

St James RC Primary School

Music Policy

Aims

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 many different cultures and societies from across the world 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 be a highly academic and demanding subject. It is also important in helping children feel part of a community.

At St James, the aims of music teaching are to enable children to:

- know and understand how sounds are made using our voices
- know how music is made through a variety of instruments;
- know how much is written down (simple notation of notes, pitches and rests.)
- 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;
- enjoy and appreciate a wide variety of musical styles;
- make and quantify judgements about the quality of music;

Teaching and Learning

At St James 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 all children.

Our teaching focuses on:

- Developing an ability to sing in tune and with other people.
- Developing an ability to recognise pulse and pitch.
- Developing an ability to play instruments with control and sensitivity working with others to make music
- Developing an ability to recognise how individuals combine together to make sounds
- Develop knowledge of musical notation and how to compose simple musical melodies.

Differentiation

We recognise that there are children of widely different musical abilities in all classes, so we provide suitable learning opportunities for all children by matching the challenge of the task to the ability of the child. We achieve this in a variety of ways by:

- setting common tasks, which are open-ended and can have a variety of responses;
- setting tasks of increasing difficulty for more able children;
- providing resources of different complexity depending on the ability of the child
- providing extra-curricular opportunities for gifted children and signposting parents to the opportunities available for a musically gifted child.

Teach Children with SEN.

We teach music to all children, whatever their ability, in accordance with the school curriculum policy of providing a broad and balanced education to all children. The Music Teachers provide learning opportunities matched to the needs of children with learning difficulties, and our work in music takes into account the targets set for individual children in their Individual Education Plans (IEPs). (See SEN Policy)

Objectives (Year Group Focus)

The objectives that are taught at St James are tailored to the children's musical needs. They are adapted from both the QCA objectives and the music teachers' own individually planned lessons.

The lessons are taught in half-termly blocks as follows:

Key Stage 1

	Autumn 1	Autumn 2		Spring 1	Spring 2		Summer 1	Summer 2
Rec	Beat and Tempo	Christmas Production		High and Low	Loud and Quiet		Timbre	Summer Concert
Year 1	Finding the Beat	Christmas Production		Instr of the Orch Chinese New Year	Instr of the Orch		Extend the Beat	Summer Concert
Year 2	Finding the Beat	Christmas Production		Instr of the Orch	Music from other cultures		Percussion Improvisation	Summer Concert

Key Stage 2

	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Autumn 1	<u>Families of Instruments</u>	<u>Exploring Sound and Effect (using African songs)</u>	<u>Song Writer/Pop Music</u>	<u>Music from the 2nd World War</u>
Autumn 2	Christmas Production Songs for Each Class Linked with Performance/Listening Skills.			
Spring 1	<u>10 Pieces Firebird</u>	<u>10 Pieces Storm Interlude</u>	<u>10 Pieces Short Ride in a Fast Machine</u>	<u>10 Pieces Connect It</u>
Spring 2	Boomwhackers	Boomwhackers	Boomwhackers	Boomwhackers
Summer 1	<u>Exploring Rounds</u>	<u>Basic Musical Skills</u>	<u>Music From Around the World</u>	<u>Musical Theatre</u>
Summer 2	<u>Expression in Singing- Disney Songs</u>	<u>Music in Ballet</u>	<u>Preparation for Summer Production.</u>	<u>Summer Production Songs</u> All the class will learn all of the songs.

Evaluation and Assessment

The Music teachers assess children's work in music by making informal judgements about achievement of Teaching and Learning objectives as they observe them during lessons.

At the end of each Key Stage the teacher makes a summary judgement about the work of each pupil in relation to the National Curriculum level of attainment. We use this as the basis for assessing the progress of the child and for completing reports to parents.

KS2 formal assessment involves a tracking grid for selected children in the class to keep track of continuing progress throughout the school. Levels are recorded at the end of the year are reported to class teacher.

Tape recordings, use of a digital camera or a video may also be used to record work done.

Organisation

A St James, we have 2 music teachers who give music lessons to KS1 and KS2.

