

MUSIC SUBJECT STATEMENT

Intent

At Ashfield Junior School, we aim to provide our pupils with a broad curriculum and help them gain a firm understanding of what music is through listening, singing, playing, evaluating, analysing and composing. We want pupils to enjoy exploring the different elements of music and to build confidence to perform as individuals or ensembles. Diversity within our community is limited, therefore we aim to enrich our pupils' experiences through the study of a range of musical styles and origins. Through our music curriculum we encourage collaboration and motivate pupils to learn and develop their skills using fun and engaging resources which explore a range of genres and styles. We aim for our children to build on their experiences through carefully selected sequenced lessons which will support them to develop language, reasoning, creativity and self-expression.

Implementation

We use the Charanga Music Scheme which provides teachers with sequenced lessons to deliver across the school. It is ideal for specialist and non-specialist teachers and provides lesson plans, assessment, clear progression and resources. The scheme supports all the requirements of the national curriculum. At Ashfield Junior School, we work on one unit per half term for each year group with sessions timetabled weekly or fortnightly in each class. In line with the curriculum for music and guidance from Ofsted, this scheme moves away from the previous learning objective/outcome concepts to an integrated, practical, exploratory, inclusive and child-led approach. Our pupils are able to dissect and analyse music, they learn how to play the glockenspiel, recorder and in time the ukulele and keyboard and begin to learn about musical notation and the staff. We hold singing assemblies in the latter half of the autumn term, during spring and summer we sing to promote themes and celebrations as well as using the musician of the month resources to enrich the range of music the children hear. The school follows a bespoke model using topics from the Charanga Music scheme to create a unique learning pathway. Units have been selected for the different genres they cover as well as cross curricular links and the messages they promote including friendship and our school values. Each year group also has a specially written unit, delivered during the summer term, focusing on an aspect of World music.

Impact

Evidence is gathered in the form of videos, photographs, and examples of pupils written work where necessary. Listening and appraisal documents are also used across the school to record pupil response. The impact of the music curriculum enables pupils to develop an understanding of culture, history, and they are able to enjoy music as listeners, creators and performers. Children have the opportunity to discuss and share their own thoughts, opinions and ideas, acknowledging and respecting that these may vary and that this is positive. They can dissect music and comprehend its parts. They can sing and feel a pulse. Music is shared within our school and community in the form of class performances, end of year productions for a wider audience and school performances in the local community.