

Music Statement

Music is a universal language that embodies one of the highest forms of creativity. At Rockwell Green Primary School we want to engage and inspire pupils to develop a love of music and their talent as musicians. Music is a vehicle for personal expression and it can play an important part in the development of people. It transcends different cultures, abilities and generations and enables children to better understand the world they live in. Besides being a creative and enjoyable activity, music can also be a highly academic and demanding subject. It also plays an important part in helping children feel part of a community. We provide opportunities for all children to create, play, perform and enjoy music, to develop the skills, to appreciate a wide variety of musical forms, and to begin to make judgements about the quality of music.

OUR AIMS - INTENT

The aims of music are:

- To provide opportunities for pupils to perform, listen to, review and evaluate music across a range of historical periods, genres, styles and traditions.
- To introduce pupils to the work of great composers and musicians.
- To encourage children to sing and learn how to use their voices.
- To give pupils the opportunity to create and compose music on their own and with others.
- To have the opportunity to learn a musical instrument.
- To develop the use of technology to support learning.
- To have the opportunity to develop their musical skills aiming for excellence.
- To understand 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: TEACHING AND LEARNING

Our principal aim is to develop the children's knowledge, skills and understanding in music and we use a variety of teaching styles to promote learning in our music lessons. Teachers make links between units of work and encourage pupils to use previous knowledge in approaching new work.

We believe children learn best when:

- They are able to use and experiment with tuned and untuned instruments.
- They have the opportunity to listen to musicians perform live both in school and other venues.
- Visitors talk about their musical experiences.
- They use technology as part of music e.g. composition on ipad apps.
- They have experience of a wide range of musical genres.
- They listen to their peers performing.
- They are given time to respond to music in a variety of ways for example through art, dance and drama.
- They have the opportunity to perform in front of different groups.
- They engage in debate and discussion.
- They are provided with opportunities to work independently or collaboratively.

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. We achieve this through a range of strategies which are differentiated by task, expected outcome and/or support from peers or adults.

EARLY YEARS

Music is taught in Reception as an integral part of the topic work through child-initiated and adult led activities. As part of the expressive arts Early Learning Goals children are given the opportunity to sing songs and make music. They listen to different musical genres and explore a variety of musical instruments using them to represent their own ideas, thoughts and feelings.

KEY STAGE 1

During Key Stage 1 pupils will learn to use their voices expressively and creatively by singing songs and speaking chants and rhymes. They will begin to play tuned and untuned instruments in a musical way. They will be encouraged to listen with concentration and understanding to a range of high-quality live and recorded music. Pupils will be given opportunities to experiment with, create, select and combine sounds using the inter-related dimensions of music.

KEY STAGE 2

During Key Stage 2 pupils will learn to sing and play musically with increasing confidence and control. They will develop an understanding of musical composition, organising and manipulating ideas within musical structures and reproducing sounds from aural memory. Pupils will play and perform solos and with others, using their voices and playing musical instruments with increasing accuracy, fluency, control and expression. Pupils will have opportunities to improvise and compose music for a range of purposes using the inter-related dimensions of music. They will learn to listen with attention to detail and recall sounds with increasing aural memory. Pupils will be taught to use and understand staff and other musical notations. They will listen to and develop an appreciation and understanding of a wide range of high-quality live and recorded music drawn from different traditions and from great composers and musicians. Pupils will begin to develop an understanding of the history of music.

MUSIC CURRICULUM PLANNING

Teachers use Charanga to support their planning of the music curriculum which links to the Model Music Curriculum. Teachers will ensure that the six key elements of the curriculum are included:

- Singing
- Listening and Appraising
- Composition
- Improvisation
- Reading Notation
- Performance

These will be split across the half terms so more focus can be given to a particular area

- Listening, Appraising, Singing, Performing
- Improvising, Composing, Performing

Planning will ensure children are beginning to develop a wide musical vocabulary and have opportunities to read and use musical notation.

Music is taught weekly rather than blocked to ensure progress is not slowed. This will consist of a class music lesson and singing Collective Worship.

During singing Collective Worship the music lead will focus on listening, appraising, singing and also the development of technical vocabulary. A composer will be introduced on a monthly basis to improve children's knowledge of a wide range of composers and styles of music.

In Year 4 children will have access to whole class music tuition for the academic year.

ASSESSMENT AND RECORD KEEPING

At Rockwell Green Primary School assessment is an integral part of the teaching process. The assessment of children's work is on-going to ensure that pupil's learn and progress, to inform teachers of gaps or misconceptions and to inform planning. Teachers will video music performance to evidence that technical skills are improving; for children to self- assess and reflect on their own learning and to give peer feedback and also so it can be shared with the wider community. Teachers will record examples of pupil's notating their compositions in floor books.