

Scholar Green Primary School – How do we teach Music?



Music Intent:

Music is a universal language that embodies one of the highest forms of creativity. As pupils progress, they should develop a critical engagement with music, allowing them to compose, and to listen with discrimination to the best in the musical canon. (The National Curriculum)

Music teaching at Scholar Green Primary School aims to follow the requirements of the National Curriculum; providing a broad, balanced and differentiated curriculum and ensuring the progressive development of musical concepts, knowledge and skills. At Scholar Green we recognise that music plays an important part in helping children to feel part of a community, and so we provide opportunities for all children to create, play, perform and enjoy music both in class and to an audience. Through assemblies, concerts and key stage performances children are able to express their emotions and showcase their understanding of how to perform with awareness of others. Lessons enable children to develop their skills, appreciate a wide variety of musical forms, and begin to make judgements about the quality of music.

The aims of our Music curriculum are to develop pupils who:

- Enjoy and have an appreciation for music.
- Listen to, review and evaluate music across a range of historical periods, genres, styles and traditions.
- Listen to and evaluate the work of great composers.
- Can sing and use their voices to create different effects.
- Create and compose music, both on their own and with others.
- Use a range of musical language.
- Make judgements and express personal preferences about the quality and style of music.
- Have opportunities to play a wide variety of instruments, both un-tuned and tuned.
- Use technology if appropriate.
- Take part in performances with an awareness of audience.

Special Educational Needs Disability (SEND) / Pupil Premium / Higher Attainers

All children will have Quality First Teaching. Any children with identified SEND or in receipt of pupil premium funding may have work additional to and different from their peers in order to access the curriculum dependent upon their needs. As well as this, our school offers a demanding and varied curriculum, providing children with a range of opportunities in order for them to reach their full potential and consistently achieve highly from their starting points.

Implementation:

Music teaching at Scholar Green delivers the requirements of the National Curriculum through a scheme of work planned and delivered by Junior Jam. This is a paid-for organisation with specialist teachers who provide their own plans and resources. Music lessons are broken down into half-termly units, and each class (Y1-Y6) has 45 minutes of focused teaching weekly. EYFS music teaching is planned and delivered by class teachers and meets the requirements of the new EYFS framework.

Music teaching at Scholar Green is practical and engaging. A variety of teaching approaches and activities are provided based on teacher judgement and pupil ability. Lessons typically involve a combination of the following; games, songs, challenges, listening to music and discussing music, playing a range of musical instruments, performing back, finding the pulse and composing music using notation sheets or technology. Our mastery curriculum provides further enrichment opportunities throughout the year (see below) for children who show extensive aptitude in music.

Performance is at the heart of musical teaching and learning at Scholar Green and all pupils participate in a key stage performance. Pupils also take part in Harvest assemblies, singing assemblies and pupils from reception to year 6 perform at our annual carol concert. Pupils who are confident are also encouraged to perform solo. Parents are invited and welcomed to watch all of these performances whether at school or outside of school. Furthermore, pupils from reception to year 6 all attend our whole school pantomime at one of our local theatres or in school with a theatre company, to see first-hand how music performance can be engaging and fun. Musicians from local music hubs and organisations also deliver assemblies and workshops to ensure children see real musicians and have opportunities for enrichment.

At Scholar Green music teaching provides our pupils with an understanding and appreciation for music, by studying a wide range of musical styles and genres from a range of musical periods. Each class also study a different composer throughout the year to help broaden their appreciation and understanding of musical history. An example of the composers studied are as follows:-

- Reception- John Williams, western film music
- Year 1- Rahul Dev Burman, Bollywood film music
- Year 2- Dame Evelynne Glennie, Scottish percussionist
- Year 3- Tchaikovsky, Russian romantic and ballet music
- Year 4- Sir Elton John MBE, British pop music
- Year 5- Nina Simone, American jazz and blues music
- Year 6- Anna Meredith, Scottish electronic and acoustic musician

Alongside our curriculum provision for music, pupils also have the opportunity to participate in additional 1:1 music tuition by being offered the opportunity to learn a musical instrument with peripatetic teachers. Our peripatetic music teaching is organised by the Local Education Authority's Music for Life, or by the Cheshire Music Hub, Love Music Trust. There are a wide range of instruments on offer to learn and pupils have the opportunity to sit examinations and perform at our carol concert and assemblies. Children in receipt of Pupil Premium funding receive a reduced rate for instrumental lessons.

Pupils also have the opportunity to join the school choir 'Singing Scholars'. The school choir is open to all children on a weekly basis. Pupils in the school choir meet after school and focus on team work, singing in unison, developing harmony, solo performances and having fun! The school choir also have the opportunity to perform in school performances, carol concerts and singing assemblies.

Impact:

Our music Curriculum is high quality, well thought out and is planned to demonstrate progression and build on and embed current skills. We focus on progression of knowledge and skills in the

different musical components and like in other subjects, discreet teaching of vocabulary also forms part of the units of work.

If children are achieving the knowledge and skills in lessons, then they are deemed to be making good or better progress.

We measure the impact of our curriculum through the following methods:

- Pupil discussions and interviewing the pupils about their learning (pupil voice).
- Governor monitoring with the music link governor.
- Moderation staff meetings with opportunities for dialogue between teachers.
- Annual reporting and tracking of standards across the curriculum.
- Photo evidence and images of the pupils practical learning.
- Video analysis through recording of performance in lessons.
- A reflection on standards achieved against the planned outcomes.
- Dedicated music leader time.

The impact of our music curriculum is also measured in the uptake of our music after school clubs and uptake of additional music 1:1 teaching. In addition to this, we also measure the impact of the class composers and routinely ask children about their composer/style of music they are learning.