



Music

Our curriculum is carefully designed to meet the statutory requirements of the National Curriculum. As a Christian school, we believe that Christ has called us in every aspect of our working together to live out our 'Loving Three' values: love, wisdom and joy. Opportunities to develop in these four areas are seized throughout our curriculum and are demonstrated through pupil work and classroom experience.

Vision

We pride ourselves on being a diverse community where kindness and compassion are celebrated. In valuing all as God's children, we are committed to promoting the development of the whole child. We nurture academic habits and creativity across a range of subjects by providing aspirational opportunities to widen horizons.

How we aim to achieve our vision

Through the effective delivery of a coherently planned and sequenced curriculum which show opportunities to deliberately practise activities that will in time, embed and deepen knowledge thus enabling children to make connections between topics and build a conceptual understanding.

Intent

At St Mary Magdalene Primary School, it is our intent that we make music an enjoyable learning experience. We encourage children to participate in a variety of musical experiences through which we aim to build up the confidence of all children. Our teaching focuses on developing the children's ability to understand rhythm and follow a beat. Through singing songs, children learn about the structure and organisation of music. We teach them to listen and to appreciate different forms of music. Children develop descriptive language skills in music lessons when learning about how music can represent different feelings, emotions and narratives. We also teach technical vocabulary such as volume, pitch, beat and rhythm and encourage children to discuss music using these terms. Through our curriculum drivers (community, initiatives and possibilities) we aim to expose the children to different music professionals and provide them with opportunities to perform what they have learned to others.

Implementation

Music lessons will engage and inspire pupils to develop a love of music and develop their talent as musicians, and in turn increase their self-confidence, creativity, and sense of achievement. As pupils progress, they should develop a critical engagement with music, allowing them to compose, and to listen a range of different styles of music. We use subject specialist teachers to deliver quality music sessions in year's 1-6. Children will have the opportunity to learn a range of different instrument types, focusing on each instrument for two years. This allows children to develop a good understanding of the instrument and become competent players before they move on to a more challenging instrument.

The plan for instruments across the year groups is as follows:

- Year 1 – Glockenspiel
- Year 2 – Glockenspiel
- Year 3 – Recorders
- Year 4 – Recorders
- Year 5 – Ukulele
- Year 6 - Ukulele

Lessons incorporate teaching musical notation, singing, as well as learning to play an instrument. Children are also given the opportunity to learn to play a brass instrument with our specialist teacher. Children can audition for these spaces and parents pay a cost each term towards the teaching. Children can perform in each year group through class performances, in whole assemblies and also to parents and the wider community.

In addition to this we use the Charanga scheme to support children with their singing and their listening and appraising skills. Children are given many opportunities to explore music outside of the classroom and singing is an integral part of our whole school worship experience. We visit the local church multiple times a year and music is key to our worship sessions. Where possible we also encourage children to explore music in the community. Children are encouraged to take part in different activities such as singing for the elderly and taking part in the Young Voices concert in Birmingham.

Impact

All pupils will benefit from a high-quality music education which engages and inspires them to develop both a love of music and their talent as musicians, to be shared with their parents/carers and the wider community. It will increase their self-confidence, creativity and sense of achievement. As pupils progress, they will develop a growing musical vocabulary that allows them to critically engage with music whilst also deepening their knowledge of musical genres, styles and traditions from around the world thorough listening and appraisal. St Mary Magdalene pupils will be able to read musical notation, compose their own song and play tuned and untuned instruments for a variety of audiences, with their secure knowledge of the inter-related dimensions of music always at the heart of their performance.