

# **Saint John Fisher Catholic Primary School**



## **Music Policy**

**“To live, love and learn and learn in our caring community.”**

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All sound is a potential source of music. Musical experience involves working with and learning to control the medium of sound. Music has always played a powerful part in people's lives. It is a fundamental human activity and a unique way of organising, reflecting on and expressing individual and shared experiences.

### **Introduction**

This policy aims to offer guidance within the context of the whole school curriculum on how music should be managed, organised, delivered, assessed and evaluated within St. John Fisher Catholic Primary School. It supports the school's aims and objectives as described in the school's development plan, with regard to developing each child's full potential in all areas, with a particular emphasis on the development of the child's musical knowledge, understanding and skills. The implementation of this policy is the responsibility of all the teaching staff.

### **Aims**

It is our responsibility as teachers to offer each child the opportunity to participate in active music-making both through playing and singing, in groups and individually, and to establish foundations whereby music may become a recreation for later life.

The main aims of music education are therefore to:

- i) Develop a sensitive response to sound and patterns of music.
- ii) Develop the capacity to express ideas and feelings symbolically through sound.
- iii) Develop the necessary skills and concepts whilst engaged in musical activity.
- iv) Develop social skills and awareness through making music together.

- v) Develop an understanding and appreciation of different types of music and increase the ability to make judgements.
- vi) Offer opportunities to experience personal satisfaction and self-confidence.
- vii) Develop awareness of musical traditions in a variety of cultures and societies.

### **Objectives**

These aims can be met if children are given musical experiences, which enable them at their own level to:

- i) Demonstrate a general awareness of sound both musically and in their everyday environment.
- ii) Experiment with sound and identify sounds from a variety of sources.
- iii) Recognise pitch, dynamics and durations of sound.
- iv) Know from memory and be able to join in with a wide range of songs.
- v) Imitate and recall simple rhythmic patterns by clapping and using un-tuned percussion.
- vi) Improvise simply using voices or instruments.
- vii) Invent a short melody in response to a story, poem or movement.
- viii) Join in as a member of group music-making.
- ix) Express personal preferences with regard to music and to have respect for the preference of others.

- x) Listen to a variety of music (live/recorded music from a wide range of composers and cultures and from different times and places) with attention and understanding.
- xi) Offer opportunities for KS2 children to learn instruments through peripatetic tuition currently, guitar, violin, piano and recorder.

These objectives are met through the provision of carefully planned, differentiated activities to ensure optimum skills progression.

Children should leave St. John Fisher Catholic Primary school with a musical interest and knowledge which can be nurtured in future life. They will take with them many happy memories of experiences and activities during their primary years of schooling.

### **Equal Opportunity**

We are committed to providing a teaching environment conducive to learning. Each child is valued, respected and challenged regardless of ability, race, gender, religion, social background, culture or disability.

### **How we cater for children who are more able**

More able children are taught with their own class and stretched through differentiated group work, questioning and extra challenges.

### **How we cater for children with particular needs**

The music lesson is appropriate for all pupils. Teachers will involve children through differentiation and provide necessary support through the use of resources and adult help.

## **Organisation**

- i) The allocated time given to music is one hour per week. All children join together in key stages for singing practice for approximately 20 minutes each week. The remaining time is led by the class teacher based on schemes of work (Music Express) provided by the music co-ordinator.
  
- ii) Music also has an important role in weekly assemblies. All children join together either in key stages or as a whole school for an assembly which lasts approximately 30 minutes.
  
- iii) Performing in a class assembly, once a year, to which parents are invited.
  
- iv) Singing at mass, once a month.
  
- v) One KS1 and one KS2 class to attend a Morning of Music.
  
- vi) KS1 Christmas production, KS2 Carol concert.
  
- vii) Listening to visiting groups/musicians - free performance supplied by Coventry Centre for the Performing Arts.

All of the above will be enjoyable for the children and will aid them in their personal development.

### **Extra-curricular Activities**

- i) School choir (Yrs 4, 5 and 6) rehearse once a week for 30 minutes. They attend the Big Sing each year and sing carols at an old people's home at Christmas.
  
- ii) School choir sing at the Year 3 Holy Communion masses.
  
- iii) Instrumental Tuition for KS2 children - guitar, violin, piano and recorder tuition supplied by Coventry's Centre for the Performing Arts.
  
- iv) Music afternoon held at the end of the Autumn term and a music evening held at the end of the Summer term giving the children who have peripatetic instrumental lessons and the school choir the opportunity to perform in front of parents and peers.

### **Assessment and Recording**

Assessment informs planning and it is good practice for staff to make assessments and keep notes which they find useful. Significant achievement or weakness may be noted and may serve as a basis for planning future challenges and form part of the annual report to parents. Children are assessed using Key Stage level descriptors at the end of each year and this is reported to parents in the summer term. Pupils receiving musical tuition from peripatetic instrumental teachers will receive regular reports on their progress.

## **Resources**

Tuned and un-tuned percussion instruments are available in EYFS, the Infant hall and outside the Junior Hall. All year groups use Music express as the main resource.

A variety of CD's with a wide variety of music is available and kept in the Music co-ordinator's classroom.

Resources are selected by the co-ordinator using the music budget. Checking of the resources is ongoing throughout the year, any gaps are noted for rectification.

The Music funding allocated for 2011-2012 is £500.00. This included Morning of Morning costs.

## **Links to Music and other subjects**

Music contributes to many subjects within the primary curriculum and opportunities will be sought to cross reference a wide range of R.E., P.E., dance and drama and P.S.H.E. Outside performers are brought in whenever possible to work with children and give them experience of living music.

## **I.C.T**

ICT will be used in various ways to support teaching and to motivate children's learning.

- i) Video recordings of concerts and plays. This enabled pupils to have the opportunity to experience and enjoy the end product of lots of hard work and also identify areas of both strength and weakness thus pinpointing improvements for future musical performances.
  
- ii) Use of the digital camera to photograph live music

performances etc.

- iii) Browsing and extracting information from the internet based on classroom music issues.

### **Parental Involvement**

Parents will be regularly informed about any musical activities and events that are taking place. This also enables parents to see progression in the children's work.

### **Management of Music**

The overall responsibility for the music curriculum lies with the Principal. However, the music co-ordinator, standards leaders, class teachers and peripatetic teachers all have their part to play in the delivery and implementation of this curriculum.

Miss Cunningham is responsible for the school choir.

Role of the co-ordinator:

- i) To be enthusiastic about music and to demonstrate good practice.
- ii) To support and guide staff, encourage the sharing of ideas and organise in-service training where necessary.
- iii) To lead/organise for a KS1 and KS2 class to attend a Morning of Music.
- iv) To keep under review the written policy document for music and schemes of work.
- v) To write actions plans appropriate to the priorities of the school.



- vi) To lead, manage and monitor the implementation of music, including monitoring teaching plans and the quality of teaching within the school.
- vii) To purchase and organise music resources and experiences provided by external agencies with the music budget.
- viii) Collect work samples and photographic evidence from musical activities around the school.
- ix) Be aware of national and local developments in music through reading relevant materials and attending courses.

**Signed:**

D Williams

**Date: September 2017**