

Kings Road CPS



Music Policy

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Excellence, in every area without compromise

Music is a universal language that embodies one of the highest forms of creativity.
(NC 2014)

At King's Road Primary School Music is valued as an important and expressive form of communication. Music can inspire and motivate pupils. It is a vehicle for personal expression, promotes emotional development, and encourages creativity. It builds self-esteem and helps develop self-control and positive social attitudes.

Teaching of Music enables children to listen to, create, play, perform and enjoy a wide range of music. This enables children to develop skills to appreciate different musical forms and genres and begin to make informed judgements about the quality of music.

Music reflects culture and society, and opportunities are provided for a range of culturally and historically diverse musical experiences which help build understanding of the context of music making.

Intent

Curriculum content

The national curriculum for music aims to ensure that all pupils:

- perform, listen to, review and evaluate music across a range of historical periods, genres, styles and traditions, including the works of the great composers and musicians
- learn to sing and to use their voices, to create and compose music on their own and with others, have the opportunity to learn a musical instrument, use technology appropriately and have the opportunity to progress to the next level of musical excellence
- understand and explore how music is created, produced and communicated, including through the interrelated dimensions: pitch, duration, dynamics, tempo, timbre, texture, structure and appropriate musical notations.

At Kings Road Primary School, we aim to provide a high-quality music education which engages and inspires pupils to develop a love of music and their talent as musicians, and so increases their self-confidence, creativity and sense of achievement.

Curriculum rationale

Music is a practical, creative subject, which should enhance the lives and learning of all children. Music is a unique way of communicating that can inspire and motivate children. It gives an opportunity for personal expression and it can play an important part in the personal development of an individual.

Music reflects our culture and society and so the teaching and learning of music enables children to better understand the world they live in. Our aim is to promote enthusiasm for and the enjoyment of, music in all its forms and also to develop musical skills and knowledge. By engaging children in musical experiences we can offer our children opportunities to develop skills, attitudes and attributes that can support learning in other areas as well as developing life skills such as listening skills, the ability to concentrate, creativity, self-confidence and a sensitivity towards others.

Curriculum delivery

Teachers are guided by a structured learning programme that builds sequentially and progressively from Years N to 6.

Our teaching focuses on developing the children's ability to use their voices, body percussion and musical instruments for creative expression. Through singing songs, children learn about the structure and organisation of music, and they develop their understanding and use of correct terminology, for example: rhythm, melody and harmony; pitch, timbre and tempo.

We teach the children how to work with others to compose music and perform for an audience.

Appreciation of cultural differences and diversity is encouraged and shared, thus reflecting Kings Road Values. This is supported by work followed in our PSHE curriculum.

We provide a wealth of opportunities for our pupils to listen to, and appreciate, different forms of music, from a wide range of historical, cultural and social contexts, to reflect the rich diversity and heritage of our school community.

Curriculum accessibility

We are committed to ensuring the effective delivery of a music curriculum that is accessible to all our children, regardless of ability, and we strive to ensure that support is available to all pupils that need it.

Music allows for a range of learning styles, so we ensure that we cover these learning styles to allow all pupils to learn in the way that best suits them.

We offer opportunities for our children to learn a variety of instruments on an individual or small group environment. We have several music peripatetic teachers who come to teach at Kings Road, including clarinet, flute, recorders, guitar, ukulele, keyboard, and cello. Pupil Premium children are offered these lessons as part of their funding.

Children are also given the opportunity to learn to play a musical instrument in a whole class environment. We have peripatetic teachers teaching keyboard at Year 6 and ukulele at Year 4.

Where possible, we aim to arrange visits and experiences at times throughout the children's time at Kings Road School, to allow the children to experience live performances from professional musicians TMS musicians and from our music peripatetic teachers.

Implementation

At Kings Road we aim to deliver high quality music subject teaching which is based on the building of musical knowledge and skills and makes use of high quality resources and equipment.

The teaching of Music is based on the National Curriculum and informed by the MMC, and our chosen scheme is Sparkyard, a high quality scheme of learning approved by Trafford Music Service. The scheme builds knowledge and skills in a progressive model, so the children learn about the same musical concept through different musical activities which enables a more secure, deeper learning and mastery of musical skills. Many of our staff are non-specialist and it enables them to access the subject knowledge needed to be highly effective in their teaching of Music.

Within each year, there are six units of learning. Each is based on a multi skilled approach, covering listening, appraising, playing instruments, improvisation, composition, performing. The focus on different learning styles- visual, auditory and kinesthetic allows all children to access the musical experiences. Open ended questioning allows the children to think critically about their learning. Small group practical activities facilitate discussions, and identify and correct misconceptions.

Teachers have been involved in the joint Singing Pilot Project with TMS (2023-24) to strengthen their own musical skills, focused on teaching singing. There are monthly online Sparkyard CPD sessions for teachers wishing to refresh their skills or who are new to the school. The Subject Leader attends the termly TMS cluster group, accessing further CPD, which can then be shared with other teaching staff.

