

# **POLICY FOR MUSIC**

## **INTRODUCTION**

This document is a statement of the aims, principles and strategies for the teaching of Music at St Margaret's C.E. Primary School.

It was developed during the Autumn Term 2016 through a process of consultation with teaching staff. It was approved by the governing body. The policy will be reviewed in 2019.

## **WHAT IS MUSIC?**

MUSIC is concerned with the creative, aesthetic and emotional response to rhythmic combinations of sounds. Music education has two strands: creation and evaluation. The creative element involves children in using a variety of instruments for composing, improvising and performing. The evaluative element enables pupils to develop skills in listening to and appraising their own work and that of other musicians and composers and to understand the value and significance of Music in society.

## **AIMS**

OUR AIMS IN TEACHING MUSIC are that all children will build upon their natural responses to music to:

- Find enjoyment in creating music and see themselves as musicians
- Find a lasting sense of purpose, achievement and fulfilment in musical expression
- Develop skills to use a range of instruments (including the voice) and techniques competently
- Feel able to express their ideas and feelings through musical creation
- Learn to listen analytically
- Develop an appropriate vocabulary to help them understand and discuss their own work and that of others
- Understand the relationship between sound and symbol and develop a working knowledge of systems of notation for use in composing and performing
- Appreciate and evaluate the work of a range of composers and musicians from their own and other cultures

## **CLASSROOM MANAGEMENT**

EARLY YEARS AND KS1: Throughout the Infant Department, singing takes place in the Hall together each week for 15 minutes. Activities in the classroom include composition, listening and performing in whole class sessions.

Most classes base their planning on Music Express although some units are not topic-related. A box of percussion instruments is available for each Early Years class and there is a Music Trolley containing standard percussion instruments situated in the corridor near to Chestnut Class.

Lessons may be delivered in short blocks for up to 30 minutes duration.

KS2: Lessons for Years 3, 5 and 6 are topic related units linked to the objectives in the National Curriculum. A variety of instruments are incorporated in lessons and stored in Amberley Class and some in the music room. Year 4 follow the Music Key 2 Scheme taught by Music Support Staff from the County, and followed up later in the week by school music staff. The school has bought 24 cellos and 48 violas so that the entire year group can learn an instrument.

All classes receive around 30-40 minutes of music teaching each week.

### **AREAS OF STUDY AT BOTH KEY STAGES**

Singing  
Playing  
Composing  
Recording  
Listening and using knowledge  
Responding and evaluating

KS2 children attend a weekly 20 minute Junior Worship Session in the Hall. Here some listening material is included as it is at the beginning and the end of Assemblies.

### **OTHER OPPORTUNITIES AT KS1:**

Year 2s are given the opportunity to learn the recorder in an after school club.  
Year 1/2 are given the opportunity to take part in a lunch time choir.

### **OTHER OPPORTUNITIES AT KS2:**

All KS2 children are given the opportunity to join the County Instrumental Scheme with visiting teachers. Lessons are held in groups of 4 or less. Currently strings, drums and woodwind are taught.

Children can start or continue weekly recorder lessons progressing to different sizes of instruments and ensemble playing in the advanced classes. Most lessons take place through the lunch period, with advanced recorders after school.

A group of Year 6's currently form the Handbell Team.

The school also possesses a school choir open to all Year 3 – 6 where unison and part songs are taught and performed at appropriate times of the year.  
Choir members are currently invited to audition for a choir of the most talented singers (16 children) to improve part and harmony singing.

## **AT BOTH KEY STAGES:**

All children are also encouraged to take part on a voluntary basis in Music Assemblies which take place once a term. These may include items being studied both in and out of school. All music clubs also take part.

Children are sometimes given opportunities to listen to visiting groups of musicians including solo instrumentalists, local teacher groups and live music groups. They also sometimes have opportunities to take part in music workshops. Children sometimes take part in performances outside of school.

## **RESOURCES**

The school possesses a variety of percussion instruments including tambourines, tambours, claves, Indian bells, guiros, maracas, cabasa, rainmakers, chime bars, xylophones and glockenspiels. There are a variety of Indian and African instruments including a number of djembe drums and 3 sets of Indian tabla. These are kept in the Music Practice Room. There is a Music Trolley containing instruments for KS1 in the corridor near Chestnut Class.

There is a drum kit kept in the drama studio.

A set of Handbells is retained in the school strong room.

## **ASSESSMENT**

It is expected that staff will not assess all children within their class, but just look for the outliers at both ends of the spectrum. This is recorded on the Network. Linked to objectives in National Curriculum.