



Providing the keys to success for every child

Whole School Policy on:

The Teaching of Music

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Kent County Council

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Member of staff responsible for the Music Policy: Mrs M Tong.

1 School Ethos

Music is considered to be an important part of the curriculum and the development of the whole child because:

- Music encourages collaborative working.
- Participation in class and school music activities promotes self esteem, confidence and a sense of belonging within the school community.
- Music provides a vehicle for the teaching of other subjects and topics.
- Music can be a powerful method for promoting creative thinking, physical skills and individual expression.
- Music can be accessed on a variety of levels of skill and can be differentiated to meet all needs.

Music should include a breadth of listening, singing and instrumental experience.

2 Aims of the Policy

- To ensure a consistent approach to the teaching of key music skills across the school.
- To promote accessible music teaching for all staff.
- To promote the enjoyment and participation in music, both in and beyond the classroom, for all children.
- To provide access to music for all children.

3 Principles of Teaching and Learning

All teaching staff follow a scheme of work that provides an ongoing bank of skills as children move through the school. All staff are willing to adopt the scheme of work and are supported by the Co-ordinator to be able to teach the appropriate range of musical skills and knowledge.

Music at Palm Bay encourages development across other subject areas, such as singing to reinforce facts about the Ancient Egyptians.



Alongside the scheme of work, children are provided with the opportunity to take part in a range of music events, both in and outside of school. These events have included; recorder event with 5 other primary schools, a part-singing workshop for Year 5 children, The Thanet Festival of Song at the Winter Gardens, and the inter-schools infant singing picnic for Year 2 children. These events serve to promote the school ethos to the wider community. In school events include productions to mark occasions, assembly performances and the Key Stage 2 concert.

Children from Key Stage 2 can also learn a variety of instruments through private lessons. In the Academic Year 2011-2012, three keyboard bursaries were awarded.

The role and profile of singing within Palm Bay is promoted and shared during weekly Key Stage assemblies, and a shared whole school assembly. The school has a choir for both Year 2 children and a Key Stage 2 choir. These groups meet weekly and work towards performance opportunities. In addition to this, a 'music trolley' is used during lunch break for junior children. Led by 2 daily year 6 singing leaders, any child can take a percussion instrument from the trolley and 'join in'. Selected songs are taken from the singing assemblies.

The dedicated music room has been adapted and resourced to provide accessibility for whole classes and small groups.

4 The Curriculum

Classroom based curriculum lessons provide the opportunity for music appreciation, playing instruments and singing. The scheme of work units allows for a variety of voice and instruments.

In November 2013, the KS1 Curriculum was reviewed and extended to suit the cross-curricular needs of the classes by linking core skills to the class topics.

In both Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2, the units within the scheme of work progress through the core skills, identified as:

- Beat and rhythm skills
- Pitch and melodic skills
- Descriptive sounds and expression

Each unit also has ongoing elements of performance and appreciation/listening skills running through it.

The 'Wider Opportunities for Music' scheme also ensures that funding is received for one whole class instrumental tuition for a school year. Presently, the scheme funds Key Stage 2, but it is anticipated that this can be extended in the future, pending funding. Currently, Years 3 and 4 have received tuition in descant, treble, soprano and tenor recorders.



Instruments are constantly reviewed and the needs of the Key Stages are considered to ensure that the curriculum is well resourced. Instruments are coloured according to pitch and these colours continue across the school to aid development and progression.

5 The Role of the Co-ordinator

- To ensure that teaching staff are supported and well resourced to implement the curriculum.
- To oversee external tutors and budgets.
- To find additional events and funding for unique opportunities, i.e. visiting musicians and performers, cluster based events.
- To promote the enjoyment and role of music within the school.
- To attend courses and meetings connected with the subject, and to encourage the professional development for other members of staff.
- To monitor the provision of the teaching of music throughout the school.
- To provide and monitor suitable assessment methods for the subject.
- To review the policy annually, or as required.
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6 Equal Opportunities

Consistent with the school's equal opportunities policy all pupils, regardless of race, gender, ability or social origins, have an entitlement to experience and enjoy music through curricular and extra-curricular provision.

Teachers are encouraged to guide children towards musical activities and experiences in which they can succeed. They will provide appropriate resources to meet pupil's needs and a range of relevant tasks.

The range of instruments, sources of recorded music and songs reflect the multi-cultural society in which we live.



7 Assessment and Monitoring

Monitoring across the school will be undertaken by the music co-ordinator. The purpose of the monitoring process is to ensure that teachers have adequate resources and skills to best deliver the subject.

Monitoring of the children's work takes place through lesson observations, assessment from class teachers and participation in events.

Formative assessment of the children's developing skills is expected to take place during each academic year. It is the responsibility of the music co-ordinator to ensure that teachers have the resources and skills to do so.

8 Aims for the Future of the Subject

- Ongoing increase in singing within school, across key stages and combination of key stages during celebration assemblies. Working towards performance opportunities and 'sing up' silver award.
- Regular participation in Thanet events, and annual concert.
- Instrument tuition has been extended in 2013-2014 to include instrumental tuition across Years 3 to 6. In Key Stage 1, the new curriculum guidelines and topic plans include an opportunity for exploring instruments during most lessons, with guidelines for which to use and how to include all children.

9 Policy Review

This policy will be reviewed bi-annually (every even year) during Term 3.

The next review of this policy is due: Spring Term 3, 2016.