

Music - Curriculum Statement

Intent

At the Willows Primary School we want children to gain a firm understanding of what Music is through listening, singing, playing, improvising and exploring, composing and appraising across a wide range of historical periods, styles, traditions and musical genres. We are committed to inspire and engage pupils to develop a love for Music and their talents as musicians, and so increase their self-confidence, creativity and sense of achievement. Within the EYFS, Music is an integral part of children's learning journey. Rhyme and rhythm play a key part in children's learning. Children learn a wide range of songs and rhymes and develop skills for performing together. Singing and music making opportunities are used frequently to embed learning, develop musical awareness and to demonstrate how music can be used to express feelings.

Implementation

National Curriculum

At the Willows we aim for all children to have the opportunity to;

Perform, listen to, review and evaluate music across a range of historical periods, genres, styles and traditions, including the works of different composers and musicians.

They also;

- learn to sing and to use their voices, to create Music of their own and with others.
- have the opportunity to learn a musical instrument.
- to use technology appropriately.
- to understand how music is explored, created, produced and communicated through inter-related dimensions and appropriate musical notations.

Key Concepts

Our Music curriculum ensures that children have access to sing, play instruments, improvise and explore, compose, listen, perform and appraise. This is embedded in classroom activities as well as weekly singing assemblies and wider opportunities such as singing within the school choir, African drumming and Ukulele and Guitar tutoring.

Pedagogical Content

Through our Music Curriculum teachers are able to produce and deliver inclusive lessons for all children in a fun and engaging way, further promoting the love for Music. We use the Music Express scheme to enhance our delivery of the National Curriculum which is carefully delivered across year groups ensuring there is clear progression throughout the school and opportunities to: review, remember, deepen and apply their understanding building on prior learning.

Impact

Pupil Voice

Music within The Willows helps us feel part of a community. We have the opportunity to create, perform and enjoy Music both in class and to an audience.

Through assemblies and key stage performances, we can showcase our talents and have an understanding of performing to different audiences. Our lessons through Music Express enable us to develop our skills and appreciate a wide variety of different music.

As listeners we also have the opportunity to discuss and share our thoughts, feelings and ideas about a range of musical genres.

Evidence of Knowledge and Skills

Music teaching at The Willows Primary School aims to follow the specifications of the National Curriculum; providing a broad, balanced and differentiated curriculum and ensuring the progressive development of musical concepts, knowledge and skills. We measure the impact of our curriculum and evidence of knowledge and skills through the following methods:

- Pupil discussions and interviewing the pupils about their learning
- Discussions between staff and the subject leader in relation to general learning, progress and coverage.

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During our time at The Willows, we have the option to further our talents by being part of the school choir and playing the Ukulele or Guitar with a specialist Front Row Music teacher. Across lower KS2, we have the opportunity to play African drums with a trained Music teacher.

We also have the opportunity to come together each week and share our passion for singing different songs through singing assemblies.

- Tracking of standards across the curriculum through recorded practical video evidence and informal observations conducted by the subject lead.
- Use of half termly assessment tools and summaries created by the subject lead identifying positives and areas for development.
- Pupil voice is used to ensure we are fostering a love of music through group and 1-1 music sessions led by Front Row Education.

Resilience

Music within The Willows promotes children's physical and mental health.

Performance is at the heart of musical teaching and learning at The Willows Primary school and pupils participate in a range of performances during their school 'career' building on children's confidence and self-esteem.

Parents are invited and welcomed to watch all of these performances whether at school or outside of school. Alongside our curriculum provision for Music, pupils are able to participate in additional small group and 1:1 music teaching by being offered the opportunity to learn Ukulele or Guitar with Front Row teachers.

Pupils are encouraged to join the school choir. The school choir is currently open to KS2 children on a weekly basis.

Pupils in the school choir focus on singing in unison, developing harmony, solo performances and having fun! The school choir also have the opportunity to perform in school performances, carol concerts and have sung at a range of events both in school and at other venues.

Children are shown the skills in order to practice and build resilience when learning a musical instrument. Developing such skills will empower pupils to overcome challenges that they face in the future. Our music curriculum also encourages pupils to improve their work by reflecting upon areas that they could improve upon within their compositions and performances.

Ambition

At The Willows, children are provided with opportunities to further embed their love and understanding of Music. These include having visitors within school with a musical talent and watching live performances. Children's interests and talents are also encouraged and showcased in class and assemblies ensuring that everyone's achievements are celebrated regardless of previous musical experience.

Children in Years 3 and 4 benefit from whole class specialist teaching of African Drumming, delivered by a member of One Education. These lessons allow children the opportunity to learn to play an instrument as part of an ensemble and to foster a love of music learning. Through specialist tutoring of Ukulele and Guitar children are encouraged to further develop their talents.

Through the teaching of Music within the classroom, children are given the support and confidence to develop themselves as learners.

Respect

We give children opportunities to be imaginative, to use experiences and observations to make connections in their learning and respect that learning can be accomplished in different forms.

Our music curriculum encourages pupils to communicate their ideas and to listen to the ideas of others when composing as part of a group. Pupils are also encouraged to give constructive feedback to their peers which enables pupils to develop the skills needed to give feedback in a respectful manner.