

Music Curriculum: Preston Primary School

INTENT

At Preston Primary School, children gain a firm understanding of what music is through listening, singing, playing, evaluating, analysing, and composing across a wide variety of historical periods, styles, traditions, and musical genres. We are committed to developing a curiosity for the subject, as well as an understanding and acceptance of the validity and importance of all types of music, and respect for the role that music may wish to be expressed in any person's life. We aim to provide children with the opportunity to progress to the next level of their creative excellence. We recognise the impact of music on wellbeing and encourage children to develop ways to enable music to enhance their wellbeing. Our school aim to develop respect and understanding for all cultures, especially for those not highly represented in our school, including most BAME cultures, is supported through our choice of units.

IMPLEMENTATION

The music curriculum ensures children sing, listen, play, perform and evaluate. This is embedded in the classroom activities as well as the weekly singing assemblies, various concerts and performances and the learning of instruments. Each class has a timetabled 30 minutes music lesson each week (or 1 hour every 2 weeks which allows for more in-depth learning).

Through the musical program **Charanga**, teachers are able to produce inclusive lessons for all children to access the musical curriculum in a fun and engaging way, further promoting a love of learning. Teachers deliver music following the Charanga programme, designed specifically for the teaching of music in primary schools, planned in sequences to provide children with the opportunities to review, remember, deepen and apply their understanding.

The elements of music are taught in classroom lessons so that children are able to use some of the language of music to dissect it, and understand how it is made, played, appreciated and analysed. In the classroom children learn how to play a variety of instruments. Playing various instruments enables children to use a range of methods to create notes, as well as how to read basic music notation. They also learn how to compose, focusing on different dimensions of music, which in turn feeds their understanding when listening, playing, or analysing music. Pupils in Class 3 are able to borrow a school guitar and access the Charanga programme 'The Beginner Guitarist' from home to develop skills in an instrument.

As a mixed age school, we modify Charanga's programme to be a two-year rolling programme which enables pupils to engage in the entirety of the curriculum across their time at primary school. As a school with a low percentage of children from BAME cultures, we aim to include BAME musicians and music in our curriculum where appropriate.

IMPACT

Music enables children to develop an understanding of culture and history, both in relation to children individually, as well as ethnicities from across the world. Children are able to enjoy music in as many ways as they choose – either as listener, creator or performer. 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. Children can recognise the possibility that music has a positive effect on our wellbeing, and can use music to help to regulate their emotions. Our children develop respect and understanding of different cultures through the study of music and musicians.

At Preston Primary School children are provided with opportunities beyond the National Curriculum to further and support their understanding. These include having visitors with a musical talent, visiting concerts and school productions. External interests and talents are also encouraged and showcased in class and assembly, ensuring that everyone is challenged regardless of previous musical experience. Children have an understanding of how to further develop skills less known to them, should they ever develop an interest in their lives.