



Music Policy

'Music - an enjoyable learning experience.'

At Overstone Combined School, the children learn to sing and use instruments to develop a sense of rhythm, pitch and tempo and experience the enjoyment and excitement of making music together.

Music is a unique way of communicating that can inspire and motivate children. It is a vehicle for personal expression and it can play an important part in the personal development of people. Music reflects the culture and society we live in and so the teaching and learning of music enables children to better understand the world in which they live.

Learning music develops all aspects of a child's learning, from the physical action of using an instrument to the mathematical skills needed to keep a pulse. From a secure foundation, regular practice means that transferrable and related key skills are embedded within children's understanding. These abilities are directly transferable to other areas of the curriculum, allowing them to flourish, and will be invaluable in their future life.

The aims of music teaching are to enable all children to:

- 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 use their voices
- have the opportunity to learn to play a musical instrument
- to use technology appropriately
- to create and compose music on their own and with others
- understand and explore how music is created

ADDITIONAL MUSIC TEACHING

Children are offered the opportunity to learn to play an instrument with a peripatetic music teacher. Peripatetic music teaching is organised by the Local Education Authority's Music Service. Parents who want their children to participate contribute towards the cost of lessons.

MUSIC CURRICULUM PLANNING

Overstone follows the Charanga online music scheme. This ensures coverage of the National Curriculum statements across both key stages. Music is often taught and used within other areas of the curriculum, and to support and enhance the work done within the topics planned. The music subject leader is responsible for monitoring and reviewing planning.

Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS)

We teach music in Reception classe and the Early Years Foundation Stage following the Charanga scheme. Music contributes to a child's development in the area of expressive arts and design.

ASSESSMENT AND RECORDING

Teachers assess children's work in music by making informal judgements as they observe them during lessons. Additional evidence may be gained during school performances or other relevant events, and may be presented in the form of recordings or photographs. According to the amount of skills secured, a child is then banded (using Target Tracker) into:

Year group B _B+ _W _W+ _S _S+

RESOURCES

There are a wide range of resources available for the use of all staff in the school. We keep these resources in a central store. They are regularly checked for safety and relevance and new resources may be purchased as needed. Risk assessments may be carried out according to the activity planned.

WIDER OPPORTUNITIES

Where possible the school offers children wider opportunities in music. This varies year on year but includes steel band workshops and African drumming. The school has a good link with The Cottlesloe School and music teachers from there come and develop our children's skills. They also deliver choir to our children as an extra-curricular club.

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