



Sprowston Junior School

Our Curriculum



Subject: Music

<u>Date policy was updated:</u> September 2022	<u>Monitored by:</u> <u>Stephen Brown</u>	<u>Date of policy review:</u> September 2023
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This policy can be summarised using the three categories: intent, implementation and impact. These areas are used to monitor the effectiveness of our music curriculum across the school.

Intent:

- At Sprowston Junior 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 a balanced 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:

- Music Express is a scheme of work which offers a topic-based approach to support children's learning in music.
- A steady progression plan has been built into Music Express, both within each year and from one year to the next, ensuring consistent musical development. By using Music Express as a scheme of work, we can ensure that they are fulfilling the aims for musical learning stated in the National Curriculum.
- Music Express includes many examples of music styles and genres from different times and places. These are explored through the language of music via active listening, performing and composing activities, which enable understanding of the context and genre.
- Music Express provides a classroom-based, participatory and inclusive approach to music learning. Throughout the scheme, children are actively involved in using and developing their singing voices, using body percussion and whole body actions, and learning to handle and play classroom instruments effectively to create and express their own and others' music. Through a range of whole class, group and individual activities, children have opportunities to explore sounds, listen actively, compose and perform.
- During music lessons children will be given opportunities to learn music specific vocabulary in a meaningful context. During the lesson children will be given opportunities to apply skill and given chance for collaboration through composition.
- It is important for children to experience and appreciate musical heritage and music from different cultures. Music Express offers opportunities for the children to listen to and perform songs from a wide variety of cultures; present and historical.

- Music Express builds experience and develops understanding of the dimensions (elements) of music throughout the scheme. Each unit has as its focus one process such as performance or composition, or one dimension, such as pitch, but the learning progresses within the context of all the inter-related processes and dimensions of music. A wide variety of notations, including picture, graphic, rhythm and staff notation are integrated, wherever appropriate, with practical music-making activities throughout the scheme. Notations are used progressively to promote understanding and use of the representation of sound in symbols by all children.
- A large amount of cross curricular links are built into the Music Express scheme.

Impact:

- Music will enable children to develop an understanding of culture and history, both in relation to children individually, as well as cultures from across the world.
- Children are able to enjoy music in as many ways as they choose – either as listener, creator or performer.
- Children 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.
- They can pick music apart and comprehend its parts.
- They can sing and feel a pulse.
- We provide children with opportunities beyond the National Curriculum to further and support their understanding. These include having visitors with a musical talent, school productions, extra-curricular opportunities, local singing/music events.
- External interests and talents are also encouraged and showcased in class and assembly, ensuring that everyone is challenged regardless of previous musical experience.

Statement:

Music holds significant importance at Sprowston Junior School, not just as a curriculum subject, but in the broader context of school life. Music can regularly be heard around the school - whether it's children singing in assembly or extra-curricular singing club, playing their musical instruments taught by external peripatetic teachers or playing their instruments in front of their class. Children compose, play and perform a variety of tuned and un-tuned instruments to an assortment of audiences. Key musical vocabulary is used across the school, particularly in music lessons, and children are encouraged to use the correct vocabulary in the appropriate context. Children are encouraged to question and appreciate a large number of musical genres from around the world.

Organisation:

Music is taught weekly in classes for around 30 minutes. Music lessons are taught by class teachers or HLTAs. We follow the Music Express scheme of work and aim to make as many cross curriculum links as possible. Every music lesson should have opportunities for the children to perform through either singing or with instruments (tuned or un-tuned). Children are encouraged to respect and appreciate different genres of music and different musical cultures from around the world.