



Music POLICY

Intent

Music is a practical and creative expression of ideas, thoughts and feelings. Music provides opportunities to promote children's spiritual, moral, social and cultural development. It contributes greatly to the general ethos of the school.

At St Clare's, our intent is to enable children:

- To 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
- To 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
- To 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

The music curriculum ensures children sing, listen, play, perform and evaluate. This is embedded in the classroom activities as well as singing assemblies, various concerts and performances and the learning of instruments. Playing various instruments enables children to use a range of methods to create notes, as well as how to read basic music notation. They also learn how to compose, focusing on different dimensions of music, which in turn feeds their understanding when listening, playing, or analysing music. Composing or performing using body percussion and vocal sounds is also part of the curriculum, which develops the understanding of musical elements without the added complexity of an instrument.

Impact

Through Music, we endeavour to

- develop the whole person
- challenge, create and collaborate
- develop creativity and imagination through a range of complex activities
- improve the children's ability to control materials, tools, instruments and techniques
- increase their critical awareness of the Arts in different times and cultures
- develop increasing confidence in the Arts
- foster an enjoyment and appreciation of the Arts and a knowledge of artists
- develop a range of subject-specific skills, such as understanding how music is made through a variety of interrelated dimensions and that it can be composed and written down

Wider musical opportunities

Children also have the opportunity to take part in 'Young Voices' as an after school club, a national choir made up of hundreds of primary schools across the country. They learn a variety of songs from different cultures and genres, both old and modern and attend a concert at a major venue in the Spring term along with thousands of other children.

'Through our unforgettable concerts, children discover their voices, gain confidence and create lasting memories.'

Young Voices 25

At the end of the school year, parents are invited, along with governors, to a concert that showcases each year group's talents both singing and instrumental. Children relish the opportunity to 'Let their Light Shine' by playing and singing.

Each week, during whole school assemblies, children sing traditional and modern hymns, linked to the church's Liturgical year. These, along with our school song 'This Little light of Mine' become favourites as the children move through their time at St Clare's.

Curriculum Planning of Music

We use Resonate, Liverpool's Music Hub, to plan and deliver music through Charanga teaching programme. In addition, Year 4 receive 1 hour's tuition per week in Ukulele from a designated music specialist from the Hub whilst Year 3 receive tuition in Brass. As they progress through the school, children are also taught units of recorder and xylophone from the Charanga programme as part of their class music lessons.

Teaching and Learning Styles

We encourage children to participate in a variety of musical through which we aim to build up the confidence of all children. We do this best through a mixture of whole class teaching and individual/group activities. We draw attention to good examples of individual performance as models for the other children. We give children the opportunity within lessons to work on their own and collaborate with others. We recognise the fact that we have children of differing ability in all our classes, and so we provide suitable learning opportunities for all children by matching the challenge of the task to the ability of the child. In addition other adults to support the work of individual children or small group

Oracy/Speaking and Listening

At our school, we recognise the vital role of oracy in children's overall development and future success. We are committed to embedding opportunities for all pupils to develop their speaking and listening skills across the curriculum. During music lessons, we will use activities such as call and response, 'clapping back' to repeat a rhythm they have listened to. Learning songs by heart using expressive voices helps pupils sing clearly and confidently. Regular practise of singing familiar songs and rhymes also helps children develop their listening and oracy skills. Tailored support for children with additional language needs, including language-rich interventions, will ensure that all pupils can participate meaningfully in discussions and articulate their ideas with confidence.

Cross Curricular Links

English

Using and identifying rhymes as well as understanding how syllables in words can be used to form the rhythm of a tune.

Maths

Music, is linked closely with mathematics, as rhythm and structure of music is mathematically based for example Counting beats in a bar

Computing

Using Garageband to compose and improvise with instruments they may not experience. Children also record their performances digitally.

Resources

A bank of musical instruments both tuned and untuned is available for each topic in the Charanga Music scheme, including a whole class set of recorders.

For digital music the Garage band app is installed on all I pads

Health and Safety

Although Music is generally safe, when carrying out specific activities sensible precautions need to be applied.

Ensure there are 2 adults to carry the large wooden Glockenspiel from the curriculum cupboard to the classroom.

If children are using xylophones, drums and triangles ensure they correctly hold the beaters.

Assessment and Recording

Teachers regularly assess progress through observations and use video to record evidence, which is uploaded onto the Charanga website. We assess children's work formatively in music through recording of performances and direct questioning.

Our Statement of SMSC

Listening, creating and performing music can be a moving and even spiritual experience. We encourage children to reflect on the important effect that music has on people's moods, senses and quality of life. Children at St. Clare's Catholic Primary have the opportunity to encounter music from many cultures and through a growing knowledge and understanding of the arts, they develop more positive attitudes towards other cultures and societies.

Date: October 2024

Date of next review: October 2026

Chair of Governors: Mr Richard Cassidy