Wootton Bassett Infants' School

Music Policy

Author:	WBIS
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Introduction

Music is a unique way of communicating that can inspire and motivate children. It gives an opportunity for personal expression, and it can play an important part in the personal development of an individual. Music reflects culture and society and teaching and learning of music helps children to better understand the world they live in. It is also important in helping children to feel part of a community and to improve their mental wellbeing.

Aims

- To make music accessible to all children.
- To encourage the enthusiasm for and enjoyment of music.
- To encourage children to listen carefully and sensitively to sounds, as well as music from a variety of cultures, styles and genres.
- To develop an understanding of musical concepts and skills.
- To develop the singing voice and the correct use of simple instruments.
- To develop social skills and musical awareness by singing and playing together.
- To encourage children to combine sounds imaginatively, express themselves through music and perform compositions to others.
- To use movement as a means of developing a child's response to music.
- To adhere to music in the National Curriculum.
- To integrate the principles and practices of diversity and race equality into the teaching and learning of music.
- To avoid stereotypical assumptions about pupils' abilities and aptitudes.

Objectives

The children should have the opportunity to listen, appraise, perform and compose in a variety of different ways.

The children should have the opportunity to develop an understanding of:

- pitch – high/low
- duration – long/short, pulse, rhythm
- dynamics – loud/quiet/silence
- tempo – fast/slow
- timbre – quality of sound
- texture – one sound/several sounds
- structure – pattern, repetition, contrast

The children should have the opportunity to work individually, in pairs or small groups and as a whole class.

Organisation

- The school has adopted the Charanga Music Scheme.
- Each year group has been allocated a collection of simple musical instruments.
- Additional instruments, including class sets of individual instruments such as glockenspiels and recorders are made accessible to pupils in Years 1 and 2.
- Children in Reception have a specialist music teacher to teach them songs and rhymes on a weekly basis.
- All Year 2 children are given the opportunity to learn the recorder for at least 2 terms.
- Music is planned as both a discrete subject and integrated into other areas of the curriculum as appropriate.
- Staff run a weekly after-school choir club to enrich the music curriculum.
- Music is taught through festivals such as Harvest and Christmas with the children learning traditional songs alongside more modern ones.
- The children are given opportunities to perform in front of audiences through a range of performances and concerts, and annual whole school productions (The Wind in the Willows/ Peter Pan and Aladdin) and through our involvement with the annual North Wiltshire Music Festival.

Music Partnerships

We are partnered with 'Rocksteady' who offer a band experience for children whose parents pay for sessions. Rocksteady provides a free bursary place for a child in school and perform assemblies for the whole school to enjoy. There is also a weekly 'Fun time Friday' session which is a 20 minute weekly music lesson that supports the National Curriculum. These are available for staff to use every Friday.

We have achieved the Music Mark accreditation which celebrate our commitment to developing a love of music in our school.