

Fishergate Primary School

Music Policy

Created: January 2025 (to be agreed by HT and Governors)

Our Vision and aims:

At Fishergate, we believe music is a powerful tool that transcends cultures, languages, and abilities. We aim to encourage children's unique creativity, build confidence, and support personal development through self-expression and teamwork. We are committed to ensuring that all children have access to music in a way that nurtures their talents and boosts self-esteem. As part of Fishergate's commitment to raising the attainment of disadvantaged young people (RADY), these pupils' SEMH and wider academic needs are prioritised. Any barriers for disadvantaged pupils, including pupils from families seeking sanctuary, are overcome so they can participate fully in the Music curriculum and achieve the above outcomes alongside their peers. Through these inclusive musical experiences, we aim to inspire a love for music, enhance social skills, and provide opportunities for performance, enabling every child to feel valued and confident, enriching lives and creating lasting memories.

Our main objectives in the teaching of music are:

- **Foster creativity and self-expression** through composing, improvising, and performing music.
- **Enhance musical skills** including singing, playing instruments, and understanding rhythm, pitch, and melody.
- **Promote cultural awareness** by exploring music from diverse cultures and backgrounds.
- **Support personal development** by building self-confidence and self-esteem through performance opportunities.
- **Encourage collaboration** through group music-making, ensemble performance, and teamwork.
- **Improve listening skills** and attention to detail by analyzing and responding to different types of music.
- **Provide opportunities for progression** in musical knowledge, ensuring all children can grow at their own pace.

Teaching and Learning

Music lessons are inclusive and follow the Sing Up Scheme. Children are able to take part in whole class instrumental lessons in Year 3/4 and Year 5/6. We teach whole-class recorders and ukulele. Throughout school music is taught in weekly 40 minute sessions. The Music Coordinator works closely with the York Arts Hub for ideas on delivering effective music and information about local events in York

Opportunities outside of the classroom

We ensure that we provide additional opportunities for children to further their musical education outside of the classroom. We have a range of peripatetic music teachers who come into school and deliver 1:1 or small group lessons in our outdoor classroom. To enable all children to access these we use available bursaries, provided by the music hub for those

who need them. This is in line with Fishergate's commitment to raising the attainment of disadvantaged young people (RADY) . Barriers for disadvantaged pupils are overcome so they can participate fully in the Music curriculum and achieve alongside their peers. As part of this we run a weekly choir sessions open to all of KS2, free of charge which allows the children to be part of events outside the school setting. The Music lead communicates with several outside agencies to provide performance opportunities both within and outside of the school setting.

Curriculum Design and Planning

EYFS

In EYFS, music encourages exploration through singing, movement, and simple instruments. Children develop rhythm, listening, and motor skills while expressing themselves creatively. Music fosters emotional development, social interaction, and language skills, helping young learners build confidence, develop imagination, and engage with the world around them in a fun, interactive way.

Key Stage 1

In KS1, music focuses on developing basic musical skills such as singing, rhythm, and playing simple instruments. Children explore different sounds, learn about pitch, tempo, and dynamics, and begin to create and perform music. Music encourages creativity, builds confidence, and supports language, coordination, and teamwork through enjoyable, hands-on activities.

In KS2

In KS2, music teaching deepens students' understanding of musical concepts such as melody, harmony, rhythm, and structure. Children refine their instrumental skills, engage in more complex performances, and explore a variety of musical genres and traditions. Children will also develop their ability to compose music and use simple transcription methods.

National curriculum

Programmes of Study set out what is to be taught and include opportunities to:

- perform, listen to, review and evaluate music across a range of historical periods, genres, styles and traditions, including the works of the great composers and musicians
- learn to sing and to use their voices, to create and compose music on their own and with others, have the opportunity to learn a musical instrument, use technology appropriately and have the opportunity to progress to the next level of musical excellence
- understand and explore how music is created, produced and communicated, including through the interrelated dimensions: pitch, duration, dynamics, tempo, timbre, texture, structure and appropriate musical notations

Teachers will follow lessons as set out by the sing-up program. Teachers will then enhance these plans to adapt to their class needs as part of their medium term and short-term planning. Lessons are carefully planned and delivered in sequence to allow for a build-up and rehearsal of skills. The medium-term plan lists the specific skills and activities that are to be taught throughout the term. Planning is to consider previous learning, both within the year and across the previous years. We give children of all abilities the opportunity to develop their skills, knowledge and understanding and we also build planned progression into the scheme of work, so that the children are increasingly challenged as they move through the school.

Teaching Music to Children with Special Educational Needs

At Fishergate, we teach music to all children, whatever their ability. Music forms part of the school curriculum policy to provide a broad and balanced education to all children. Through our teaching and provision, we provide learning opportunities that enable all pupils to make progress and to feel as though they have achieved in the subject.

Assessment and Recording

Children demonstrate their ability in a variety of different ways. We assess informally throughout the lesson. Engagement and willingness to participate form part of the assessment. In the moment feedback will be given to help children develop.

Resources

We have a variety of instruments available to teach the whole class including Ukulele, recorder and glockenspiels. We have a variety of percussion instruments to enhance whole-class teaching as well as access to supporting music online.

Monitoring and Review

It is the responsibility of the Senior Management and Music subject leader to monitor the standards of learning and the quality of planning and teaching in Music. This may also involve supporting colleagues in their knowledge and understanding, keeping up to date with developments in the subject, and providing a strategic lead and direction for the subject in the school if necessary.

Role of the Subject Leader

- Organize and maintain teaching resources
- Manage a delegated budget and keep spending within it.
- Being informed about current developments in the subject.
- Liaising with the music hub for opportunities of outside engagement and opportunities.
- Support of the peripatetic teaching staff with scheduling, contact and engagement in performance opportunities.

- Supporting children and families to access bursary opportunities for PP children. ● Provide guidance and support to colleagues in the implementation of the NC and schemes of work leading to improved quality and continuity of the teaching of Music throughout the school.
- Monitoring the standard of the children's learning and the quality of teaching in Music.
- Advise the Head teacher of any action required (e.g. resources, standards etc) ● Monitor the standards of children's work and the quality of teaching across the school - through observing lessons in each phase

ROLE OF THE STAFF

It is the responsibility of staff:

- To use approved planning from Sing up and deliver the Music National Curriculum following the guidelines contained in this document.
- To ensure that the entire range of skills detailed in the National Curriculum are taught.
- To look after shared resources when used and to return them safely.

Signed