



Water Orton Primary School

Music Policy

Policy written Summer 2023

Next Review 2026

INTENT

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 in a variety of ways
- 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

IMPLEMENTATION

At Water Orton Primary School we want to 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 each child. 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

Additional music teaching

Children are offered the opportunity to study a musical instrument with peripatetic teachers. Peripatetic music teaching is provided by Warwickshire Music Service. Parents who want their children to participate in the scheme must purchase or hire the instrument and pay the additional music lesson fees on a termly basis. These lessons are normally taught to small groups of children who have chosen to learn one of a variety of instruments, such as the guitar and keyboard. This is in addition to the normal music teaching of the school, but may take place during curriculum time. More recently we have introduced recorder lesson for all year 3 and 4 children using Charanga resources. This provision will form the basis of supportive instrumental work for all children.

Music curriculum planning

Our school uses the online scheme *Charanga* as the basis for its curriculum planning. While there are opportunities for children of all abilities to develop their skills and knowledge in each teaching unit, the progression planned into the scheme 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

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 unit of work, the teacher assesses the work and gives oral feedback as necessary to inform future progress. Children are encouraged to make judgements about how they can improve their own work. At the end of each term, teachers make a summary judgement about the work of each pupil and record these assessments on SONAR.

Resources

All classroom resources are currently kept in The Library (formerly The Studio).

IMPACT

We believe that music enriches the lives of people, and so we wish to involve as many children as possible in musical activities. Children from Y3-6 to join are invited to join the Choir which meets on a weekly basis and, although its primary aim is to enable children to enjoy singing together, Choir also performs for parents and the school on occasions, as well as taking part in Young Voices annually. A more recent initiative is Consortium Voices which involves children from consortium schools coming together and singing for pleasure in front of their parents. The Choir has also taken part in a Christmas Concert with Birmingham Choral Union.

We Celebrate in Song every other Thursday, encouraging children to learn different songs and styles and to participate in mini performances each session.

We provide opportunities throughout the year for budding musicians to perform for the school community. This includes solo and ensemble performances as part of assemblies and concerts. This recognises their achievements and celebrates their success.

