Hertford St Andrew Curriculum Plan

Music

What is it like to be a musician at Hertford St Andrew?

As musicians in Hertford St Andrew children will be exposed to musical terminology and have the opportunity to develop a love of all genres of music. Children access a rich and appealing curriculum that boasts not only fluency in terminology but understanding the depths of music features such as rhythm, pitch, timbre, and tone.

To widen their love of music, children are offered the chance to be part of the Hertford St Andrew school choir, which will lead to the participation in national events like 'Young Voices' as well as local and regional competitions and events where they have the honour to represent the school with their talents. Our young musicians will also take part in singing assemblies covering a range of songs from traditional hymns to more contemporary pieces of music which best fit our school ethos.

What do we want for all our musicians?

We would like all pupils to develop an understanding of how music is used to inspire, induce creativity and self-exploration. Inspired by our bible verse, "Let your light shine," Matthew 5:16 we aim for our music curriculum to contribute to the spiritual, social, creative, and cultural development of our children and staff.

What does the National Curriculum require us to teach?

Key stage 1

Pupils should be taught to:

- use their voices expressively and creatively by singing songs and speaking chants and rhymes
- play tuned and untuned instruments musically
- listen with concentration and understanding to a range of high-quality live and recorded music
- experiment with, create, select and combine sounds using the inter-related dimensions of music.

Key stage 2

Pupils should be taught to sing and play musically with increasing confidence and control. They should develop an understanding of musical composition, organising and manipulating ideas within musical structures and reproducing sounds from aural memory.

Pupils should be taught to:

- play and perform in solo and ensemble contexts, using their voices and playing musical instruments with increasing accuracy, fluency, control and expression
- improvise and compose music for a range of purposes using the inter-related dimensions of music
- listen with attention to detail and recall sounds with increasing aural memory
- use and understand staff and other musical notations
- appreciate and understand a wide range of high-quality live and recorded music drawn from different traditions and from great composers and musicians
- develop an understanding of the history of music

How have we designed and adapted our curriculum to meet the needs of our children?

As a whole school, we follow the 'Sing Up' music scheme which children take part in weekly music lessons. The scheme itself has been designed by subject specialists and spans from Early Years – with the focus of Expressive Arts, through to Year 6 where the focus areas are: singing, listening, composing, performance through vocals and instruments.

In EYFS and Key Sage 1, music is thoroughly embedded through the curriculum through rhyme and performance. As young musicians they will take part in Christmas productions that will inspire the continued use of voice to create harmony and melody through their singing.

They will also be introduced to the importance of rhythm and 'following the beat' as well as finding it within a piece of music, whether that be classical, gospel or rock.

They will also have the opportunity to listen and appraise pieces of music exploring the features of different genres.

In Key Stage 2, their love of music will continue to be developed through the continuation of our scheme as well as opportunity to perform as well in an end of year production.

What do we teach and when?

We follow the National Curriculum and Sing Up units to ensure that children progress through our curriculum. Teachers use scheme planning tools.

How do we know children are learning and developing their skills?

During Music lessons, teachers assess and support with:

- Verbal feedback
- Individual modelling in response to need
- Sharing of good examples
- Allocation of TA support as needed

• Monitoring of vocabulary - are children developing the language to talk about music?

As children progress through our Music curriculum, we notice that:

- They become more confident performers
- They become a more engaged and discerning audience
- They develop preferences for musical styles, instruments and performers
- They are able to talk about music they have composed or performed
- They are able to express a response to music, both intellectual and emotional

Children's progress in Music is shared with parents at consultation evenings.

What do we expect children to achieve at each key point in their school life?

Reception

Assessment against Early Learning Goals for understanding of the world and being imaginative and creative incorporates music. Children should be able to:

- Sing a range of well-known nursery rhymes and songs;
- Perform songs, rhymes, poems and stories with others, and when appropriate try to move in time with music.

At the end of Year 2

Children are assessed against the KS1 National Curriculum to enable KS2 teachers to plan.

At the end of Year 6

Children are assessed against the KS2 National Curriculum. We expect that all our leavers will have taken part in a wide range of musical experience that will have increased their cultural capital and enabled them to express themselves and their experiences through the powerful tool of music.