

## **MUSIC POLICY**

### **Rationale:**

At the Sacred Heart School music is considered vital because it offers children an opportunity to:

- ◆ develop skills which will be of benefit in all the areas of the curriculum and beyond
- ◆ perform to a variety of audiences
- ◆ foster an interest in the subject which may last for life
- ◆ reflect on their own work and that of others

Music is a strength of Sacred Heart School. The all round benefits in developing self-esteem and self confidence in the children has been noticed in all pupils.

Music education at our school takes place largely through practical activity. We involve the children in the key areas of performing, composing, listening and appraising. Alongside these activities, the acquisition of skills on instruments and/or voice is greatly valued.

Too often music is regarded as an elitist subject for those who have had opportunities to learn instruments outside school. At our school we endeavour to provide all children with an opportunity to gain and extend their skills on instruments and in voice. This approach we hope, will facilitate those who may choose to take music at G.C.S.E. level or develop instrumental learning as a hobby for life and give all children a greater enjoyment and understanding of the subject.

### **Aims & Objectives:**

At the Sacred Heart School we aim to:

- ◆ enable children to express their thoughts, ideas and feelings in listening activities and through composition work
- ◆ provide opportunities for the children to listen to and perform music from different cultures
- ◆ improve co-ordination and self-discipline through rehearsing and refining in performing and composing activities
- ◆ promote in children a sensitive response and determination to master techniques of playing tuned percussion (glockenspiels, xylophones); steel pans and other instruments correctly
- ◆ give children access to the enjoyment, challenge and sociability of group music making
- ◆ provide opportunity for the children to perform their work to a variety of audiences in a variety of situations and with different acoustics
- ◆ provide opportunities for children to listen to live music e.g. visiting musicians
- ◆ develop transferable skills, e.g. listening, co-operation, critical analysis, and decision making
- ◆ develop singing in a variety of styles from playground games, to musicals; and cover songs from different cultures
- ◆ use music to enhance the collective worship within the school

### **Organisation:**

The Music Curriculum is delivered on a class basis, taking account of the National Curriculum requirements.

- The music lessons are delivered by class teachers incorporating listening, composing and performing activities in line with the music scheme of work
- A weekly whole Key Stage singing practice develops repertoire
- World Music and appreciation of different cultures is developed in addition to the music scheme within school focus weeks and activities: e.g. African Drumming, Indian Music
- A Steel Pan tutor from Birmingham Music Service coaches all Year 4, Year 5 and Year 6 pupils and gives opportunity for pupils in Year 6 (and beyond) to continue as members of the School Steel Band and/or North Area and Central Area Bands
- 'Sing Up' resources are available to enable class teachers to include singing in the classroom on a regular basis to support assemblies and other projects
- Community projects are undertaken each year to enable children to participate in community fundraising events like carol singing
- School choirs rehearse towards giving performances on special occasions

**Assessment:**

On-going assessments are made of group work in composing and performing activities.  
Listening skills are assessed through

- ◆ children's written work
- ◆ contributions to discussions about music they have listened to

At the end of each year the class teacher records a summative assessment in relation to the National Curriculum requirements.

Initial date of policy: June 1995

Policy last reviewed: July 2018

It is the intention to review this policy annually.