Farnborough Road Infant School

Music Policy

“Learning, Caring and Achieving together”

AIMS

- To provide a music curriculum which is broad and balanced.
- To provide children with the means to express ideas and feelings through sound.
- To assist each child to develop a positive self-image and self-confidence.
- To provide a scheme of work that progressively develops musical skills, concepts and knowledge.
- To develop insight through music into areas of experience, some of which cannot easily be verbalised.
- To develop social skills and awareness whilst making music.
- To encourage singing for all members of the school community at every opportunity, in a variety of forms, gaining pleasure, self-confidence and a sense of ‘feeling good’.

MUSIC CURRICULUM

The school aims to provide children with a music curriculum which provides a progressive scheme of work through a series of activities following the National Curriculum Music programmes of study (2014) which aims to ensure that all children:

- Perform, listen to, review & evaluate a wide range of music of differing styles & cultures
- Learn to sing & use their voices, create & compose their own music
- Have the opportunity to learn to play musical instruments
- To understand how music is created, produced & communicated through the elements of pitch, dynamics, duration, timbre, tempo, texture, structure and notation.

ORGANISATION AND PLANNING

EARLY YEARS FOUNDATION STAGE:

Nursery

Music takes place as part of ‘Development Matters’. Nursery staff teach sessions of percussion –based activities both indoors and out and singing is a daily activity. In addition to this, nursery also teach a pre-planned focused music session once a week, ensuring objectives are achieved from the Exploring Arts and Design aspect of the Early Years Foundation Stage.

Reception

Teaching and non-teaching staff lead music and singing sessions as part of the Early Years Foundation Stage Exploring Arts and Design Area of Learning. In 2014 we introduced ‘ABC Music & Me’ into our curriculum. The instruments from this programme are currently being used to support teaching alongside other schemes; most notably ‘Music Express’ and other resources such as seasonal songbooks and CDs and various interactive whiteboard activities such as 2Simple Music and Thinking Things.

The Music coordinator is currently implementing a new music programme, designed by the Sky Music Hub Sefton team, to support teachers with their planning and assessing in music.

KEY STAGE ONE

In both Years One and Two we are using instruments from the ‘ABC Music & Me’ scheme to support our music curriculum. These are used in conjunction with other schemes, most notably ‘Music Express’, a progressive scheme of work in which all the musical elements and associated skills are taught in units.

The Music coordinator oversees planning and assessment is carried out by teaching staff. Assessment focuses on the importance of the pupil being aware of their individual progress and the next steps for learning. This data is tracked on Target Tracker.
PERFORMANCES
The teachers take responsibility for the organisation of their own Christmas concerts, summer concerts and other musical performances both in school and in the community. Close liaison is kept with leaders and staff. Each year group presents a different concert at Christmas and at the end of the summer term. Much of the material used is professionally published and includes CD backing tracks to accompany the singing. We strive to ensure that progression is shown both in the material used and also in the level of performances.

MUSIC ASSEMBLIES
Weekly Music Assemblies for Reception, Year One and Year Two are led by the Teachers with support from Teaching Assistants. The aim is to develop the singing of hymns and songs, which are used in collective worship, special occasions and themed days throughout the year. Much of the singing is accompanied by CDs. In addition, short clips of musical interest are shown, via the internet, to provide additional learning for music and the arts.

ARTS WEEK
This annual themed event for the whole school is organised by the Art and Music Leaders and activities are planned and input given by the whole staff. Recent themes have included ‘The Natural World’, ‘India’, ‘Carnival’, ‘Lines and Circles’ and ‘Pattern’
A programme of visiting artistes includes Dance, Drama and Music specialist teachers. Celebration assemblies are held at the end of the week at which all are encouraged to share their achievements in, and enjoyment of the arts.

TEACHING AND LEARNING
Children experience a variety of teaching and learning situations in year groups, class groups, small groups, pairs and individually.
Lessons are essentially practical using the resources available as outlined in the scheme of work.
Activities are planned to enrich each child’s experience and develop their knowledge and skills in music.
This is enhanced by the use of recorded material and wherever possible, live music.

RESOURCES
The Studio is a multi-purpose teaching and learning space for Performing and Creative Arts. All musical instruments are stored in the studio or stock room with percussion instruments readily available for use both in the studio and in classrooms. In addition to these instruments, Reception classes share sets of instruments which are stored on their corridor.
Over the years, an extensive range of instruments has been built up. Care and handling of instruments is a high priority and is encouraged at all times. CDs, songbooks and teaching resources are also stored in the Studio.

ASSESSMENT
The National Curriculum allows for progression and continuity through the Key Stage. It builds on, and develops skills, giving children the opportunity to accumulate knowledge.
Assessment and progress is recorded where relevant. At the end of each term, the data is recorded on Target Tracker. At the end of the school year, this information is shared in each child’s report.

CROSS-CURRICULAR LINKS
Music has strong links with Dance, Drama and Art and PE. Many examples of these links are in evidence during our annual Arts Week. Music is also has particular links with ICT and RE. Cross-curricular and multicultural themes such as Chinese New Year, Red Nose Day, Diwali, World Book Day are also a regular feature.

SEND
Music offers an opportunity for all children to achieve. Children with Special Educational Needs are given the same opportunities which may require differentiation to accommodate their individual needs. Class teachers are responsible for setting out targets and sharing them with other involved teaching staff.

Equal Opportunities
All children have the opportunity to reach their full potential in Music regardless of gender, race, disability or religion.
Resources are chosen to reflect the equal roles of men and women and the fact that we live in a multi-cultural society.
Dyslexia Friendly – because every child matters
Dyslexia is a specific learning difference which may cause difficulty in the acquisition of certain skills. In the context of this policy, the school will put the appropriate support and resources in place. In the teaching and learning of music in our school, teachers will be aware of the needs of pupils with specific learning differences such as dyslexia.

This policy is being reviewed regularly.

**Updated May 2018**

Signed:- ___________________________ Date:- ____________ Headteacher.

Signed:- ___________________________ Date:- ____________ Chair of Governors.