

St Joseph's Catholic Primary School

St. Joseph's School is a Catholic family where each child is encouraged to love, learn and succeed.

Faith, Hope, Love

Policy for Music

Our ethos is one, which nurtures education through the recognition and celebration of all children's experiences and achievements, whatever the context.

Each child is an individual and deserves to be respected and valued as such. Every child is unique and made in the likeness of God. Every child should succeed at their own level and be praised for this success.

Subject Leader: Katie McCarthy

Governor Link: Barbara Thomas

Updated/approved by Staff and governors: 02/11/2016

Date for Review (3 years): **Autumn 2019**

Music Policy to be reviewed by Learning and Standards Committee

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Introduction

Music is a universal language that symbolises one of the highest forms of creativity. It is a subject that helps to develop creativity, imagination, good listening skills, constructive criticism and the ability to express personal thoughts and feelings. Music develops children's ability to take part in practical activities, both individually and in groups, that encourages and cultivates an enjoyment of different genres of music.

The Music curriculum provides breadth and balance, is relevant and engaging and is differentiated to match needs and abilities. 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 and objectives

General

At St Joseph's Catholic Primary School we aim to ensure all staff, children, parents/carers and Governors are aware of the aims for learning and teaching Music and that these are applied.

School Staff

At Joseph's Catholic Primary School staff are:

- to deliver a high quality music education that will engage and inspire pupils to develop a love of music and so increase their self-confidence, creativity and sense of achievement;
- to promote a confident, positive attitude towards the learning and use of Music, making it an enjoyable experience;
- to promote confidence and competence in the skills of speaking and listening; constructive feedback and sharing practical work;
- to provide opportunities for the development of musical skills where relevant across the curriculum;
- to ensure all pupils are able to access musical activities and
- develop and nurture pupils' sense of self and allow them opportunity to explore their own abilities

Children

We understand that music is a unique way of communicating that can inspire and motivate children. From this children are:

- to develop an enjoyment of learning through practical activity, exploration and discussion;

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- to develop confidence and competence in the skills of speaking and listening, constructive feedback and sharing practical work;
- to develop an understanding and appreciation of different types of music from around the world;
- to explore how sounds are created and can be organised into musical structures through learning and playing musical instruments and
- to learn to sing and to use voices, to create and compose music individually and with others.

Parents and Carers

We recognise and understand the important role parent's play to their children. We would like parents:

- to be understanding and supportive of our aims in learning and teaching Music;
- to praise their children for the good things that they do in Music and
- to communicate and work with the school whenever further support is needed to develop their children's musical skills and understanding.

Governors

Governors' role is:

1. To appoint a designated link governor who will:
 - meet with the curriculum Subject Leader at least once a year to find out about;
 - a) the school's systems for planning work, supporting staff and monitoring progress;
 - b) the allocation, use and adequacy of resources;
 - c) how the standards of achievement are changing over time.
 - Attend training and other events relating to the particular curriculum area.
 - Report jointly with the Subject Leader
 - a) for the School Prospectus;
 - b) to the governing body with recommendations, if appropriate, once a year.
2. To be understanding and supportive of our aims in learning and teaching Music and review the Music Policy annually.

Implementation of the Music Policy

The 'Music Express' Scheme of Work

The 'Music Express' scheme of work provides the basis of music lesson content from Foundation Stage to Year 6. This in-turn informs the medium term planning as to what is taught within Music teaching units. The short term plan

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lists specific learning objectives that are to be covered and success criteria to support both children and adults in assessing their work.

Teaching and learning is differentiated to best match the needs of the class or set and the individuals within it; within the context of the aspect of Music that is being taught. If the learning needs of specific children are best met following an alternative structure then this will be discussed by the class teacher with the SL and senior members of staff.

Additional music teaching

Children are offered the opportunity to study a musical instrument with peripatetic teachers. Peripatetic music teaching is provided by an outside agency. 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 violin. This is in addition to the normal music teaching of the school, but usually takes place during curriculum time.

Resources

Music resources are many and varied, including:

- a) Listening centres including tape recorders, CD players and headphones;
- b) A large selection of tuned and untuned percussion instruments;
- c) The 'Music Express' scheme of work (FS to Year 6);
- d) A vast range of song books, CDs, Harvest festival. Christmas productions, etc;

Monitoring and Review

The Head teacher (Wendy D'Arcy) and Music Subject Leader (Katie McCarthy) will monitor the effectiveness of this policy on a regular basis. The Head teacher and Music Subject Leader will report to the governing body on the effectiveness of the policy annually and, if necessary, makes recommendations for further improvements.