



Thurlaston CE (Aided) Primary School
Teaching and living the Christian way of life

Music Policy

Approved

Date

Review date

Music Policy

This policy reflects Thurlaston CE Primary School's values and philosophy as regards the teaching and learning of Music. Music is a subject that helps to develop creativity, imagination, good listening skills, constructive criticism and the ability to express personal thoughts and feelings. Music develops children's ability to take part in practical activities, both individually and in groups, that encourages and cultivates an enjoyment of different genres of music. The music curriculum provides breadth and balance, is relevant and engaging and is differentiated to match needs and abilities.

Aims and Objectives

The national curriculum for music and our school aims to ensure that all pupils:

- perform, listen to, review and evaluate music across a range of historical periods, genres, styles and traditions, including the works of the great composers and musicians
- learn to sing and to use their voices, to create and compose music on their own and with others, have the opportunity to learn a musical instrument, use technology appropriately and have the opportunity to progress to the next level of musical excellence
- understand and explore how music is created, produced and communicated, including through the inter-related dimensions: pitch, duration, dynamics, tempo, timbre, texture, structure and appropriate musical notations.

Implementation of the Music Policy

The 'Music Express' scheme of work provides the basis of music lesson content from Foundation Stage to Year 6. This in-turn informs the medium term planning as to what is taught within Music teaching units. The short term plan lists specific learning objectives that are to be covered and success criteria to support both children and adults in assessing their work. Teaching and learning is differentiated to best match the needs of the class or set and the individuals within it; within the context of the aspect of Music that is being taught.

Over the course of a unit, the lessons taught will include performance, composition, specific listening tasks, and giving and listening to appraisal and constructive criticism.

Children will also be given opportunities to participate in a musical production once a year: Key Stage One and Foundation Stage at Christmas and Key Stage Two at the end of the year.

Additional music teaching

Year 4 and 5 pupils are taught to play the ukulele over the course of the academic year. Peripatetic music teaching is organised by Soar Valley Music Centre. All year groups can access this provision depending on the age of the child and the nature or difficulty of the instrument chosen. Parents who want their children to participate in the scheme pay additional music lesson fees on a termly basis. These extra lessons are normally taught to small groups of children or individuals who have chosen to learn one of a variety of instruments, such as: drums, guitar, violin, flute and recorders. This is in addition to the normal music teaching of the school, and usually takes place at various times during the week

We believe that music enriches the lives of people, and so we wish to involve as many children as possible in musical activities. We have a school choir which we encourage all children to join. The choir usually meets on a weekly basis and, although its primary aim is to enable children to enjoy singing together, it also performs in public on a number of occasions throughout the year, for example at the Christmas, Easter and Harvest services at the church.

Assessment, Record Keeping and Reporting

Assessments are used diagnostically by teachers to evaluate learning and inform teaching and to inform future provision. Assessments are completed at the end of each unit and music is reported on at the end of the academic year in each child's School Report. Children receiving tuition also receive reports from the Music Service.

Inclusion

Inclusion is about the school meeting the diverse needs in order to ensure the active participation and progress of all children in their learning. Inclusive practice in Music should enable all children to achieve their best possible standard; whatever their ability, and irrespective of gender, ethnic, social or cultural background, home language or any other aspect that could affect their participation in, or progress in their learning. Children that receive music tuition will be given the opportunity to showcase talents in assemblies and in the Carols for Charity Concert.

Resources

Resources are available for each Key Stage. The Early Years keep a selection of instruments in their classrooms. The subject leader updates resources when needed and based upon the unit plans from Music Express.

Monitoring and review

The music subject leader is responsible for the standard of children's work and for the quality of teaching in music. The work of the subject leader also involves supporting colleagues in the teaching of music, being informed about current developments in the subject, and providing a strategic lead and direction for music in the school.