



Music Policy 2021-2024

Adopted by
Highfields Academy on

Approved by:	Principal	Date: 18/03/2021
Last reviewed on:	n/a	
Next review due by:	March 2024	

Rationale

Music is a very important aspect of the creative arts. It brings enjoyment and fulfilment during the time it is being undertaken whilst also nurturing the development of the senses thus leaving an opportunity for a life long interest to be created. It encourages social interaction and practical involvement. It gives participants the opportunity to explore the rich depth of human emotion and cultural understanding through the lives and work of musicians and composers.

Aims

- To encourage all children to listen to and take part in music making with enjoyment and vigour.
- To help the children to use music as a medium for the expression of his/her own ideas and feelings, by creating music in response to stimulus, providing the opportunity for improvisation, self expression and adaptation of existing music.
- To offer children opportunities to experience personal satisfaction and self-confidence derived from striving after high standards whilst engaged in musical activities.
- To help all children to extend their knowledge and to develop their own awareness and understanding of music from a wide variety of traditions, styles, cultures and places.
- To develop social skills and awareness through group music making.
- To provide first hand experience of the basic elements of music (melody, pitch, rhythm, texture, timbre, dynamics, structure) through musical activity.
- To help children to interpret sounds and music in movement and dance, drama, art and forms of writing.

Implementation

Music is a non-core foundation subject in the National Curriculum. The fundamental skills, knowledge and understanding are set out in the National Curriculum for music. A music scheme, Music Express, has been purchased to support the teaching in some year groups. We also use Charanga to support our teaching and learning. Wider Opportunities lessons are delivered to Year 5 and Year 6 children.

Learning Organisation

At Highfields School, a variety of teaching and learning strategies are used depending on the age, aptitude and ability of the pupils, purpose of the lesson and preference of the individual teacher. In Foundation, Key Stage One and Key Stage Two, music will be taught as a timetabled lesson, usually by the class teacher, and where appropriate will be taught through topic. Activities will usually be teacher directed or open-ended and differentiated by task or outcome. Opportunities are offered to all children to compose, perform and listen to music. Assessment will be ongoing and will rely on the teacher to undertake this on a regular basis. At the end of each half term the class teacher assesses the children using the objectives from the half term and updates the pupil tracking grids.

Pupils with special educational needs

Pupils are encouraged to participate in all lessons to the best of their capabilities and are given appropriate tasks, additional help or extension work when necessary.

Multicultural activities

Music is multicultural. It transcends ethnic, cultural, social and emotional boundaries. Music from a wide range of countries is listened to and used for performances during all classes and topics.

Instrumental tuition

Peripatetic teachers visit the school once a week to give private lessons to those pupils whose parents request them. These lessons are paid for by the families involved. Keyboard, strings, brass, guitar and percussion lessons are available.

Instruments are also taught through the Wider Opportunities initiative, in year 5 the children learn the clarinet, trumpet or trombone and these instruments are taken home to enable the children to practise. In Year 6 the children have percussion lessons. Each term is spent learning a different percussion instrument and the djembes, taiko drums and samba are taught on rotation. The Year 2 children also learn the recorder as part of their lessons.

The School Choir

The choir meets as a club for half an hour once a week and the rehearsals end in a regular concert.

Performances

Pupils participate in concerts, productions, services and demonstrations throughout the school year. In this way they share their expertise with their peers and the local community. School performances take place at Christmas, Spring and end of the Summer Term.

Key Stage One at Christmas
Year 3 and 4 in Spring
Year 5 and 6 in Summer

Visiting musicians

During the year groups or solo musicians come into school to give concerts and demonstrations to the children. These may include professional musicians or pupils and staff from the local High Schools.

Resources

An audit of resources is undertaken each year and the coordinator ensures that the resources are kept in good working order.