

Music Policy



ST CLARE

Catholic Multi Academy Trust



Growing and Learning with the Guidance of God

With God at the heart of all we do, we aim to provide a loving and caring Catholic community, where everyone is precious. We nurture each other with kindness to create treasured memories and values that stay with us for life.

'You, Lord, are all I have and you give me all I need; my future is in your hands.' Psalm 16

Verse 5

PURPOSE OF STUDY

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 cultivate their talent as musicians. It should increase their self-confidence, creativity and sense of achievement. Music has a rare ability to bring people together and connect both with each other and the wider world. As pupils progress, they should develop a critical engagement with music, allowing them to compose, perform and appreciate music in many different forms and genres. Music is the soundtrack to our school and can feed the soul of a community.

AIMS

The national curriculum for music aims to ensure that all pupils:

- 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.
- 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.
- 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.

ATTAINMENT TARGETS

By the end of each key stage, pupils are expected to know, apply and understand the matters, skills and processes specified in the relevant programme of study.

SUBJECT CONTENT

Key stage 1

Pupils should be taught to:

- use their voices expressively and creatively by singing songs and speaking chants and rhymes
- play tuned and untuned instruments musically
- listen with concentration and understanding to a range of high-quality live and recorded music
- experiment with, create, select and combine sounds using the inter-related dimensions of music.

Key stage 2

Pupils should be taught to sing and play musically with increasing confidence and control. They should develop an understanding of musical composition, organising and manipulating ideas within musical structures and reproducing sounds from aural memory.

Pupils should be taught to:

- play and perform in solo and ensemble contexts, using their voices and playing musical instruments with increasing accuracy, fluency, control and expression
- improvise and compose music for a range of purposes using the inter-related dimensions of music
- listen with attention to detail and recall sounds with increasing aural memory
- use and understand staff and other musical notations
- appreciate and understand a wide range of high-quality live and recorded music drawn from different traditions and from great composers and musicians
- develop an understanding of the history of music.

TEACHING AND LEARNING STYLES

At St Ann's, we make music an enjoyable and stimulating learning experience. We encourage children to participate in a variety of musical experiences through which we aim to build up the confidence of all learners. We realise the importance of singing together regularly. We also provide opportunity for children to listen to and appreciate different genres of music and music from other cultures. Children develop descriptive skills in music lessons when learning about how music can represent feelings and emotions. We also teach children to make music collaboratively, to understand musical notation, and to compose pieces. We recognise that in all classes, children have a wide range of musical ability, and so we seek to provide suitable learning opportunities for all children by matching the challenge of the task to the ability of the child. We also however, appreciate the importance of fostering creativity and aim to ensure that children of all abilities are able to compose and create without barriers such as lack of skill, knowledge or confidence.

ST ANN'S MUSIC CURRICULUM

Our music curriculum has been especially written to take into account not only the requirements of National Curriculum but the needs of our pupils and to make music an enjoyable learning experience for our pupils. We encourage children to participate in a variety of musical experiences through which we aim to build up the confidence of all children. Our teaching focuses on developing the children's ability understand and use rhythm, pulse, pitch, to perform on their own and with other people. Through singing songs and playing percussion instruments, children learn about the structure and organisation of music. We teach them to listen and to appreciate different genre of music and music from other cultures. Also, we teach the children how to work with others to compose music and perform for an audience. Children with a special interest in learning an instrument have opportunities for learning the piano, trumpet or ukulele, also the whole school is taught how to play a range of tuned and untuned percussion instruments which they are given opportunities throughout the year to perform what they have learnt to an audience. There are many occasions for the children to sing as part of whole school celebrations throughout the year.

EYFS

In the Early Years Foundation Stage, St Ann's has it's own music curriculum which covers The Early Learning goals for Music learning, where their individual appreciation and understanding of music is fostered. Experiences of sharing music with others through singing, music making and listening to music should form the basis of early music learning. Children should sing new and familiar (simple) songs and rhymes in groups of different sizes, make and explore percussion instruments, listen to others singing and to music which is recorded. The class has a wide collection of activities/songs/instruments.

CROSS CURRICULAR LINKS

English

Music contributes significantly to the teaching of English in our federation by actively promoting the skills of speaking and listening. Children develop their language skills through singing songs, with attention to diction, meaning, rhythm and rhyme. They use reference books, and develop research skills, when finding out about the history of music and musicians. Music is also used to stimulate discussion or creative writing. Through working with others in a musical setting, children develop their ability to communicate ideas effectively.

Mathematics

The teaching of music contributes to children's mathematical understanding in a variety of ways. Children who study the structure of music are observing patterns and processes. Talent in music is often linked with talent in mathematics, as the rhythm and structure of music are mathematically based.

Personal, Social, Health and Economic Education

Music contributes significantly to the teaching of personal, social and health education . Through the common goal of making music, children learn to work effectively with other people, and to build up good relationships. Music is the basis of many social activities, and has an important role to play in the personal development of many young people. It has a vital role to play in building self-confidence and maintaining good mental health. Participation in successful public musical performances is sometimes one of the most memorable things young people do at school.

Spiritual, moral, social and cultural development

Creating, performing or listening to music can sometimes 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 Ann's have the opportunity to encounter music from many cultures and, through their growing knowledge and understanding of the music, they develop more positive attitudes towards other cultures and societies.

Information and communication technology (ICT)

Children will use various devices and websites and applications to assist composition and music making.

SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS

We ensure that the music curriculum is accessible to all learners, regardless of their existing ability, educational need and prior learning experience. Music lessons are tailored to match the needs of pupils wherever appropriate and takes into account any targets set for individual children. Music forms part of the school curriculum policy to provide a broad and balanced education to all children. Through our music teaching, we provide learning opportunities that enable all pupils to make good progress.

ASSESSMENT AND RECORDING

Pupil's experiences, progress and achievements are continually assessed throughout their time in school. Both formative and summative assessment is recorded and data is used to inform planning.