

Music Policy

Written by: J. Rees

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National Curriculum

Music is a universal language that embodies one of the highest forms of creativity. A high-quality music education should engage and inspire pupils to develop a love of music and their talent as musicians, and so increase their self-confidence, creativity and sense of achievement. As pupils progress, they should develop a critical engagement with music, allowing them to compose, and to listen with discrimination to the best in the musical canon.

Vision

At Fairfield Road we encourage our pupils to:

- Perform, listen to, review and evaluate music
- Be taught to sing, create and compose music with expression
- Understand and explore how music is created, produced and communicated.
- Gain an understanding of the many music traditions across the world and how music is shaped by the many different cultures of the world

Intent

At Fairfield Road Primary School our aim is that the children gain a deep understanding of music through listening and appraising, singing, performing, evaluating, analysing, and composing across a wide variety of genres, styles, traditions, and periods. Our objective at Fairfield Road Primary is to develop a deep interest for the subject, as well as an understanding and acceptance of the importance of all types of music, with an ongoing respect for the role that music plays in a person's life. We aim to ensure the children understand the value and importance of music in the wider community, and are able to use their musical skills, knowledge, and experiences to involve themselves in music, in a variety of different contexts.

Implementation

The music curriculum ensures students sing, listen, play, perform and evaluate. This is embedded in the classroom activities as well as singing in assemblies, various concerts and performances throughout the academic year. The musical elements will be continually embedded in each music activity the children take part in, whether in a singing lesson, instrumental lesson or listening activity.

From the age of six, pupils will have the opportunity to learn an instrument in the classroom, starting with glockenspiels and boom whackers leading onto recorder, ukulele and djembe drums in key stage 2. In doing so, they will understand the methods of musicianship (music theory) by reading and composing using musical notation. They also learn how to compose focussing 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

Whilst in school, children have access to a varied programme, which allows students to discover areas of strength, as well as areas they might like to improve upon. The nature of music and the learner can also bring forth fundamental life skills, such as self-confidence, self-awareness, the ability to work as a team and the ability to reflect.

Music can also provide an understanding of culture and history, both in relation to students individually, in addition to other cultures and ethnicities from across the world.

Children are able to enjoy music, in as many ways as they choose- either as listener, creator or performer. It is scientifically proven that weekly music lessons can have a profound effect on a child's mental well-being, allowing them to develop transferrable skills such as improved memory, speaking and reading, analysing and. They can sing and feel a pulse. They have an understanding of how to further develop skills less known to them, should they ever develop an interest in their lives.
Music is an extremely broad subject, with many topics being considered subjective in regards to what is enjoyable and what is not. However, at Fairfield Road we aim to give the children a varied experience of the subject, and hopefully help them to value the importance of the extremely large role music plays in our cultural world.

Teaching and Learning

EYFS

Music lessons are taught weekly as pupils start Nursery. They begin by learning chants, nursery rhymes and counting songs which help to assist their early stages of numeracy and literacy. Nursery have access, to the Sing Up curriculum scheme and music is also used as a cross curricular tool to enhance the engagement of a particular topic.

In Reception, pupils will have already had the chance to sing and perform together, both as a group and individually via various singing games. They also continue to engage with the 'SingUp' music program, providing them with access to a diverse range of music units that cover all aspects of the national curriculum. Children will start to develop their musicianship, confidence, and creativity by exploring the elements of rhythm, pitch, dynamics and tempo.

Key Stage 1

Units and schemes of work are created by the music specialist, with some being adapted from the 'Sing Up' Music scheme.

In year 1 the children will develop their understanding of the musical elements (pitch, rhythm, tempo, dynamics) further and also explore the basics of music theory and composition. In year 2 their musical skills will develop further as they begin to learn the glockenspiel, putting music theory into practice. They will also start to listen and appraise, developing a critical ear to a variety of musical styles.

Key Stage 2

As pupils progress through each year group in key stage 2, they will already have achieved the foundations of the musical elements and will then begin to learn about the more complex elements such as texture, structure, timbre, harmony, rhythm and metre.

These skills will be achieved and developed through the various topics taught in each unit. The progression planned into each scheme of work means that the children will be increasingly challenged as they move up through the school. They will begin to learn more about various musical cultures and traditions, such as the history of musical styles, music genres, influential composers and world music. Practical activities and instrumental tuition will be integrated into each session to support musical understanding such as as whole-class glockenspiel, recorder, percussion, ukulele and music technology (digital production).

Inclusion & Differentiation

No matter a child's musical ability {knowledge/skill), background (social/cultural), nationality (EAL) or religion, we offer a musical experience to support all learners and deliver various methods and strategies so that each child is included and supported throughout their music education. Through our teaching process we provide learning opportunities that will enable all pupils to make progress. We do this by setting suitable learning challenges and responding to each child's individual needs. Children with a greater- depth skill set will be suitably challenged if they exceed the set expectations.

When progress falls significantly outside the expected range, the child may have special educational needs. Our assessment process looks at a range of factors – classroom organisation, teaching materials, teaching style, and differentiation – so that we can take some additional or different action to enable the child to learn more effectively. This ensures that our teaching is matched to the child's needs. Children identified with special educational needs and needing additional support will be provided with a 4+1 (IEP). The EP may include, as appropriate, specific targets relating to Geography. We enable pupils to have access to the full range of activities.

Extra-Curricular

All children will have the opportunity to make music outside of the classroom environment, such as weekly singing assembles, lower and upper school choirs and small vocal groups for talented singers.

The KS2 choir will have many opportunities to perform both in school and to the wider community. They will have the chance to take part in various singing projects and events organised by Tameside Music Service and the Greater Manchester Music Hub.

In upper KS2 pupils will be given the chance to take part in the drumming club (African Djembe and Samba) and also have the chance to learn the guitar.

In year 6, five talented musicians will be chosen to take part in the school's Rock Band. They will work together as a group developing their ensemble, communication and team-building skills with our visiting tutors from Tameside Music Service. The instruments will be electric guitar, bass, keyboard and drum kit. They will work on small performance to be performed in school concerts and to the wider community through TMS.

Assessment

Children demonstrate their ability in music in a variety of different ways. Teachers will assess children's work in music by making informal judgements as they observe them during lessons. Video recordings are made of live musical performances for the children to use as self-assessment. On completion of a piece of work, the teacher will assess the work and give oral feedback. Older and highly able pupils are encouraged to make judgements about how they can improve their own work. The music teacher will keep samples of children's work in music for their own evidence.