

MUSIC POLICY

*St. Joseph's
Catholic
Primary School,
a Voluntary
Academy*

Introduction

At St Joseph's we understand how music is a unique way of communicating. Our aim is 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 begin to make judgments about the quality of music. We want to inspire and motivate children. Music is a vehicle for personal expression and it can play an important part in the personal development of people. 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. It also plays an important part in helping children feel part of a community and grow closer to our faith. As a Catholic School we gather and express our faith through whole school hymn practice, singing within Mass and collective worship.

At St Joseph's, we aim to develop this awareness from the beginning of children's school lives. We provide a progressive Music Curriculum, following the requirements of the National Curriculum, from Nursery to Year 6. The aim of the school is to make sure from an early age, children have an awareness of rhythm, pitch and the sounds around them. We want to provide our children with inspiring, practical and engaging lessons and to support them to become their very best.

Aims

- To encourage an awareness, enjoyment and appreciation of all types of music.
- To ensure all children have access to a variety of instruments.
- To allow all children to succeed in music and to be proud of their musical achievements.
- To offer a wide range of opportunities to perform, compose, listen and appraise.

The aims of music teaching are to enable children to:

- know and understand how sounds are made and then organised into musical structures;
- know how music is made through a variety of instruments;

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- 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 interrelated skills of performing, composing and appreciating music.
- be able to place music in history and know great composers and musicians.

Timetable

Our Lady of Lourdes Music Service works with Year 1 to Year 6 classes once a week. KS1 for a half an hour lesson and KS2 for an hour lesson. The lessons are planned with clear progression using their Music Curriculum Planning.

Performing skills

Children will be taught to sing a wide ranging variety of songs and to use their voices expressively. Children will have the opportunity to play a variety of instruments with increasing control and should rehearse and perform with others, with an awareness of audience. Children will be encouraged to perform in a safe and positive environment.

Composing skills

Children will create musical patterns and will be shown how to explore, select and organise musical ideas. They will also be taught how to record these in a variety of ways, (e.g. pictorial score and digital recordings). They will be able to compose as part of a group and individually.

Appraising skills

Children will be given the opportunity to explore and explain their own ideas and feelings about music. They will analyse and compare sounds and will become confident at suggesting improvements for their own work and that of others. The staff will create a safe environment in which children can feel positive about their musical skill, whatever their ability.

Listening and applying knowledge and understanding

Children should be able to listen with concentration and to internalise and recall sounds with increasing aural memory. They will develop a growing awareness of the inter-related dimensions of music, such as pitch, duration, pace, dynamics, texture, timbre, form, silence. They will learn that time and place can influence the way music is created, performed and heard and that music is produced in different ways.

Enquiry Based Curriculum

We teach children musical skills through an enquiry based curriculum which is flexible and appropriate for the needs of specific groups of children. Children in each year group develop their knowledge and understanding through specific topics. The school aims to teach the necessary musical skills creatively, alongside other curriculum areas, wherever this is possible. The teaching and learning objectives are carefully balanced to ensure full coverage of the National Curriculum. Children are encouraged to use the skills they have been taught and apply them in different contexts. We use the Our Lady Of Lourdes Music Service Music Curriculum Planning. The lessons are planned with clear progression from EYFS to Upper KS2.

Music as part of Worship

Children participate in singing during hymn practices, assemblies and masses. Children are encouraged and thus enjoy singing worship songs and mass responses during these occasions.

Additional Music Teaching and Opportunities

Children are offered the opportunity to study music further with a peripatetic teacher. Parents who want their children to participate in these lessons must

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purchase or hire the instrument and pay the additional music lesson fees on a termly basis. These lessons are normally taught to small groups of children. This is in addition to the normal music teaching of the school, and usually takes place during normal lessons from which children are withdrawn for the duration of the instrumental lesson. These children will have the opportunity to learn from a variety of musical instruments or singing lessons.

Assessment

Assessment forms an integral part of the teaching and learning of Music. This is done by observing children working and performing, by listening to their responses and by examining work produced. At the end of each term the children will have their final piece recorded. Summative assessments at the end of the year will be assessed against the Level Descriptors within the National Curriculum.

Foundation Stage

We teach music in Nursery and Reception as an integral part of the topic work covered during the year. As EYFS is part of the Foundation Stage of the National Curriculum, we relate the musical aspects of the children's work to the objectives set out in the 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.

SEND/Inclusion

At St Joseph's we aim to ensure all children can access the Music curriculum. Music lessons are adapted to meet students with special educational needs and/or disability to encourage their creativity and develop their musical skills.

Resources

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- We have a range of Music equipment and resources that can easily be moved around the school. These are located in the Music Cupboard.
- There are a number of tuned instruments, such as glockenspiels, recorders, flute (TooT), clarinet (DooD), boom whakers, ukuleles and more.
- Music planning resources are kept in the Subject Leader folder.
- Resources will be added to, as funding allows.

Review Date:

Nov 2024