

INTAKE SCHOOL



MUSIC POLICY

Revised October 2017

Review date: October 2019

Music at Intake School

Aims and objectives

Music is a unique way of communicating that can inspire and motivate children. It is a vehicle for personal expression, and it can play an important part in the personal development of people. Music reflects the culture and society we live in, and so the teaching and learning of music 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.

The objectives of teaching music in our school are to enable children to:

- know and understand how sounds are made and then organised into musical structures;
- know how music is made through a variety of instruments;
- know how music is composed and written down;
- know how music is influenced by the time, place and purpose for which it was written;
- develop the interrelated skills of performing, composing and appreciating music.

Teaching and learning style

At Intake School we make music an enjoyable learning experience. We encourage children to participate in a variety of musical experiences through which we aim to build up the confidence of all children. Singing lies at the heart of good music teaching. Our teaching focuses on developing the children's ability to sing in tune and with other people. Through singing songs, children learn about the structure and organisation of music. We teach them to listen to and appreciate different forms of music. As children get older, we expect them to maintain their concentration for longer, and to listen to more extended pieces of music. Children develop descriptive skills in music lessons when learning about how music can represent feelings and emotions. We teach children to make music together, to understand musical notation, and to compose pieces.

Additional music teaching

All children in Year 2 and Year 4 are given the opportunity to study a musical instrument (Y2 - recorder, Y4 - clarinet) with a peripatetic teacher free of charge. Peripatetic music teaching is provided by Sheffield Music Service Wider Opportunities Scheme. In Years 5 and 6, pupils who wish to continue to learn, can do so under the Pathways Scheme These

lessons are normally taught to small groups of children, who pay a small weekly fee for the tuition, although the hire of the instrument is free. This is in addition to the normal music teaching of the school, and takes place during lunchtime. We also have an after school recorder club which is open to all pupils from our school and other schools in the area.

Music curriculum planning

Our school uses the national curriculum for music as the basis for its curriculum planning. While there are opportunities for children of all abilities to develop their skills and knowledge, the progression planned into the scheme of work means that the children are increasingly challenged as they move through the school.

The Early Years Foundation Stage

We teach music in reception classes as an integral part of the topic work covered during the year. As the reception class is part of the Early Years Foundation Stage of the National Curriculum, we relate the musical aspects of the children's work to the objectives set out in the Early Learning Goals (ELGs) which underpin the curriculum planning for children aged three to five. Music contributes to a child's personal and social development. Counting songs foster a child's mathematical ability, and songs from different cultures increase a child's knowledge and understanding of the world.

Assessment for learning

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. On completion of a piece of work, the teacher assesses the work and gives oral feedback to inform future progress. Older pupils are encouraged to make judgements about how they can improve their own work as well as giving constructive feedback to others.

Resources

We keep resources for music in a central store in KS2. In Foundation and KS1, there is a music trolley which is kept centrally.

Musical events

We believe that music enriches the lives of people, and so we wish to involve as many children as possible in musical activities. Every assembly begins with a song, and there is a weekly hymn singing assembly in both key stages where new songs are learnt.

All pupils in school take part in a musical performance for parents at Christmas. At Easter and Harvest we hold a whole school service, with specially learnt songs. We have an annual House Arts competition organised by the pupils which includes musical performances. We provide opportunities throughout the year for the children learning instruments to perform to parents and pupils. This includes solo and ensemble performances as part of assemblies and concerts. This recognises their achievements and celebrates their success. Twice a year, Sheffield Music Hub performs a concert for all our pupils. We also take up any opportunities involve pupils in local music festivals.

Equal Opportunities

All children will be provided with equal access to the music curriculum. This includes suitable musical opportunities regardless of gender, disability, ethnicity and socioeconomic background.

The contribution of music to teaching in other curriculum areas

The use of music throughout the curriculum can be hugely valuable in supporting and promoting learning. Teaching staff should consider how music and singing can be used in all subject areas to facilitate learning and enhance the learning experiences of our pupils when planning units of work.

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 Intake School 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.

Roles and Responsibilities

The subject leaders regularly review standards and monitor curriculum provision and ensure training and resources are up to date.