

The Whitchurch CE Federation

The Creative Me - Music



“Music has the power of producing a certain effect on the moral character of the soul, and if it has the power to do this, it is clear that the young must be directed to music and must be educated in it.” Aristotle

Intent

At The Whitchurch CE Federation, we aim to provide a high-quality, progressive music curriculum through which the children will foster a love of music. As the Creative Me, children will develop their musical skills building self-esteem so they can express themselves confidently through performance. It is our intent to provide children with opportunities to experience and be inspired by high quality live music as well as providing platforms to develop themselves as performers. Children will know the joy of working collaboratively and imaginatively with the sense of pride that follows composition and achievement. Children will enjoy a range of music from a variety of genres and cultures as they develop an appreciation of contemporary and historical musicians.

Implementation

Children in KS1 and KS2 take part in between 4 and 5 hours of music lessons using Charanga each half-term. Each Unit of Work comprises of the strands of musical learning which correspond with the National Curriculum for music and covers the four key areas set out by the MMC:

- **Listening and Appraising**

Each unit focuses on a different genre and provides opportunities for children to develop a knowledge of music which is crucial cultural capital in understanding where we came from and our place in the world. Through Charanga, children have the opportunity to listen to and explore a breadth of musical genres from artists all over the world.

- **Musical Activities**

These include warm-up games, singing, playing instruments, improvisation.

- **Composition**

Using class sets of glockenspiels, children will have the opportunity to play along with familiar music and develop a reliable musical memory. During composition work, pupils will practise recalling melodic shapes, harmonic sequences, rhythmic patterns and sections of their compositions.

- **Performing**

As part of the lesson, children will have the opportunity to perform to peers and celebrate their work. During the year, parents will be invited into school so children have an audience to perform to and develop confidence and self-esteem. This will include performances in the local church such as the Christmas service and Easter service.

In addition to music lessons, children across the Federation take part in a weekly worship through song. We use a varied singing repertoire which is age-appropriate and develops the vocal range from Reception to Year 6. The songs link to our Christian Values which underpin the ethos of our Federation.

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Enrichment

- In addition to planned music lessons, KS1 children arrive in school each morning to classical music from different periods in history. By the end of each academic year, children should recognise 6 pieces of classical music and have a basic understanding of the composer, period and context of the piece.
- We have ten rock bands that work with RockSteady Music School to develop skills and performance. Each rock band performs to an audience of parents and peers each term.
- Each academy has a school choir where children recognised as gifted or with a keen interest in music can further develop their singing skills by singing in rounds, extending their range and singing in harmony. The choir performs at school functions, in church and in the wider community. The choirs will have the opportunity to perform alongside semi-professional musicians each year in a community concert.
- Recorders will be introduced from reception at a basic level. Children will then continue to develop their skill with this instrument at KS2.
- Upper KS2 children will be given the opportunity to take part in an after-school ukulele club.
- All children will attend a theatre production or enjoy a performance from a visiting professional musician to develop cultural capital and inspire children to perform.

Impact

The intended impact of the Music Curriculum is that the majority of children are working at the expected level. Children that demonstrate a natural interest or flair for music are identified and opportunities for them to extend learning and performance are provided. Children will be inspired by the Music Curriculum and develop a life-long love and appreciation of music. Progression will be clear through performance and floor books (digital at WJA). Children can articulate their learning in music including discussion about composers, genres and performance.