



St Hilary's School

Music Policy

Aims

- To provide every pupil with the opportunity and means to realise their full musical potential.
- To instil in every pupil a genuine interest in and enjoyment of music.

Music provision at St Hilary's aims to recognise that:

- Music binds pupils into the wider life of the school.
- Music plays an important role in pupils' academic and social development and in improving the ethos of the school.

Class Music Lessons

- All children in Pre-Prep have one with Prep having two class lessons a week, each lasting between
 - 25 minutes and 40 minutes.
- Class music lessons focus on the development of skills in three areas: performance, composition and listening. There is much overlap between these elements and the emphasis is always on practical music making.
- All children in Year 2 learn the ukulele.
- In addition to their class music lessons, children also enjoy much musical activity as a part of their life within the school. This often takes the form of rehearsals for school productions; the Autumn Term for Pre-Prep, Spring Term for Years Three and Four and the Summer Term for Years Five and Six.
- Progress and continuity are achieved through formative and summative assessment, peer and self-evaluation and written and aural feedback. Written reports are also produced for every child.
- Children in Pre-Prep are not formally assessed. However, their progress is monitored in relation to the key areas of the National Curriculum for Music, which states that:

Pupils should be taught to:

1. use their voices expressively and creatively by singing songs and speaking chants and rhymes
2. play tuned and un-tuned instruments musically
3. listen with concentration and understanding to a range of high-quality live and recorded music

4. Experiment with, create, select and combine sounds using the inter-related dimensions of music.

(Department for Education, Programme of Study for KS1)

Teaching and Learning

At St Hilary's, we encourage pupils to participate in a variety of musical experiences, designed to develop their musical skills in line with those principles set out within the National Curriculum for music.

The Scheme of Work is produced by the Director of Music and is amended annually with input from class teachers. Teachers plan lessons which meet the needs of their class and deliver the scheme of work taking account of information gained through marking, questioning and assessments.

Planning and Curriculum Content

Plans for music are written termly or half termly according to the Scheme of Work. The Scheme of Work sets out the key objectives to be reached as part of that unit's teaching. Planning explains how those objectives will be met and how the meeting of those objectives will be assessed. There is a long term overview which shows which units of work are to be covered in each half term.

EYFS

In EYFS at St Hilary's, we aim to provide opportunities for children to develop the skills required to express their ideas and emotions within song and through the use of a variety of instruments. Children are encouraged to use their imagination and explore how sounds can be changed. Activities are devised to help the children to recognise patterns and repeated sounds.

The children in Kindergarten and Nursery enjoy two singing sessions every day. In Reception, the children join in with these activities throughout the week, as well as joining whole school hymn practices. A member of the music department staff visits each class throughout EYFS to deliver one specialist music lesson each week.

All children in EYFS have opportunities to explore musical instruments, whether as a planned, adult-led activity or as a child initiated activity. Children are encouraged to tap out simple rhythms, select instruments to represent sounds and to think about 'louder/quieter, faster/slower' etc.

Staff plan activities that incorporate music from a range of cultures, particularly through festivals such as Chinese New Year and Diwali. Visitors are often invited into school to explore different musical traditions with the children.

Movement and dance is an important part of learning about music in the EYFS. Children across EYFS have different opportunities to explore moving in different ways to music and to talk about what they hear and feel.

Pre-Prep

The curriculum is designed to introduce basic ideas of notation as well as exploring how sounds might be manipulated in order to change mood or to describe a scene. Pupils experience a wide range of performance opportunities and listen to a variety of styles and genres of music. The curriculum is designed to be practically based and underpin important musical elements such as pulse and rhythm.

Year 1

Musical Elements (inter related dimensions of Music)

Christmas Production

Pulse and Rhythm

Year 2

Musical Elements (inter related dimensions of Music)

Ukulele (all year, although can be sporadic)

Christmas Production

Outreach Songs

Compositions on percussion

Prep

The curriculum is designed to introduce more advanced musical and analytical concepts and aims to provide all pupils with opportunities to develop their knowledge and understanding of music. Pupils will gain confidence and expression in music through singing and playing instruments, exploring the manipulation of sound and through a variety of listening activities. Pupils will explore the background and cultural significance of music through history and from other cultures. Pupils will experience a variety of performance opportunities, including formal and informal settings, inside school and externally.

