



Music Policy

Intent

At Welsh House Farm Community 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 an unbiased 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.

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. 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.

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 will:

- be able to enjoy music in as many ways as they choose – either as listener, creator or performer
- 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
- dissect music and comprehend its parts
- build a sense of pulse and rhythm
- understand a range of musical vocabulary
- explore how sounds are made, and how music is produced by a variety of instruments
- enjoy a wide range of songs and sing in tune

Teaching and Learning

Music in the Early Years

In EYFS and the Resource Base a specialist external music provider teaches a bespoke programme to support the early development of music and support the inclusive nature of our schools approach to Music. They introduce children in Early Years to the foundations of music through:

- Singing and vocalising
- Listening to music
- Exploring sounds
- Playing musical instruments
- Movement and dance

Music is imbedded across many other areas of the Early Years Foundation Stage. Singing and rhymes are taught and sung throughout the day to support early learning and communication. For example counting songs to support number and mathematics and nursery rhymes to encourage phonemic awareness.

Musical instruments are a part of children's continuous provision so that they can experiment with making their own sounds and music in their free play.

Key Stage One and Two Curriculum

Our school uses the Charanga scheme as the basis for its curriculum planning. This scheme has an integrated, practical, exploratory and child led approach to musical learning. The learning within this scheme is based on:

- Listening and Appraising,
- Musical Activities (including Creating and Exploring)
- Singing and Performing

All musical learning in the scheme is based around the Interrelated Dimensions of Music; pulse, rhythm, pitch, tempo, dynamics, timbre, texture, structure and notation.

Charanga lessons are 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.

Charanga is a flexible scheme, which allows staff to differentiate where appropriate for all needs and its specific SEND curriculum allows for more personalised teaching where necessary.

Additional music teaching

Across the school, there are various other opportunities for teaching music outside of music lessons. In Year 4, children learn to play the ukulele.

Musical events and performance opportunities

At WHFCS children are provided with opportunities beyond the National Curriculum to further support their understanding. These include having visitors with a musical talent, visiting concerts, the theatre and school productions. External interests and talents are also encouraged and showcased in class and assembly. They can showcase their Musical ability in the annual Welsh House Farm's Got Talent – revamped and relaunched in 2023-2024

At Christmas EYFS perform the school Nativity where they have the opportunity to sing as part of a group to an audience. KS1 hold a Christingle service with parents in attendance.

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. Video recordings are made of live musical performances for the children to use as self-assessment. On completion of a piece of work, the teacher will assess the work and

give oral feedback. Older and more able pupils are encouraged to make judgements about how they can improve their own work. Individual class teachers will keep samples of children's work in music for their own evidence. The Music Progress Map (see Appendix) will enable teachers to assess whether children are working below, above or at the expected level at the end of each year.

Resources

All staff in school have their own individual login and password to access the online Charanga music scheme. Charanga provides staff with high quality planning which allows them to deliver clear, concise and challenging lessons. For each lesson Charanga provides staff with adaptable materials such as IWB resources, music, lyrics, key terminology. To help enhance lessons a range of musical instruments are available in school including; untuned and tuned percussion (such as glockenspiels, drums etc), electric pianos and guitars.