

Rationale for Music

The aim of Music in our curriculum is to give children opportunities to listen to, perform and compose high quality music. Our aim is that all children should have the opportunity to explore a wide range of musical styles and genres and have the opportunity to not only perform as musicians but also compose their own musical pieces. Music provides an excellent opportunity to teach skills which greatly benefit children in other subjects, skills such as listening, working with others, respect and appraising both their own and their peers performances. We believe all children should have the opportunity to listen to high quality professional performances, either digitally or live as this is an excellent way to enrich cultural capital in school.

We understand that as a Catholic School music links directly to our faith and allows opportunities to deepen our understanding as well as come together to worship. Our Rejoice and Sing assemblies place music at the heart of worship and explore the Catholic message through song. Our Gospel assemblies also have a focus on a hymn and singing as part of collective worship. Music also enhances our community links with children singing at local care homes.

We follow the Sing Up curriculum which sets out the skills, knowledge and understanding to be gained by all pupils at each stage of learning. It meets the requirements of the National Curriculum as well as the suggested approaches in the Model Music Curriculum. Children receive weekly music lessons taught by a specialist teacher. As regular practice is an important factor in the success of any musical learning, all Sing Up units contain songs and games which teach and enhance key musical skills such as listening, call and response, intonation and rhythm. Children are assessed using the 'Snapshot' method which includes teacher assessment, audio and visual evidence. Data is recorded on Insight.

In addition to weekly music lesson children in KS2 have the opportunity to learn a musical instrument via the Music Service First Access scheme. Children are also able to sign up to have individual music lessons in school. A school choir is available as well as regular performance opportunities through class assembly, Christmas and Easter performances as well as concerts such as Young Voices. Music is accessible to all the children in our school and we strive to ensure every child can take advantage of the wonderful opportunities music can provide.