



**ST. MARY'S CE**  
PRIMARY SCHOOL  
*Love, Trust & Hope*

# Music Curriculum Policy

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## 1. Curriculum Intent

At St Mary's C of E Primary School, we believe that music is a universal language that embodies one of the highest forms of creativity and can inspire and motivate children. It is a vehicle for personal expression, and it can play an important part in the personal development of a child. Music reflects the culture and society we live in, and so the teaching and learning of music enables children to better understand the world they live in. 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 feel part of our Christian community. We intend to provide opportunities for all children to create, play, perform and enjoy music, to learn an instrument, to develop the skills to appreciate a wide variety of musical forms, and to begin to develop individual opinions through critical appraisal of music.

The objectives of teaching music in our school are to enable children to:

- know and understand how sounds are made and then organised into musical structures;
- know how music is made through a variety of instruments
- know how music is composed and written down
- know how music is influenced by the time, place and purpose for which it was written
- have the opportunity to learn a musical instrument
- develop the interrelated skills of performing, composing and appreciating music.

## 2. Curriculum Planning and Organisation

At St Mary's C of E Primary School we make music an enjoyable learning experience. We encourage children to participate in a variety of musical experiences through which we aim to build up the confidence of all children. Singing lies at the heart of good music teaching and is accessed by all children through whole-school singing worship. Through singing songs, children learn about the structure and organisation of music. We teach them to listen to and appreciate different forms of music.

*Article 13 (freedom of expression) Every child must be free to express their thoughts and opinions and to access all kinds of information, as long as it is within the law.*

The Early Years Foundation Stage

We teach music in Nursery & Reception classes as an integral part of the topic work covered during the year. We relate the musical aspects of the children's work to the objectives set out in the Early Learning Goals (ELGs) which underpin the curriculum planning for children aged three to five. 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.

KS1 & KS2

Our school uses the national curriculum for music as the basis for its curriculum planning. As children get older, we expect them to maintain their concentration for longer, and to listen to and perform more extended pieces of music. They develop descriptive skills in music lessons when learning about

how music can represent feelings and emotions. We teach children to make music together, to understand musical notation, and to compose pieces. At St Mary's, all children receive whole class tuition on a musical instrument for a set block, currently 1 year. All children in KS1 and 2 also receive 20 minutes of singing during Collective Worship each week.

### **3. Teaching and Learning**

In EYFS & KS1, music is taught through singing and musicianship lessons provided by a visiting singing and musicianship specialist. This follows the objectives of the relevant curriculum and opportunities for performance are provided in school.

KS2 music is taught through group instrumental music lessons and musicianship classes. Children learn to perform as a group and individually during lessons, and exploring musical notation methods. They access external performances through participation in Tees Valley Music Service concerts, such as Snappy Christmas. Children are also able to participate in school choir, which regularly performs to the public.

Additionally, all children have access to group music through lunchtime and after school clubs, including school choir, school band and recorder group.

### **4. Additional Music Tuition**

Children are offered the opportunity to study a musical instrument with peripatetic teachers. Peripatetic music teaching is provided by Egglecliffe School. Parents who want their children to participate in the scheme must pay the additional music lesson fees on a termly basis and are able to hire an instrument from the school. These lessons are normally taught to small groups of children who have chosen to learn one of a variety of instruments, such as the guitar, woodwind, brass and piano.

### **5. Roles & Responsibilities**

Music as a discrete subject is taught by visiting specialist teachers from Egglecliffe School, through provision agreed with the Head Teacher and Subject Leader. Visiting music teachers are responsible for ensuring teaching follows a curriculum agreed with school and is delivered professionally. Visiting music teachers are also responsible for reporting any loss of or damage to instruments or resources to school staff.

Class teachers are responsible for liaising with visiting music teachers to discuss progress and ensure individual children's needs are met. Please see below for a full list of responsibilities.

The **music subject leader** is responsible for:

- Preparing policy documents, curriculum plans and schemes of work for the subject.
- Reviewing changes to the national curriculum and advising on their implementation.
- Monitoring the learning and teaching of music, providing support for staff where necessary.
- Ensuring the continuity and progression from year group to year group.
- Encouraging staff to provide effective learning opportunities for pupils.
- Helping to develop colleagues' expertise in the subject.
- Organising the deployment of resources.
- Liaising with teachers across all phases.
- Communicating developments in the subject to all teaching staff.
- Leading staff meetings and providing staff members with the appropriate training where required.
- Organising, providing and monitoring CPD opportunities in the subject.
- Ensuring assessment adheres to school policy.
- Advising on the contribution of music to other curriculum areas, including cross-curricular and extra-curricular activities.
- Collating assessment data and setting new priorities for the development of music in subsequent years.

