



Music Policy

St. Matthew's Church of England Primary School's mission statement

We aim to provide a positive learning experience in a safe and respectful environment. We strive to teach an inspiring and inclusive curriculum that promotes a love of learning. As a Christian school, we endeavour to develop the spiritual and moral values of all members of the St. Matthew's family, and a meaningful, loving relationship with God. We want our children to be cheerful and independent individuals who reach their potential and are proud of their achievements. We hope to develop confident, caring citizens who are well prepared to enjoy happy and rewarding lives.

Our motto: Live, Love, Learn

Intent, Implementation and Impact of Music

Our intent at St. Matthew's Church of England Primary School is to teach children that music is a unique way of communicating that can inspire and motivate children. It is a vehicle for personal expression, and it can play an important part in the personal development of our children. Music reflects the culture and society we live in, and so the teaching and learning of music enables children to better understand the world they live in. Besides being a creative and enjoyable activity, music can also be a highly academic and demanding subject. It also plays an important part in helping children feel part of a community. At St. Matthew's we understand that music isn't a part of the everyday life of many of our children and that listening to songs and compositions is not regular practice. Therefore, we aim to provide opportunities for all children to create, play, perform and enjoy music, to develop the skills to appreciate a wide variety of musical forms, and to acquire the musical vocabulary with which to express their reactions to a wide range of pieces.

The objectives of teaching music in our school are to enable children to:

- know and understand how sounds are made and organised into musical structures;
- know how music is made through a variety of instruments;
- know how music is composed and written down;
- know how music is influenced by the time, place and purpose for which it was written;
- develop the skills of musical performance, composition and appreciation

We implement this through a structured and progressive programme of discrete music lessons whilst optimising opportunities to incorporate music teaching within other curriculum areas. Throughout the

school year there are also other opportunities for children to develop their musical skills, such as through singing in assemblies by visiting musicians.

We make music an enjoyable learning experience and we encourage children to participate in a variety of musical experiences through which we aim to build up their confidence. Through singing songs, children learn about the structure and organisation of music and develop an understanding of different musical forms and styles.

As children move through school they develop an understanding of the 'interrelated dimensions of music'. The following comprise the core musical elements that children will learn about through their music lessons. The elements are pulse, rhythm, pitch, dynamics, tempo, timbre, structure, texture and notation. We teach, develop and embed the key elements of pulse, rhythm and pitch in a progressive way throughout school, introducing and teaching the remaining core skills to a deeper level throughout the year groups.

We also ensure that every child has opportunities to watch performances and we provide musical experiences that are different and extra. These have included live performances by the Halle Orchestra, professional musical theatre productions in school, live professional performances and recording our very own school CD.

As children get older, we expect them to maintain their concentration for longer, and to listen to more extended pieces of music. We teach children to make music together, to understand musical notation, and to compose various pieces of music. Also as children move through the school we expect them to build on their musical vocabulary and begin to understand more about the different dimensions of music.

As the teaching and learning of music at St Matthew's develops we anticipate that our children will acquire the musical skills necessary to become confident at singing, composing and performing and will develop an understanding and appreciation of a range of musical styles from different cultures and eras. In the longer term our children will develop a lifelong love of music, be inspired to continue to explore different musical genres and to use their skills and confidence to make music of their own, including the potential to learn, play and perform.

Additional music teaching

Some year groups have the opportunity to study a musical instrument with peripatetic teachers. Bolton Music Service provides peripatetic music teaching. Each academic year the children in different year groups will have the opportunity to work with a specialist teacher and explore both using their voices and learning an instrument. In recent years children have learned to play the djembe drums and the ukulele. We also often have various extra-curricular clubs such as recorder club, ukulele club and the school choir.

Music curriculum planning

Our school uses the national curriculum for music as the basis for its curriculum planning. We also use a scheme of work developed by a company called 'Charanga'. The scheme of work covers the whole curriculum whilst also being interactive and fun for the children. While there are also some opportunities for children of all abilities to develop their skills and knowledge through cross curricular teaching, the children are increasingly challenged as they move through the school.

The Early Years Foundation Stage

We teach music in reception classes as part of the Expressive Art and Design area of learning. Music is an integral part of curriculum and is also taught through the topic and theme work covered during the year. As the reception class is part of the Early Years Foundation Stage of the National Curriculum, we also relate the musical aspects of the children's work to the objectives set out in the other 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.

Assessment for learning

Children demonstrate their ability in music in a variety of different ways. Teachers will assess children's work in music by making informal judgements as they observe them during various lessons. At the end of Spring and Summer term, the teacher makes a summary judgement about the work of each pupil in relation to the National Curriculum, and records these judgements on Target Tracker.

Resources

We keep resources for music in a central store located at the back of the hall as well as using the online learning platform 'Charanga'.

Musical Events

We believe that music enriches the lives of people, and so we wish to involve as many children as possible in musical activities. We provide opportunities throughout the year for children to watch musical performances and take part in various performances. This includes solo and ensemble performances as part of assemblies and concerts. This recognises the children's achievements and shows we celebrate their success.

Roles and Responsibilities

The subject is led by Mr Grimshaw and each year time is set aside to review standards, monitor curriculum provision and ensure training and resources are up to date.

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Subject Leader for Music

Reviewed: June 2020

Next review due: June 2021