

Church Aston Infant School



Music Policy

July 2018

Contents

THE NATURE OF MUSIC.....	3
AIMS.....	3
CURRICULUM PROVISION.....	3
EARLY YEARS FOUNDATION STAGE.....	4
ASSESSMENT FOR LEARNING.....	4
RESOURCES.....	4
MUSICAL EVENTS.....	4

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The Nature of Music

Throughout history, people from all walks of life and different cultures share a common experience in music. Besides being a creative and enjoyable activity, it also plays an important part in helping children to feel part of a community. We provide opportunities for all children to create, play, perform and enjoy music. Children are able to develop the skills, to appreciate a wide variety of musical forms, and to begin to make judgements about the quality of music.

Aims

- For the pupils to develop skills in listening to a wide range of recorded and live music
- For the pupils to develop an appreciation of music in its many forms
- For pupils to recognise and identify musical instruments by the sound they make as well as their physical appearance
- For pupils to begin to understand how sounds are made by different types of instruments
- For pupils to develop skills, confidence and enjoyment in composing their own music
- For pupils to develop an increasing understanding that music is made up of sounds that are arranged in patterns that may be high and low, long and short, loud and quiet
- For children to develop a sense of rhythm
- For pupils to work collaboratively on composition and in performance.
- For the pupils to design and make their own musical instruments
- For pupils to understand that music is part of the wider spectrum of The Arts and is used in conjunction with other disciplines in this area
- For the pupils to understand that music can:
 - communicate meaning
 - emotion
 - be celebratory
 - respectful
 - solemn
 - joyful
- For pupils to recognise that music is an integral part of life and enhances the world in which we live.

Curriculum Provision

Our school uses the Music Express scheme of work as the basis for its curriculum planning. This has been adapted so that the topics build upon prior learning enhanced by the teacher's knowledge and experience. Each unit specialises in one of the musical elements and develops the children's listening, appraising and composing skills. While there are opportunities for children of all abilities to develop their skills and knowledge in each unit, the progression planned into the scheme of work means that the children are increasingly challenged as they move through the school. This progression has three aspects:

- increasing breadth and range of musical experiences;
- increasing challenge and difficulty in musical activities;
- increasing confidence, sensitivity and creativity in the children's music-making.

The long-term plan maps the music topics studied in each term in each class. Sometimes, the children study music topics in conjunction with other subjects.

Early Years Foundation Stage

Music planning is related to the objectives set out in the Early Learning Goals of the Early Years Foundation Stage of the National Curriculum which underpin the curriculum planning for children aged three to five. Children are given an introduction to the musical elements through activities related to these goals. Music is taught as an integral part of the topic work covered during the year. Music Express is also used in the Foundation Stage. 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 assess children's work in music by making informal judgments as they observe them during lessons. Pupils are encouraged to make judgments about how they can improve their own work. Pupils' achievements are recorded and reported to parents in school reports.

Resources

Resources are kept in the dining room; these include percussion instruments, song books and CDs which include music from varied eras and cultures. Each class has a sound system, computer and interactive screen. The school library contains resources relating to music. The school uses resources from Sing Up for teaching and learning material. There is a keyboard and music trolley containing a collection of tuned and un-tuned percussion instruments, which can easily be moved around the school.

Musical Events

Children take part in school, local community and wider community events as part of the Music Curriculum.