E Atkinson- KS2

M Partridge- KS1

At Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 each class has a weekly timetabled lesson of forty five minutes.

Each week both KS1 and KS2 also have thirty minutes of Hymn Practise and singing together.

Links to other Areas of the Curriculum

Literacy

Music contributes significantly to the teaching of English in our school.

Children develop their language skills through singing songs, with attention to diction, meaning, rhythm and rhyme. Music is also used to stimulate discussion or creative writing.

Music also has a positive effect on the reading skills that children develop throughout KS1 and KS2. Memorizing lyrics, reading lyrics and also following music on a score help to develop skills that are beneficial for children's reading.

Through working with others in a musical setting, children develop their ability to communicate ideas effectively.

Numeracy

Music contributes to the teaching of mathematics through observing patterns and processes. Music lessons enhance Numeracy as the structure of music is mathematically based.

Science

Children practise experimenting with different sounds and making musical instruments.

Art

Graphic scores e.g. pattern pictures to illustrate sound effects.

We explore the link between music and art by listening to music and interpreting the feelings evoked by translating those feelings into pictures.

PHSE, SEAL and RE

Through the common goal of making music, children learn to work effectively with other people and build up good relationships. Music has a vital role to play in building self-confidence.

We encourage children to reflect on the important effect that music has on people's moods, senses and quality of life. We aim to enable children to encounter music from many cultures and, through their growing knowledge and understanding of the music, are encouraged.

Being a Catholic School RE and Music are intertwined at St James. The children learn hymns each week and sing at both Class and School Masses at church. At Christmas time each Key Stage perform a Nativity Play (KS1) and an Advent Service (KS2.) These musical opportunities provide children with the opportunity to reflect on their spiritual development through music and praise through song.

MFL

During Music lessons we learn songs in many different languages. This enhances the children's exposure to Modern Foreign Languages and also languages from across the world, for example French, German, Spanish, Swahili and Zulu.

Additional Music Teaching (Peripatetic)

Peripatetic music teaching is organised by the Bromley Youth Music Trust. Parents who want their children to benefit from having individual instrumental lessons purchase or hire the instruments.

The music lesson fees are paid on a termly/ half-termly basis.

These lessons are normally taught during the school day, during lunchtime, break time and normal lessons. A rota system is used so that children do not miss the same class lessons each week.

Instruments to be learnt include guitar, clarinet, drums, oboe, recorder, flute and violin.

Extra Curricular and Opportunities for Live Music

- Singing practice — Once a week each area meets to learn hymns and songs for assembly and special occasions linked to R.E. and P.S.H.E
- Listening & Appraising — Twice a week the whole school meets for 'whole school assemblies. As the children enter and leave the hall they have the opportunity to listen to a new piece of music from different cultures and genres.
- School entertainments — At Christmas time, each year group takes part in a musical performance of some kind. Key Stage 1 perform a musical nativity and Key Stage 2 perform at an Advent Service in the Church. At other times throughout the year for example Harvest and Easter, year groups or the whole school get together to provide appropriate musical entertainment.
- At Christmas time the choir performs Carols at various places in the local community. These include the local library, a local residential home for the elderly and the local shopping centre.
- Children who learn with peripatetic teachers are encouraged to play when appropriate, for example during a violin concert led by our violin teacher.

- At the end of the summer term Year 6 perform a musical as a leaving performance to the rest of the school and parents. Year 5 act as the choir in the show.
- We have an auditioned Choir for Years 5 and 6. It meets during Wednesday lunchtimes on a weekly basis. Its primary aim is to enable children of all musical abilities to sing a variety of songs together, performing them to the school on a number of occasions throughout the year, for example at the Christmas carol concert, a local Festival and at the Fairfield Halls. They sing a range of spiritual, popular and world music.

Health and Safety

Children are always encouraged to use instruments carefully and safely, ensuring that they are returned to boxes to be stored.

An instrument, which is blown, should have the mouthpiece cleaned thoroughly after each child has used it. When using these instruments, each child is instructed to do so.

Written by E Atkinson: September 2016

Review Date: September 2019

Signed _____

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