

Music Vision, Action and Impact Statement

Vision

The National Curriculum for music aims to ensure that all pupils:

- Perform, listen to, review and evaluate music
- Be taught to sing, create and compose music
- Understand and explore how music is created, produced and communicated.

At Sacred Heart Primary School the intention is that children gain a firm understanding of what music is through listening, singing, playing, evaluating, analysing, and composing across a wide variety of historical periods, styles, traditions, and musical genres.

Our objective at Sacred Heart Primary School is to develop a curiosity for the subject, as well as an understanding and acceptance of the validity and importance of all types of music, and an unbiased respect for the role that music may wish to be expressed in any person's life.

We are committed to ensuring children understand the value and importance of music in the wider community, and are able to use their musical skills, knowledge and experiences to involve themselves in music in a variety of different contexts. We want music to inspire self-confidence in our children through development of a fun and safe learning environment, and encourage a feeling of fellowship through shared creation and appreciation of music.

Action

The music curriculum ensures students sing, listen, play, perform and evaluate. This is embedded in the classroom activities as well as the weekly singing assemblies, various concerts and performances (both in and out of school), and the option to learn instruments. Every child at Sacred Heart Primary School is given the opportunity to perform to each other in class, but also to members of the wider community and their families through full-scale productions.

The elements of music are taught in the classroom lessons so that children are able to use some of the language of music to dissect it, and understand how it is made, played, appreciated and analysed. In the classroom students learn about the sounds that instruments make, from all four main instrument groups of wind, strings, percussion and keyboards. In doing so, they become familiar with the method of creating notes, as well as how to read basic music notation. They also learn how to compose focussing on

different dimensions of music, which in turn feeds their understanding when listening, playing, or analysing music. Composing or performing using body percussion and vocal sounds is also part of the curriculum, which develops the understanding of musical elements without the added complexity of an instrument.

In addition, children at Sacred Heart Primary School are able to use technology (like iPads) to create digital music without the need for owning or renting analogue instruments. Children from the youngest year groups use programmes such as Charanga Music to explore musical sounds, songs, and rhythms, with the addition of music programmes that teach how to play instruments including ukulele, recorders, guitar and keyboard. These are used in a cross-curricular manner, with many songs and other resources available for various topics in both KS1 and KS2.

Impact

Whilst at Sacred Heart Primary School, children have the option to access individual instrumental lessons and whole class tuition, which allows students to discover areas of strength, as well as areas they might like to improve upon. This is supported by contacts at Luton Music Hub.

The integral nature of music and the learner creates an enormously rich palette from which a student may access fundamental abilities such as: achievement, self-confidence, interaction with and awareness of others, and self-reflection. Music will also develop an understanding of culture and history, both in relation to students individually, as well as ethnicities from across the world. Children are able to enjoy music, in as many ways as they choose- either as listener, creator or performer. They can dissect music and comprehend its parts. They can sing and feel a pulse. They enjoy the feeling of togetherness created by singing together as a whole school. They are given the opportunity to learn to sign through music, participating in Sign to Sing and developing an awareness of those who may not be able to enjoy music in the same way. They have an understanding of how to further develop skills less known to them, should they ever develop an interest in their lives. They are aware of how music can be an integral part of other school themes, such as mindfulness, growth mind-set and British values, through staff modelling and selection of musical choices integrated across the curriculum and through a 'pupil voice playlist' used on the playground by peer mentors during break times.