Music Policy

Last Reviewed: March 2025

Review Date: March 2030

Music Policy – St Mark's C.E Primary School

Our mission statement, 'Loving to Learn, Learning to Love' is at the heart of all we do and is underpinned by our School Values of Respect, Responsibility, Equality, Spirituality, Perseverance, Enthusiasm, Commitment and Trust.

Introduction

This policy outlines the learning, teaching, organisation and management of Music at St Mark's C.E. Primary School. The implementation of this policy is the responsibility of all teaching staff. The responsibility for monitoring and review is that of the Music co-ordinator.

At St. Mark's CE Primary School, we provide opportunities for all children to create, play, perform and enjoy music, to develop skills and appreciate a wide variety of music from all different genres and cultures. We embrace the National Curriculum purpose of study which states:

> *"Music is a universal language that embodies one of the highest forms of creativity. A high-quality music education should engage and inspire pupils to develop a love of music and their talent as musicians, and so increase their self-confidence, creativity and sense of achievement. As pupils progress, they should develop a critical engagement with music, allowing them to compose, and to listen with discrimination to the best in the musical canon."*

Aims in the National Curriculum

- 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 inter-related dimensions: pitch, duration, dynamics, tempo, timbre, texture, structure and appropriate musical notations.

Aims specific to St Mark's

- To develop musical skills through an active involvement in listening, appraising, performing and composing.
- To develop social skills through sharing and co-operating with others in the shared experience of music.
- To motivate pupils to enjoy and succeed in music.

Entitlement and Equal Opportunities

At St Mark's each child is entitled to access the Music curriculum at a level appropriate to their needs regardless of race, gender, ability or disability, religion, social background or culture. Certain areas within the curriculum may need to be adapted to take into account individual requirements e.g. the use of particular resources or ways of accessing a resource / area of learning.

Organisation of Music within the Curriculum

During the children's learning, they develop their musical skills, by performing in front of others, listening to a range of music and composing using instruments as well as their voices. The curriculum is delivered through standalone lessons, other foundation subjects and Collective Worship.

Music is planned in advance, to ensure all objectives on the curriculum map are covered throughout the year. The music curriculum map at St. Mark's is designed to provide children with many learning opportunities that reflect the breadth and balance outlined in the National Curriculum. It is supported by the sticky knowledge created by Focus Education, Development Matters non-statutory guidance from birth to ELG's and the Model Music Curriculum Non-statutory guidance published in March 2021.

From the curriculum map, a LTP is created, showing where objectives are taught throughout the year and by whom, as well as a MTP outlining how objectives will be taught. We are very fortunate to work closely with the City Music Service. All year groups have sessions with a music expert every half term.

National Curriculum Subject Content

Key Stage 1

Pupils should be taught:

- Use their voices expressively and creatively by singing songs and speaking chants and rhymes
- Play tuned and untuned instruments musically
- Listen with concentration and understanding to a range of high-quality live and recorded music
- Experiment with, create, select and combine sounds using the inter-related dimensions of music.

Key Stage 2

Pupils should be taught to sing and play musically with increasing confidence and control. They should develop an understanding of musical composition, organising and manipulating ideas within musical structures and reproducing sounds from aural memory.

Pupils should be taught to:

- Play and perform in solo and ensemble contexts, using their voices and playing musical instruments with increasing accuracy, fluency, control and expression
- Improvise and compose music for a range of purposes using the inter-related dimensions of music
- Listen with attention to detail and recall sounds with increasing aural memory
- Use and understand staff and other musical notations
- Appreciate and understand a wide range of high-quality live and recorded music drawn from different traditions and from great composers and musicians
- Develop an understanding of the history of music

Teaching and Learning Strategies for Music

Teaching and Learning in Music will be in line with the school's *Teaching and Learning Policy*, where provision is made for all learning styles. As an integral part of the teaching and learning of Music, children will be given opportunities to make their own Music, listen to a variety of Music from different cultures and take part in many performances.

The role of the Music co-ordinator is to:

- Support colleagues in teaching the subject content and developing their skills in planning, teaching and assessing Music, if teaching through the LCC.
- Produce a Music action plan with smart targets and work to achieve these.
- Renew, update and oversee the audit of resources needed to deliver the curriculum.
- Monitor and evaluate the learning and teaching of Music throughout each year group.
- Develop assessment and record keeping ensuring progression and continuity.
- Keep up to date with ongoing developments in the teaching and learning of Music.
- Liaise with the City Music Service to maintain a good relationship that allows us to learn and support each other.

Assessment

Methods of assessment will vary for Music as is appropriate to the learning. All teachers are involved in music lessons to ensure continuous formative assessment takes place. They can either support the child themselves to help the child achieve or highlight any misconceptions to the supporting music expert. Music progress may be reported to parents each term within parent meetings or annually in their child's written report.

Monitoring and Evaluation

The teaching and learning of Music will be monitored through medium term planning e.g. coverage of knowledge and skills, by completing pupil and staff interviews, through observations and through regular conversations with the music specialist.

Resources

Music resources can be found in the music folder in the curriculum channel on Teams. Music instruments can be found by the staff room or maths cupboard. Throughout their time at St Mark's, children will have the opportunity to use a range of resources.

Health and Safety

This policy needs to be read alongside our *Health and Safety Policy.* Consideration needs to be given in regards to completing risk assessments where necessary when planning and completing certain Music activities and projects or events.

Parental Involvement

As with all areas of children's learning we need the support of parents and carers to help us to maximise the development of each child's potential. This includes helping your child with any research or homework that may be set. Parents may also be required to attend specialist music sessions put on for their child and activities may be shared that they could then continue to do at home.

Annual Music Exhibitions

The school has a planned calendar marking key events. Visits and workshops are encouraged to enhance learning. Please see the performance LTP for when musical events happen throughout the year. As we develop our links with the Orchard Community Trust we may also celebrate our knowledge, skills and love of Music within the MAT. Music is often linked to Anti-bullying week, which gives opportunity for all children and staff to partake in a focused and shared learning approach.