



MICKLEY VILLAGE PRIMARY & NURSERY SCHOOL



Music Strategy

Music

Music is a unique way of communicating that can inspire and motivate children. It is a vehicle for personal expression and it can play an important part in the personal development of people. Music reflects the culture and society we live in, and so the teaching and learning of music enables children to better understand the world they live in. It plays an important part in helping children feel part of a community. We provide opportunities for all children to create, play, perform and enjoy music, to develop the skills to appreciate a wide variety of musical forms, and to begin to make judgements about the quality of music.

Aims and objectives

The aims of music teaching are to enable children to:

- know and understand how sounds are made and then organised into musical structures;
- know how music is made through a variety of instruments;
- know how music is composed and written down;
- know how music is influenced by the time, place and purpose for which it was written;
- develop the interrelated skills of performing, composing and appreciating music.

Learning and Teaching

At Mickley Village Primary and Nursery School we make music an enjoyable learning experience. We encourage children to participate in a variety of musical experiences through which we aim to build up the confidence of all children. Singing lies at the heart of good music teaching. Our teaching focuses on developing the children's ability to sing in tune and with other people. Through singing songs, children learn about the structure and organisation of music. We teach them to listen and to appreciate different forms of music. As children get older, we expect them to maintain their concentration for longer and to listen to more extended pieces of music. Children develop descriptive skills in music lessons when learning about how music can represent feelings and emotions. We teach them the disciplined skills of recognising pulse and pitch. We often teach these together. We also teach children how to work with others to make music and how individuals combine together to make sounds. We also teach them musical notation and how to compose music.

We recognise that there are children of widely different musical abilities in all classes, so we provide suitable learning opportunities for all children by matching the challenge of the task to the ability of the child. Pupils are given the opportunity to perform to an audience.

Health and Safety

The children are encouraged to be considerate and aware of their own health and safety and towards that of others during activities.

Curriculum planning

Mickley Village Primary and Nursery School uses The National Curriculum for music as the basis for its curriculum planning. We have adapted the national scheme so that the topics the children study in music build upon prior learning. While there are opportunities for children of all abilities to develop their skills and knowledge in each teaching unit, the planned progression built into the scheme of work means that the children are increasingly challenged as they move through the school. Our music planning is geared to three aspects of progress:

- increasing breadth and range of musical experiences;
- increasing challenge and difficulty in musical activities;
- increasing confidence, sensitivity and creativity in the children's music making.

Foundation Stage

In the Sunflower Unit is taught at Foundation Stage class as an integral part of the topic work covered during the year. As the Sunflower Unit is part of the Foundation Stage of the National Curriculum, we relate the musical aspects of the children's work to the objectives set out in

Development Matters which underpin the curriculum planning for children aged three to five. Music contributes to a child's personal and social development. Counting songs foster a child's mathematical ability and songs from different cultures increase a child's knowledge and understanding of the world. Throughout the year the children are given the opportunity to perform to an audience.

Equal opportunities

Music forms part of the Mickley Village Primary and Nursery School's curriculum policy to provide a broad and balanced education to all children (see Race Equality statement, Equal opportunities policy and Inclusion policy / statement). We provide learning opportunities matched to the needs and abilities of the children and take into account the targets set for individual children in their individual education plans (IEP's). The learning of more-able children is extended as appropriate to their age and ability through extension activities and questioning.

Contribution to other subjects

English

Music contributes to the teaching of English in our school by actively promoting the skills of reading, writing, speaking and listening. Children develop their language skills through singing songs, with attention to diction, meaning, rhythm and rhyme. Music is also used to stimulate discussion or creative writing. Through working with others in a musical setting, children develop their ability to communicate ideas effectively (see English policy).

Mathematics

Music contributes to the teaching of Mathematics through topic based songs (see Mathematics policy)

Spiritual, moral, social and cultural development

Listening, creating or performing music can sometimes be a moving and even spiritual experience. We encourage children to reflect on the important effect that music has on people's moods, senses and quality of life. Children at Mickley Village Primary and Nursery School have the opportunity to encounter music from many cultures and, through their growing knowledge and understanding of the music, they develop more positive attitudes towards other cultures and societies.

Assessment and Recording

We assess the children's work in music by: -

- Observing them working during lessons.
- Recording the progress made by children against the learning objectives for their lessons and National Curriculum levels of attainment in the schools agreed format.
- Making an annual assessment of progress for each child, as part of the child's annual report to parents.

The involvement of children in their own assessment is an essential educational aim (see Assessment policy). They are encouraged to comment on their performance (See marking and feedback policy).

Parents are involved in assessment and recording through regular informal discussions, more formal parental consultation evenings and through annual reports. Parents have the opportunity to discuss progress at any time through the school's open door policy.

Resources

There are sufficient resources for all music teaching units in the school. We keep resources for music in a central store.

Review of policy

The policy will be reviewed and appropriate amendments made.

Signed

