ongoing in music lessons, mainly through observation of pupils, questioning and recording of practical music-making activities. The children are assessed against the 'I Can' statements for their year group. The Music Subject Leader monitors attainment and progress and stores this information in a subject leader file. This is used to demonstrate the expected level of achievement in music for each age group in the school.

Resources

The school is equipped with a variety of tuned and un-tuned percussion instruments stored in the resource room. The school also have class sets of guitars, keyboards, penny whistles and chime bars. A range of CD's and songbooks are kept in the resource room.

Extra-Curricular Activities and Performance Opportunities

- Christmas performance
- Whole school parent assemblies
- Liturgies and Collective Worship
- Singing Club
- Keyboard Club
- Percussion Club

Monitoring and Review

The Music Subject Leader, together with the Senior Leadership Team, monitors the quality of learning and teaching in music across the school. The work of the Subject Leader also involves supporting colleagues in the teaching of music, providing a strategic lead and direction for music in the school including organising extra-curricular and performance opportunities.