

Marwood Music statement

Music gives a soul to the universe, wings to the mind,
flight to the imagination and life to everything.

Plato

The National Plan for Music Education aims to:

- Ensure that every child has the opportunity to learn a musical instrument through Whole Class Ensemble Tuition (WCET).
- Provide opportunities to play in ensembles and to perform from an early age.
- Ensure that clear progression routes are available and affordable to all young people.
- To develop a singing strategy to ensure that every child sings regularly and that choirs and other vocal ensembles are available.

Intent

It is our intent that we make music an inspiring and enjoyable learning experience which develops the children's musical skills. We encourage children to participate in a variety of musical experiences through which to develop a love of music and develop their talent as musicians, and in turn increase their self-confidence, creativity and sense of achievement.

Our teaching focuses on giving all children the opportunity to experience learning to play a variety of musical instrument through WCET. By singing songs, children learn about the structure and organisation of music and from an early age are given opportunities to perform. We teach them to listen and to appreciate different forms of music across different time periods, cultures and traditions. This supports children to be open minded in their listening as well as knowledgeable about a breadth of musical genres in the world today.

Children develop descriptive language skills in music lessons when learning about how music can represent different feelings, emotions and narratives. We also teach technical vocabulary such as volume, pitch, beat and rhythm and encourage children to discuss music using these terms. As pupils progress, they should develop a critical engagement with music, allowing them to compose and to listen with confidence.

Implementation

Our pupils will learn that music is a universal language that embodies one of the highest forms of creativity. They will be inspired and engaged by music education. Music lesson will engage and inspire pupils to develop a love of music and develop their talent as musicians, and in turn increase their self-confidence, creativity and sense of achievement.

The Charanga scheme of work is used from Foundation - Year 6 to ensure a wide exposure to different genres of music, with lots of practical opportunities to explore and develop as musicians and singers.

The school has whole class ensemble teaching from Foundation - Year 6. These lessons incorporate teaching musical notation, singing, as well as learning to play an instrument. Music lessons are also available to pupils to continue to develop their skills through visiting peripatetic music teachers who provide weekly instrumental lessons for individuals and small groups. These include piano, clarinet, saxophone, guitar, ukulele and flute lessons. Opportunities are taken to perform in class, in whole assemblies and also to parents and the wider community.

Additional opportunities are offered in music, such as the key stage 2 choir which performs in school and at local events, as well as a music club.

Impact

Our music programme encourages children to enjoy music as a listener, creator or performer. Children will develop the skills to evaluate music they hear, as well as express opinions using musical vocabulary. They will gain an understanding of how music is created and communicated, and in turn be able to create and communicate their own music. This will also contribute to their learning about culture, history and ethnicities from across the world. Through music we want the children to develop self-confidence, the ability to interact with and be aware of others and gain a sense of achievement through their musical endeavours. Our varied musical programme allows the children to learn to self-evaluate; discovering areas of strength as well as areas to develop. Music at Marwood gives the children the opportunity to discover talents, interests and passions on which to build in their futures.

Music in EYFS

Children at Marwood are encouraged to explore and play with a wide range of musical instruments, as well as being provided with opportunities and encouragement for sharing their thoughts, ideas and feeling through a variety of activities in music. All children are encouraged to explore music through singing songs, making their own music and experimenting with changing them to create their own melodies.

Reviewed by Natalie Mannell June 2021