Cross-curricular links are encouraged, and there are opportunities within the whole curriculum to teach Music both as part of a cross-curricular approach and discretely. Other high-quality resources are available for teachers to access, including BBC Ten Pieces.

Assessment is based on formative assessment focusing on the outcome of individual lessons, allowing the teacher to plan effective next steps. The children take ownership of their learning and their musical development through self-reflection sessions in the lessons.

Impact

Provide enriching experiences

At Kings Road, we aim to give our children the opportunities to experience live music performances from professional musicians including, where possible, from a range of musical backgrounds and cultures.

We provide opportunities for the children to learn an instrument as part of a class group as the children move through school including recorder, ukulele and keyboards, as well as a range of untuned instruments.

Alongside this, we give the opportunity for the children to learn an instrument as part of a small group or individually, including cello, violin, guitar, clarinet, flute, keyboards and recorder. These lessons are taught by professional musicians.

At Key Stage 2, the children have the opportunity to sing as part of the choir, and to perform to audiences both at school events and at outside venues including Trafford Town Hall and Cosgrove Hall Court, a local sheltered apartment complex.

Year 5 children take part in the Trafford Singing Festival in July. This event takes place at the Garrick Theatre in Altrincham/ Waterside Theatre in Sale and gives the children experience of singing in front of a live audience in a professional venue.

Develop resilient individuals

We promote the skill of resilience in our Music curriculum.

Through the process of improvising, practising, evaluating, improving, performing and reflecting, the children have opportunities to make changes, revise and replay a piece of their own or group music to reflect its style and cultural background.

Children are challenged through open ended questioning to encourage independent thinking skills, and to voice their own opinions and ideas and express their reasoning, accepting that others may have different views

Promote ambitious mind-sets

As part of our Music curriculum, we encourage the children to use their developing growth mind-set skills. We emphasise the fact that everyone can improvise music and everyone can compose music, through encouragement of 'ownership' - the music belongs to the child or the children in the group who improvised and composed it. It is the children's own expression.

We encourage personal and peer reflection, asking questions to give the children the opportunity to reflect on their learning and make decisions about what worked well and what could be improved.

Develop responsible citizens

As part of the Kings Road Music curriculum, we aim to develop responsible citizens. These skills are important, not only in Music, but can be applied across the curriculum.

Music promotes and builds the skill of active listening with sustained concentration, focusing on the nuances of a musical piece, and being able to discuss what has been heard.

Working collaboratively with a partner or a small group plays a large part in our Music sessions, developing skills of listening and responding, and of respecting others' opinions and ideas.

Our Music curriculum encourages the development of a recognition and an understanding of different feelings and emotions evoked by music. These are shared through questioning and discussion, and reinforces the importance of respecting others' opinions and ideas.

The children are exposed to a wide range of musical styles and backgrounds as part of our Music curriculum. Through questioning and discussion, we encourage an appreciation of different styles of music, promoting tolerance and a mutual respect for other cultures and traditions.

Provide a nurturing and safe environment

As part of the Music curriculum, the skills of practising, evaluating, improving their compositions allows children to make mistakes as an important part of the process.

The children at Kings Road have opportunities in their Music sessions to describe and explain what a piece of music means to them on a personal level. We encourage the children to share their personal feelings and emotions, within an environment where everyone listens, and is able to give constructive feedback.

Develop creative thinkers

Music is one of the highest forms of creativity- a high level form of expression both with and without words. The children at Kings Road are given plenty of opportunities to express themselves through improvising and composing, using others' music as a stimulus to provide them with ideas, and as a springboard, to think creatively to develop their own musical piece.

Assessment

Formative assessment of the children's knowledge and understanding is based on the lesson objective set. As OfSTED have recommended (Music Mark CPD Oct 2022- questioning an OfSTED Inspector), these assessments are used to plan next steps in the children's learning.

FORMATIVE DEVELOPMENTAL FEEDBACK is more important than summative.

SUMMATIVE- sparing use to check curriculum is doing what it set out to do.

The FITAS document is used to record children's progress and attainment in Music.

Resources

- Spqarkyard Scheme of learning is available online, and can be accessed by teaching staff.
- The Music storeroom, opposite the Cookery Room, houses the other resources available to those teaching music.

- Class Music instrument trolley- these are labeled, and have pictures of each instrument
- 15 keyboards and power sources
- 20 sets of yellow case glockenspiels
- 2 sets of red glockenspiels
- 15 guitars
- 6 tenor recorders
- 100 descant recorders
- 20 recorder books
- 2 cimbals
- Violins
- TMS loaned instruments for 1:1 / small group sessions
- 40 music stands
- Blue box- song books
- Red box- CDs matching song books
- Yellow box- Christmas song books and CDs
- White box- Nativity plays and CDs
- Microphones
- 4 disco balls

Monitoring and Review

Monitoring and review will take place within the context of the SEF/ School Development plan

The Music Subject Leader is responsible for the review of music and works together with the Trafford Music Service and the Headteacher to write and review the three year music action plan.