Year 3

Pulse and Rhythm composition

Spring Production

Descriptive Music

Year 4

Class Keyboard skills

Production

Tuned Compositions

Year 5

Sounds of Africa

How harmonies work

Composition

Summer Production

Year 6

Christmas Carol Composition

Film Music

Samba

Summer Production

Cross Curricular Links

Teachers look for opportunities to exploit cross-curricular links and to give children opportunities to apply and further develop their knowledge, skills and understanding in one subject whilst learning another. Children are helped to see links between different areas of the curriculum and to appreciate how knowledge, skills and understanding in one area contribute to learning others.

English: Music contributes significantly to the teaching of English by actively promoting the skills of reading, writing, speaking and listening. Children are encouraged to develop their language skills through singing songs, with attention to diction, meaning, rhyme and rhythm. Through working with others in a musical setting, children develop their ability to communicate ideas effectively. Children throughout the school are involved in numerous joint music/drama projects (eg. productions).

Mathematics: The teaching of music contributes to children's mathematical understanding in a variety of ways. Children engaged in analysing music are observing patterns and processes. Rhythm and structure in music is mathematically based. Pre-Prep staff often use simple songs as teaching aids when teaching, for example, multiplication tables.

PSCHE: Through the common goal of making music, children learn to work effectively with other people and to build productive relationships. Music has a vital role to play in building confidence and teamwork skills. Performances in productions and concerts are often the most memorable events of children's time in school.

Spiritual, moral, social and cultural development: Creating, performing and listening to music can be a moving and even spiritual experience. Children are encouraged to reflect on the effect of music on mood and emotion, both within curriculum lessons and extra-curricular sessions, assemblies, hymn practice etc. Children have the opportunity to explore music from a variety of cultures and, through their growing understanding of the music, they develop more positive attitudes towards less familiar cultures and societies.

Resources

There are sufficient resources for all units of work taught in the music curriculum. The Music Room and the Instrument Store Room are the main storage areas for music resources. Music teachers transport the relevant equipment into the EYFS classrooms as required. All other year groups have their lessons in the Music Room.

Extra-curricular Music

All pupils sing in assembly or in hymn practise. All pupils will be involved in a musical production once a year. Singing is incorporated into every aspect of school life, from assemblies and school events to learning multiplication tables. In addition to enjoying singing as a part of everyday life at St Hilary's, pupils perform their songs in formal, external engagements, such as the Carol Service, Godalming Festival and the Awards Ceremony in the Summer Term.

Ensembles and clubs available to Prep pupils include:

Orchestra
Senior Choir
Junior Choir
Brass Group
Guitar Club
Percussion
Woodwind
Strings

Ensembles and clubs available to Pre-Prep pupils include:

Junior Choir (Year 2)

All children have the opportunity to perform in teatime concerts throughout the year and within various assemblies. The most accomplished musicians participate in the prestigious St Hilary's Musician of the Year competition. All pupils perform as a part of the Awards Ceremony in the Summer Term and at the Grandparents' Tea in October.

Those children who have vocal and instrumental lessons participate in local festivals and are entered for examinations (Associated Board and Trinity) and scholarship auditions.

Peripatetic Music Lessons

- Lessons are offered in piano, flute, clarinet, saxophone, violin, 'cello, guitar, musical theatre, singing, trumpet, cornet, baritone/euphonium and drums.
- Most lessons are individual and will involve some theory and aural training. Musical theatre lessons are taught in groups.
- The timetable for music lessons is rotated each half term. Prep girls do not miss core subjects.

British Values

We actively promote democracy, the rule of the law, individual liberty and mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs. These are fundamental British Values which underpin all that we offer, as does our School Motto 'Not for oneself but for all.'

Reviewed: June 2019, July 2020

Next Review: June 2021

Person responsible: Mr Edmund Walsh (Director of Music)