

Music: Intent, Implementation and Impact

Intent

At St. Bernadette's Catholic Primary Voluntary Academy, we teach a clear and comprehensive scheme of work, in line with the National Curriculum. Promoting a love of music, singing and playing throughout the school community enables the acquisition of musical knowledge and the progression of skills. An emphasis on music helps to improve pupils' confidence and well being. Musical activities, assemblies and performances build a sense of community throughout our academy.

We believe music should be an enjoyable experience for pupils and teachers. Children participate in a range of musical activities and learning, building their confidence. They develop their understanding of rhythm, pitch, tempo, dynamics and duration, and learn how music is structured, as well as learning technical vocabulary for these elements. An emphasis on practical music making helps to improve the pupils' skills of performance, improvisation and composition. We have high expectations of our pupils in music and confidence in their individual abilities to perform and compose. Teachers encourage children to contribute with kindness and respect in lessons.

Implementation

At St. Bernadette's, we use the *Sing Up* music scheme, which provides teachers with lesson support for each year group. It is intended for specialist and non-specialist teachers and provides lesson plans, assessment and clear progression. Videos and whiteboard activities provide engaging activities, which develop key skills and knowledge. Each lesson builds upon prior learning, consolidating the children's learning. The learning within this curriculum is based on the following areas: in KS1 the children learn listening, singing, composing and the musicianship skills of pulse/beat, rhythm and pitch; throughout KS2, the children further develop their skills and knowledge in the areas of listening, singing, improvisation and composing, and performance. They also further build on their reading of staff notation.

Sing Up incorporates a range of musical styles and traditions, using pieces recommended in the Model Music Curriculum. Through their learning, children will develop an understanding of culture and history, both British and of ethnicities from across the world. In addition, some links have been made to the children's curriculum topics, for instance the *BBC Ten Pieces*, *Holst's Mars* to link to the *Worlds of Wonder* Topic in UKS2.

In EYFS, singing, dancing, rhythm and rhyme is taught as a specific area in the EYFS curriculum. Music enables children to develop and enjoy all forms of expression. It supports listening and observation skills, curiosity and enjoyment. It also provides opportunities to explore Understanding of the World. In Nursery, musical learning is incorporated into the topics, *Sing Up* lesson materials support the teachers. In reception classes, children have a 20- 30 minute *Sing Up* lesson

KS1 and KS2 pupils have a weekly music lesson. This is so the musical elements can be taught and embedded throughout the year. Teaching Music regularly in this way allows the curriculum to be studied in depth; pupils will have time to learn, compose and perform pieces of work developing these skills over the weekly sessions. The *Sing Up* music scheme follows a steady progression plan, both within each year and from one year to the next,

ensuring consistent musical development. Music is planned in a two year cycle, in line with other curriculum subjects. Musical learning in school is further consolidated by fortnightly hymn practices, assemblies, concerts and performances. Extra curricular activities are offered with the school choir, and an After School Music Making Club.

Impact

The aim of our music teaching is to deliver a broad and balanced curriculum, in which the children develop their skills of listening, playing, performing and evaluating. Their knowledge of music is built upon each year as they progress through school. The desired impact of our Music curriculum is to teach the elements of music in a fun and engaging way. Through performing in class, and then to the whole school, children build their confidence. The elements of music are taught in a way that enables children to apply this knowledge to appraise the music they hear, but also to their own musical performance and compositions. Pupils sing, move and apply to internalise musical concepts. Musical theory and practice are taught hand in hand. Plenty of practical music making embeds this knowledge further.

During music lessons, pupils listen to, perform and compose music from a range of cultures, genres and styles. They have the opportunity to discuss and share their own thoughts, opinions and ideas, acknowledging and respecting those of others.

Progression snapshots enable teachers to assess pupils' understanding and skills at regular intervals. These activities and other assessments for learning observations ensure that children are accessing work at age related expectations in line with the National Curriculum.