



MUSIC AT DODFORD FIRST SCHOOL

Achieve, Believe, Create and Fly High

Intent

Our Vision

At Dodford First School, it is our aim that we make the subject of Music an enjoyable experience for all pupils. We encourage children to participate in a range of musical experiences to develop their self-esteem, confidence and musical appreciation. Musical skills are appreciated and acknowledged across all year groups, whether that be singing, composition or playing an instrument. Throughout lessons, children learn and enhance the skills of composition, listening and appraisal, performing and understanding within the subject. These skills allow children to gain a wide understanding of what the music curriculum entails whilst also developing an appreciation for various genres, composers and musical styles.

Curriculum Drivers

Achieve - *Have high aspirations, striving for success and never giving up. You can learn anything you want to!*

Believe - *Believe in yourself and value your own self-worth. To keep trying even when it is hard; learn from others and your mistakes.*

Create - *Action your thoughts and bring something into existence. Allow your creativity to flow; investigate, experiment, and invent.*

Fly High - *Have the courage to embrace new experiences and take risks. Share your knowledge with others. Enable yourself to flourish.*

Characteristics of a Musician

- A rapidly widening repertoire which they use to create original, imaginative, fluent and distinctive composing and performance work.
- A musical understanding underpinned by high levels of aural perception, internalisation and knowledge of music, including high or rapidly developing levels of technical expertise.
- Very good awareness and appreciation of different musical traditions and genres.
- An excellent understanding of how musical provenance - the historical, social and cultural origins of music - contributes to the diversity of musical styles.
- The ability to give precise written and verbal explanations, using musical terminology effectively, accurately and appropriately.
- A passion for and commitment to a diverse range of musical activities.

Implementation

At Dodford, we aim to develop the following concepts through the progressive teaching of musical knowledge, skills and understanding. These essential threshold concepts are based on the requirements of the National Curriculum Programme of Study for Key Stage One and Key Stage two.

- **Perform** - This concept involves understanding that music is created to be performed.
- **Compose** (Creating and Exploring) - This concept involves appreciating that music is created through a process which has a number of techniques.
- **Transcribe** (Musical Activities) - This concept involves understanding that compositions need to be understood by others and that there are techniques and a language for communicating them.
- **Describe music** (Listening and Appraising) - This concept involves appreciating the features and effectiveness of musical elements.

Our music curriculum ensures children sing, listen, play, perform and evaluate. This is embedded in the classroom activities as well as during assemblies, performances and the learning of instruments.

Music is taught in a variety of ways in our school. In Reception, the children are given a range of opportunities both inside and outside of the classroom to sing and perform songs and nursery rhymes, and are encouraged to explore a variety of untuned instruments as well as listening to music whilst being encouraged to move in time to it. Reception pupils also participate in a weekly whole class music lesson using Charanga music resources.

In KS1 and KS2 is taught using the musical program Charanga whereby teachers are able to produce inclusive lessons for all children to access the music curriculum in a fun and engaging way, further promoting a love of learning. Charanga lessons are planned in sequences to provide children with the opportunities to review, remember, deepen and apply their understanding. Therefore, the Charanga scheme of work enables children to understand musical concepts through a repetition- based approach to learning. Learning about the same musical concept through different musical activities enables a more secure, deeper learning and mastery of musical skills.

Our pupils are taught music weekly. Each of the units of work delivered are progressive but can also be delivered as stand-alone units due to the depth of learning and spiral progression methodology. Please see our spiral music curriculum document for further information.

Each Charanga lesson will take the following structure:

- Listen and Appraise
- Musical Activities
- Perform/Share

In the classroom, children learn how to play a variety of percussion instruments including glockenspiels. Playing various instruments enables children to use a range of methods to create notes and they also learn how to read basic music notation. The children learn how to compose, focusing on different dimensions of music, which in turn feeds their understanding when listening, playing, or analysing music. Composing or performing using body percussion and vocal sounds is also part of the curriculum, which develops the understanding of musical elements without the added complexity of an instrument.

Alongside Charanga, we engage with Severn Arts who support us providing opportunities for all KS2 pupils to learn an instrument through the whole class tuition FAME project.

For those children who wish to take up the opportunity of learning a further musical instrument we offer both flute and piano lessons delivered by specialist teachers.

At Dodford children are also provided with opportunities beyond the National Curriculum to further and support their understanding. These include having visitors with a musical talent, visiting concerts and school productions. External interests and talents are also encouraged and showcased in class and assembly, ensuring that everyone is challenged regardless of previous musical experience.

Impact

Children will enjoy music in as many ways as possible, as listener, creator or performer. Through music children will develop abilities such as self-confidence and self-reflection. They will develop an understanding of culture and history which widens their views and tolerance of others around the world and through time. They will ultimately know more, remember more and understand more about music, demonstrating this knowledge in other areas of the curriculum. The large majority of pupils will achieve age related expectations in music. As musicians, children will develop skills and attributes they can use beyond school and into adulthood.

Assessment

Through the explicit teaching of the Music skills, both the teachers and the pupils assess their learning continuously throughout the lesson. Our assessment systems enable teachers to make informed judgements about the depth of their learning and the progress they have made over time.

Children in Foundation Stage are assessed for music within Expressive Arts and Design (Being Imaginative and Expressive) and their progress is tracked using the Development Matters Document. Expectation levels are reported to parents at the end of the Reception year.

Throughout the rest of school, we measure the impact of the curriculum through the following methods:

- Summative assessment of pupils' skills (termly data is tracked at the end of each unit on and is analysed by the subject leader);
- Images and videos of the children's practical learning are collected;
- Discussion with pupils about their learning (pupil voice);
- Lesson observations and feedback given by the subject leader;
- Annual reporting to parents about their child's achievement and effort within music;
- Children have the opportunity to discuss and share their own thoughts, opinions and ideas, acknowledging and respecting that these may vary and that this is positive. They can dissect music and comprehend its parts.
- Children throughout the school enjoy singing in assemblies and when taking part in religious festivals such as Harvest and Christmas.

Pupil Voice

- *"In music lessons we get to use instruments. It's great fun." Robin Class*
- *"I like listening to different pieces of music in assemblies." Robin Class*
- *"I enjoy singing in assembly. We learn songs from The Greatest Showman." Owl Class*
- *"Young Voices was amazing. Hundreds of people were watching. I was famous." Owl Class*
- *"I learn to play the piano at school. The teacher is really kind and she's really good at playing the piano. She helps me learn new notes." Owl Class*

Here is what Music looks like at Dodford:



Instrumental Lessons



Young Voices Concert



Charanga Music Lesson