The **visiting music teacher** is responsible for:

- Acting in accordance with the policies set by Eggescliffe School.
- Ensuring progression of pupils' musical skills, with due regard to the national curriculum.
- Planning lessons effectively, ensuring a range of teaching methods are used to cover the content of the national curriculum.
- Liaising with the **music subject leader** about key topics, resources and supporting individual pupils.
- Monitoring the progress of pupils in the class and reporting to the **class teacher** on a termly basis.
- Reporting any concerns regarding the teaching of the subject to the **class teacher**, **music coordinator** or a member of the **senior leadership team (SLT)**.

The **class teacher** is responsible for:

- Acting in accordance with this policy.

- Ensuring they are regularly updated regarding teaching and learning of the subject by visiting specialist music teachers.
- Liaising with the **visiting music teacher** or **music subject leader** about key topics, resources and supporting individual pupils.
- Monitoring the reported progress of pupils in the class.
- Reporting any concerns regarding the teaching of the subject to the **music coordinator** or a member of the **senior leadership team (SLT)**.

## 6. Reporting and Assessment

Children demonstrate their ability in music in a variety of different ways. Teachers will assess children's work in music by making informal judgements as they observe them during lessons. The teacher assesses the work and gives oral feedback to inform future progress. Older pupils are encouraged to make judgements about how they can improve their own work. Visiting teachers feedback progress reports to class teachers on a termly basis. This is monitored by the Music Lead.

## 7. Resources

Musical instruments and music stands are situated in the main music cupboard, found in the school hall, which can be accessed by all classes. Further instruments, books and CDs are stored in the LKS2 classroom cupboard and a drum kit and piano are kept in the library. Children should be taught to treat these with care and respect and to not use them without supervision. Teachers should ensure that all equipment is returned to its correct place ready for other classes to use.

The music leader should be kept informed of any breakages or resources going missing so that they can be repaired or replaced.

## 8. Extra-curricular Music

Extra-curricular music is available through the school choir, recorder group and school band. We believe that music enriches the lives of people, and so we wish to involve as many children as possible in musical activities. We encourage all children from Y1-6 to join our school choir. The choir meets on a weekly basis and, although its primary aim is to enable children to enjoy singing together, it also performs in public on a number of occasions throughout the year.

We also provide opportunities throughout the year for budding musicians to perform for the school and wider local community. This includes solo and ensemble performances as part of assemblies and concerts. This recognises their achievements and celebrates their success. These activities also provide valuable ways of linking with the local community, parents and also to liaise with other schools. These links reinforce the concept that music should be shared and seen as an exciting way of communicating and reaching out to others.

Children are given opportunities to listen to various visiting musicians and to participate in music workshops, for example, 'Snappy Christmas', provided by Tees Valley Music Service (TVMS) and visits from Egglecliffe school ensembles. Pupils are encouraged to participate in external music opportunities, such as musicals, shows and instrumental ensembles.

## **9. Equal Opportunities and Special Needs**

We endeavour to ensure that every child at St Mary's C of E Aided Primary School, regardless of religion, ethnic origin, gender or ability, has equal access to the music curriculum.

This policy has been reviewed with reference to equal opportunities, race equality and the Human Rights Act.

Children with special needs will be involved in all planned activities. Differentiation is considered during the planning process and may be by task, by outcome or by extra learning support. Adaptions will be made where necessary for additional support.

## **10. Parental and Community Links**

Parents are encouraged to be involved with their children's music learning, supporting home practise and attending concerts and assemblies where they are able.

The wider community in and surrounding Long Newton has long shown support for musical activities at St Mary's and this link is highly valued.

## **11. Health and Safety**

All performances & visits undertaken to enhance music learning must firstly be sanctioned by the Head Teacher and then must be subject to a risk assessment to ensure the health and safety of pupils, teachers and helpers.

*This policy promotes and ensures that the following articles of the Rights of the Child are adhered to and respected:*

*Article 28 (right to education) Every child has the right to an education. Primary education must be free and different forms of secondary education must be available to every child. Discipline in schools must respect children's dignity and their rights. Richer countries must help poorer countries achieve this*

*Article 29 (goals of education) Education must develop every child's personality, talents and abilities to the full. It must encourage the child's respect for human rights, as well as respect for their parents, their own and other cultures, and the environment.*

Policy reviewed by \_\_\_\_\_ -

Policy approved by the Governing Body:

Date for review: