

OUR LADY OF LOURDES POLICY AND PROCEDURES GUIDE

MUSIC

REVIEWED:

COMMITTEE: DATE OF NEXT REVIEW:

Champion: Mrs O’Kane

Mission Statement

At Our Lady of Lourdes Primary School we learn to live and love like Jesus, to help one another and treat everyone with kindness, respect and understanding.
God is always with us.

1. Aims and Objectives

Our Lady of Lourdes is a musical school. Music is integral to our school and Parish community, involving children, staff and parents. We believe that music brings an immense range of benefits to children’s learning and overall development. We aim to give our pupils a wide variety of musical experiences through assemblies, Masses, music festivals, concerts, productions, visits from musicians and visits to musical events to see live music, as well as through formal music lessons and extra curricular activities. We aim to instill a love of music in our pupils and to inspire them to achieve the highest possible standard in their music making, to develop their personal appreciation of music by exploring various different genres of music and to give them the tools to express themselves and communicate with others around them.

2. Teaching, Learning Style, Curriculum and Contribution to other Curriculum Areas

As the aims of Music is to develop our pupil’s personal appreciation of music, to develop confident performers and to equip them with a range of diverse tools to express themselves, the teaching style we adopt is as active and practical as possible. Children are taught in large cohorts (EYFS:1 hour, KS1: 1 hour, lower KS2: 1 hour and Upper KS2: 1 hour) in the hall by a part time music specialist. In Key Stages 1 and 2 we follow the National Curriculum for Music (2014), which aims to ensure that all pupils:

- Perform, listen to, review and evaluate music across a range of historical periods, genres, styles and traditions, including the works of the great composers and musicians.
- Learn to sing and use their voices, to create and compose music on their own and with others, have the opportunity to learn a musical instrument, use technology appropriately and have the opportunity to progress to the next level of musical excellence.
- Understand and explore how music is created, produced and communicated, including through the inter-related dimensions: pitch, duration, dynamics, tempo, timbre, texture, structure and appropriate musical notations.

Assemblies are also a forum to develop children’s musical knowledge and listening skills through themed assembly music and reflective music, as well as seeing members of staff/ children performing on various instruments whilst accompanying singing.

Music has strong links with other subjects and there are many ways in which we make cross curricular links. Staff are encouraged to use songs and chants in other curriculum areas to enhance and reinforce key areas, even at lunchtime where our LSAs sing with the children in the playground. All staff have access to the Sing Up programme which has online resources and a bank of subject appropriate songs on the Staff Shared server. INSET support is also provided by the Music Leader.

We follow the 2014 National Curriculum and make every effort to ensure that lessons are linked closely to those topic areas being followed in class to ensure lessons are dynamic, fresh and relevant to what the children are learning. We loosely follow the Music Express scheme, enhanced with areas from Charanga and Sing Up as well as a variety of online music programs such as the current BBC Ten Pieces to ensure the breadth and consistency of coverage. A new SOW is currently being trialled, tested and put together to reflect the demands of NC 2014.

3. Instrumental Lessons

To support our commitment to music, our Year 3 children have access to very cheap (£1 a week) starter guitar lessons and recorders. From time to time we offer free pilot lessons in “endangered” instruments (most recently, the harp and trumpet). Through the Southend Music Hub we arrange for peripatetic tutors to come into school to teach our KS2 children the drums, guitar, violin, cello, clarinet, flute, saxophone, ukulele, harp and trumpet. We also provide parents with information of the various ensembles run through the Southend Music Hub outside of school hours. All lessons take place during normal school hours and participating children are encouraged to demonstrate their skills in class music lessons and school performances join the school orchestra and take part in activities with other children from other schools. We organise Extravaganzas twice a year for our instrumentalists to perform to their peers, teachers and parents in a “semi” formal concert setting. The Music Specialist keeps a record of children who have performed, of those children receiving lessons in and out of school and ensures that parents are kept up to date with what has been learnt and achieved in individual music lessons through a Lesson Diary and end of year report. The Music Leader has weekly dialogue with the peripatetic teachers and the providers (Southend Music Hub) to ensure a consistency of teaching and value for money.

OUR LADY OF LOURDES POLICY AND PROCEDURES GUIDE

MUSIC

REVIEWED:

COMMITTEE: DATE OF NEXT REVIEW:

Champion: Mrs O’Kane

4. Singing and Performance Opportunities within our School

As a school, we place a very strong emphasis on singing. It’s free, accessible for all and we find it is a brilliant vehicle for developing our children’s communication skills and self esteem. We are a “Sing Up” Gold Award school and take part in numerous concerts in and around the local area as well as the Young Voices concerts at the O2 Arena, Music Hub led events, Masses, productions, Nativities, Christmas concerts, religious celebrations and festivals in and out of school, including entertaining the more senior members of our community at local care homes and children from feeder preschools at Christmas. Children from Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 have singing/ hymn assemblies weekly where they learn hymns and relevant songs. We have a KS1 Choir which meets in the Spring Term in preparation for the local Infant Music Festival and a KS2 Choir which meets all year round which has a busy schedule of concerts, etc. The emphasis is on fun but high standards are met and maintained. We have also recently put together a Chamber Choir, catering for the more able singers where they learn part singing. This meets on an ad-hoc basis to cater for specific events. We also encourage pupils to put together and rehearse their own music, in the past this has included a Rock Band and this Christmas, a duet (singer and pianist) who provided the pre-Christmas concert entertainment.

4. Foundation Stage

In Early Years Foundation Stage, children will progress through the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) and the associated Early Learning Goals. The children are taught as a cohort, in the hall, by the specialist music teacher. The emphasis is on fun, teaching the pupils the basic skills of listening and responding to music. They are given the opportunity to move, to be able to safely handle instruments, to be creative and respond to the music through dance, the use of ribbons, parachutes, toys, bubbles and lots of games. The EYFS children also have free access to musical instruments in their own class settings, they are encouraged to make their own instruments and to sing wherever possible to enhance learning.

5. Music and Computing

The use of computing within the music lessons is, at present, restricted to the use of a laptop and screen in the main hall. Recordings of performances are made and held on the school iPod and children often to listen and evaluate their work as part of their lesson. Children are directed to various “child friendly/ child safe” music programs on the internet, via the school website, to enhance and extend their learning, for example BBC The Pieces programme and Incredibox. We have 2 large keyboards for use in the peripatetic music lessons. We have a good PA system in the school hall. Our KS1 and 2 children have the use of laptops which have a variety of music software for their use.

6. Teaching Music to children with special needs and provision for our More Able Musicians

We teach music to all children, whatever their ability. Music forms part of our school curriculum policy to provide a broad and balanced education for all children. Where possible we provide learning opportunities that are matched to the needs of children with learning difficulties. Often children with specific needs are able to visit our peripatetic music teachers for short, one-off, child-led sessions. Children with Special needs often find communicating through music more accessible and we encourage as much expression through music as possible. We also strive to support and challenge those children who are more gifted musically, providing them with performance opportunities on a larger scale, directing parents towards extra curricular ensembles and sessions run by Southend Music Hub and to support them through an external examinations they may be taking part in.

7. Celebrating Children’s Achievements

The many musical achievements of our children are recognised and celebrated during assemblies, in class, through our school website and in our school newsletter. We also display photos and certificates around our school and on our school website.

8. Resources

We are constantly working to update our music resources. At present we have:

- a large amount of unturned percussion
- tuned percussion (hand chimes, metallaphones, chime bars)
- Class sets of recorders and teaching materials
- 14 new music stands
- 2 Korg keyboards
- 2 drum kits
- 20 guitars
- A large range of songbooks and CDs

9. Record-keeping and Assessment

Assessment is made in accordance with the End of Key Stage expectations for music, whilst taking into account the highly practical nature of the subject, the lack of written evidence of the children’s attainment, the collaborative nature of many musical activities and the large groups of children that are taught at any one time (usually 4 classes). Comments are noted and fed back to teachers and then onto parents in the end of year reports. Records of children’s work are kept in the form of recordings and photographs of their

OUR LADY OF LOURDES POLICY AND PROCEDURES GUIDE

MUSIC

REVIEWED:

COMMITTEE: DATE OF NEXT REVIEW:

Champion: Mrs O’Kane

work and any written notation in the form of graphic scores, etc. Assessment may also take place through observation during a lesson. Class teachers of Foundation stage may be asked to participate in the assessment process, using clear assessment criteria drawn up by the Music Leader.

APPROVED **CHAIR OF GOVERNORS**

..... **HEADTEACHER**