



Escrick Church of England

Music Policy

Intent

At Escrick Primary School, the intention is that children gain a firm understanding of what music is through listening, singing, playing, evaluating and composing across a wide variety of musical genres. We provide opportunities in music which encourage creativity and self-expression, whilst also developing children's confidence. We are committed to ensuring children appreciate music and can use their musical skills, knowledge, experiences to involve themselves in a variety of different contexts across school and the wider community.

Planning and implementation

We have adapted the Charanga scheme to create a bespoke long-term plan for our school, where units are designed to fit the context of our classes. This ensures the learning of musical knowledge and skills is sequential from EYFS to Year 6, and National Curriculum aims are met. Within each unit, learning is based around focus themes. Music lessons then draw out a range of musical elements by interacting with and exploring these themes, including:

- **Listening and appraising** – children are exposed to a range of musical genres throughout the year and contribute to relevant discussions about style, pulse, rhythm, pitch, tempo, dynamics, timbre, texture and structure.
- **Warm-up games** – practical activities to encourage children to use their whole body to explore the music.
- **Singing** – rehearsing and performing as individuals or as a group.
- **Playing instruments** – building knowledge of different musical instruments and practical understanding of different musical elements.
- **Improvisation** – adding vocal and/or instrumental improvisation during instrumental parts of songs.
- **Composition** – using instruments and technology to create individual pieces of music and build awareness of tuned and un-tuned notation.
- **Performing** – sharing and enjoying a musical performance, with opportunity to reflect and evaluate on learning.

Music can be taught in dedicated lessons, as well as through cross-curricular learning, where different musical traditions or cultures are explored through topic-based learning. Singing is also celebrated during our Collective Worship time in school through singing hymns.

Further enrichment opportunities are provided in school, with the aim of developing children's passion for music. In Year 3, the children learn a brass instrument alongside a specialist music teacher for the entire academic year. The children are then given the opportunity to perform their skills during a music ensemble open to the school community. In Year 5 and 6, the children have the opportunity to rehearse and perform at the Young Voices event at Sheffield Arena. This enables children to experience singing on a larger scale



and is a fantastic opportunity to perform with others. A small team of specialised peripatetic teachers also deliver additional lessons in piano, guitar, brass and voice.

Assessment and reporting

Formative assessment is continually used throughout music lessons, to identify children's progress and inform future planning, teaching and learning. A summary of topics covered in music throughout the year is reported to parents annually.

The role of the Music Subject Lead is to:

- Provide leadership and direction for the subject.
- Monitor planning and progression in the subject.
- Play a key role in supporting, and providing resources for, teachers in the subject.
- Evaluate effectiveness of teaching and learning, the subject curriculum and progress towards pupils meeting year group standards through regular monitoring.

The Music subject lead will carry out learning visits, gather pupil voice, monitor assessments and deliver staff meetings as appropriate. The Music subject lead will ensure this policy is kept up to date.

To be reviewed – September 2027