



Music Curriculum Statement



At Drake's and Otterton C of E Primary Schools, we want our children to become resilient, positive, articulate young people who are able to make well informed life choices. We believe that this is supported by the taught music curriculum, as well as the enrichment opportunities we offer our pupils.

Intent

We aim for all children to be fully engaged in their music lessons, to be challenged by them and to make good progress during them. Our children gain a firm understanding of what music is through: listening, singing, playing, evaluating, analysing, and composing across a wide variety of historical periods, styles, traditions, and musical genres. We look to ensure that children understand the value and importance of music in the wider community and are able to use their musical skills, knowledge and experiences to involve themselves in music, in a variety of different contexts.

During music lessons, children are given opportunities to explore, investigate and make mistakes which they learn from. Their contributions are always valued and celebrated. Our aim is for children to develop 'a suitcase' of skills and vocabulary, which they are able to apply in real life situations. Our focus on QFT (Quality First Teaching) ensures that we have high expectations and that all children (including SEND, PP and the lowest 20%,) are supported, when appropriate, to access the full and rich curriculum.

The National Curriculum for Music aims to ensure that all children:

- perform, listen to, review and evaluate music
- be taught to sing, create and compose music
- understand and explore how music is created, produced and communicated

Implementation

The Music curriculum ensures children sing, listen, play, perform and evaluate. This is embedded in the classroom activities as well as the weekly singing assemblies, various concerts and performances and the learning of instruments. The elements of music are taught in weekly classroom lessons where children are encouraged to use some of the language of music to dissect it, and understand how it is made, played, appreciated and analysed.

In Reception and Key Stage One, children's lessons are linked to topic work whilst in Key Stage Two the skills of music are further developed through whole class instrumental lessons and composition units. This allows the children to understand the different principles of each method of creating notes, as well as how to read basic music notation.

Children will develop their understanding of music with effective teaching and considered sequences of lessons and experiences. Understanding of the musical dimensions (pitch, duration, dynamics, tempo, timbre, texture, structure and appropriate musical notations) will be developed by providing a curriculum which will enable children to take an active part in inclusive lessons where the curriculum is delivered in a fun and engaging way, further promoting a love of learning.

Children throughout the school have opportunities to learn instruments such as the guitar, drums and keyboard to build upon their own prior musical knowledge.

Impact

Music has an almost unique ability to offer access to everyone and at all levels of ability. Through its very nature, it offers a multitude of styles which stretch across time and culture. It gives our children the opportunity to develop not just creatively – it also contributes to their independence, their ability to reflect and builds a sense of well-being. Children are able to enjoy music in as many ways as they choose – either as listener, creator or performer.

We share our children's learning by providing performance opportunities to parents on open days, at annual performances, such as the harvest festival, and at concerts. We have enjoyed our Sports Events with the starting ceremony led by the children playing steel pans and even trumpets! Children are excited to share their progress with parents/carers and with the wider community. They gain a great deal from these events.

We ensure that music is included across each year group within every topic of learning, with a level of progression (illustrated in the Progression of Skills documents) that supports and challenges our children so that they develop lively, creative, enquiring minds.

Music in the Early Years:

From an early age, children are encouraged to explore and play with a wide range of musical instruments, as well as being provided with opportunities and encouragement for sharing their thoughts, ideas and feelings through a variety of activities in music. All children are encouraged to explore music through singing songs, making their own music and experimenting with sound.