

Music Curriculum Statement

Intent

The National Curriculum 2014 states that: “Music is a universal language that embodies one of the highest forms of creativity.” At Gorse Covert it is our intention to provide a high quality music curriculum that engages and inspires children to develop a love of music, nurtures their talent as musicians, and increases their self-confidence and curiosity. Through singing, playing, evaluating, analysing, composing and performing children will gain a firm understanding of the value and importance of music in their lives and the wider community.

The aims of the music curriculum are:

- Perform, listen, 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, 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.

Music in Early Years

Music is taught in Early Years as an integral part of the topic work covered during the year. As part of Expressive Arts and Design the children can begin to build a repertoire of songs and dance. Creating music and sound is taught cross curricular to enable the children to explore sound and instruments and begin to think about the best sounds to accompany a story, poem or song. Music contributes to a child’s personal and social development. Counting songs foster a child’s mathematical ability, and songs from different cultures increase a child’s knowledge and understanding of the world.

Implementation

Teaching

At Gorse Covert music is taught through a range of whole class, group, and individual activities. The Music Express Scheme is used from EYFS – Y6: supplemented with material from BBC broadcasts, Sing Up, The Oak National Academy and teacher generated resources. The curriculum ensures a wide exposure to different genres of music, with many practical opportunities to explore and develop as musicians.

The scheme of work is organised into half-termly units and music lessons take place weekly.

Each unit has a musical focus, broadly based on the inter-related dimensions of music and children are encouraged to use technical terminology. Cross curricular links are evident in all units.

Additional opportunities are offered:

- KS1 and 2 choirs
- Singing in the local community
- Assemblies and concerts
- Guitar lessons

Management of music

Governors and the Headteacher will ensure:

- that music is taught as part of the school's basic curriculum, following The National Curriculum music programmes of study
- all pupils make progress in achieving the learning objectives of the music curriculum
- the subject is well led and effectively managed and that standards and achievement in music and the quality of the provision are subject to regular and effective self-evaluation

The Lifestyle Team will monitor and evaluate music.

Impact

Assessment

As music is a practical subject, assessment will be done through making informal judgements, discussion with children, observations during practical activities and scrutiny of any recorded work. Children will be assessed against the key learning identified in the music planning overview, which forms the basis of our milestones assessment document.

By the time children leave our school, they should:

- Have performed in solo and ensemble contexts, used their voices and played musical instruments with increased accuracy, fluency, control and expression
- Be able to improvise and compose music for a range of purposes using the inter-related dimensions of music
- Appreciate a variety of genres and be able to discuss music using appropriate terminology
- Be able to use and understand staff and other musical notations
- Have experiences a wide range of high quality live and recorded music drawn from different traditions and from great composers and musicians
- Have developed some understanding of the history of music.

