

St. Joseph's R.C. Primary School



Music Policy

December 2025

Review: December 2027

"Treat others as you wish to be treated"

Aims

Music is a unique way of communicating that can inspire and motivate children. It is a vehicle for personal expression and it plays an important part in personal development. The teaching and learning of music enables children to better understand the world they inhabit. Besides being a creative and enjoyable activity, music can also be a highly academic and demanding subject. It also plays an important part in helping children to feel part of a community. We provide opportunities for all children to create, play, perform and enjoy music, to develop the skills, to appreciate a wide variety of musical forms and to begin to make judgements about the quality of music.

Through the Charanga scheme, our music curriculum aims to ensure that all pupils:

- Develop a **love of music** and grow in confidence as musicians.
- Experience a progressive curriculum that supports **listening, singing, composing, improvising, and performing**.
- Gain a secure understanding of the **interrelated dimensions of music** (pulse, rhythm, pitch, tempo, dynamics, timbre, texture, structure).
- Have opportunities to explore a wide range of **musical genres**, traditions, and cultures.
- Learn to use their **voices expressively**, and to play instruments musically and safely.
- Improve their **musical literacy**, including staff and graphic notation (particularly in KS2).
- Participate in **ensemble work** and public performance opportunities.
- Develop creativity, resilience, teamwork, and self-expression through musical activity.

Teaching and Learning

Enjoyment and achievement lie at the heart of good primary practice; every pupil should enjoy musical activities. We encourage pupils to participate in a variety of musical experiences through which we aim to build up the confidence of all pupils. Singing lies at the heart of good music teaching. Our teaching focuses on developing the pupils' ability to sing in tune, developing their expression and ability to listen to others. Through singing songs, pupils learn about the structure and organisation of music. We teach them to listen to and appreciate different forms of music. Charanga offers a range of musical units that expose children to classical, pop, world music, jazz, film music, and traditional songs.

Pupils develop descriptive skills in music lessons when learning about how music can represent feelings and emotions. We teach them the disciplined skills of recognising pulse and pitch, how to make music together, to understand musical notation or symbols and to compose pieces using a range of tuned and un-tuned instruments, body percussion and vocal effects.

We recognise that in all classes, pupils have a wide range of musical ability, and lessons are adapted for SEND pupils following Charanga differentiation suggestions. All children are encouraged to participate fully, with additional adult support provided where needed. This ensures all pupils, regardless of ability or background, can access high-quality music teaching.

Additional music teaching

We provide the opportunity for parents to pay for private lessons with a peripatetic teacher during the school day, across a range of musical instruments

Musical events

All pupils take part in singing practice, assemblies and masses and perform in public on a number of occasions throughout the year.

At Christmas time, Foundation Stage and Key Stage 1 take part in a nativity performance. Key Stage 2 pupils undertake a Christmas concert.

The whole school takes part in a summer music concert.

Once a year, each class performs their own assembly.

Music Curriculum Planning

Each Charanga unit includes year-group-appropriate objectives that are sequential and progressive. They build term by term and year on year.

Lessons emphasise *active music-making*, encouraging children to listen, appraise, sing, play, improvise, compose, and perform.

Early Years Foundation Stage

Pupils are given an introduction to the musical interrelated dimensions through a variety of activities. Music contributes to a pupil's personal and social development, counting songs foster a pupil's mathematical ability, and songs from different cultures increase a pupil's knowledge and understanding of the world.

Assessment

Charanga's assessment grids are used to monitor progress in:

- Singing
- Playing
- Listening
- Improvising

- Composing
- Musicianship

Teachers make formative assessments during lessons, with summative judgements recorded termly.

Monitoring and Reviewing

The Music subject leader is responsible for monitoring the standards of pupils' work and the quality and breadth of teaching. The coordinator should support colleagues in the teaching of Music by informing them of current developments in the subject and by providing a strategic lead and direction for the subject in school.

Equal Opportunities

All pupils will be included, valued and supported in our setting.

We will:

- ensure that all pupils and staff are treated with respect.
- not discriminate against any pupil/adult.
- ensure that all pupils have access to the full range of educational opportunities provided by the school.
- strive to remove any forms of discrimination either direct or indirect that may form barriers to learning or to the development of any pupil or group of pupils.
- challenge stereotyping and prejudice.
- celebrate the cultural diversity of our school community and the wider world.

Health and Safety

Keeping Safe - It is important to us that all pupils in the school are 'safe'. Pupils are encouraged at all times to respect and care for their working environment, selecting, using, storing and returning their own equipment tidily and safely.

We also ensure that:

- Instruments are used safely and stored appropriately.
- Staff ensure safe handling, particularly when using larger instruments.
- Cleanliness and hygiene procedures are followed, especially for shared wind instruments.