



Whitchurch Primary School

Music Implementation

At Whitchurch, music is mainly taught in year groups from FS-Y4, and to class groups in y5/6. Music lessons feature three key aspects: listening and appraising, musical activity, and performing.

Listening & Appraising

Children listen and respond to music from a variety of genres, historical periods and composers including recorded and live performances, and develop the musical vocabulary to discuss these.

Musical Activities

Children develop musical skills and knowledge of the interrelated dimensions of music through games, playing, improvisation and composition. At the start of KS1 the focus is on the key areas of pulse, rhythm and pitch, and develops to explore dynamics, tempo, timbre, structure, texture and notation as children move through the school. The plans enable 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.

Singing features in every lesson. In some terms all the work is based around a particular song, while in others children learn to play tuned and untuned instruments, including two terms of focussed glockenspiel work in years 2 and 3; a longer instrument study in y4 (ukulele), and Brazilian

Samba percussion in years 5 and 6.

Performing

All children have the opportunity to take part in live performances, ranging from performing in school to other classes and to parents, and at events held outside school. These include carol services, nativities, musical plays, ensemble singing, sharing of learning. The termly units work towards a final performance that might be live or recorded.

We use technology where relevant as a method of composition. Children have the opportunity to attend musical workshops outside of school and to learn from music specialists. Continuity and coverage is ensured through a long term plan, and where possible links to topic themes are made.

One whole-school assembly per week is devoted to singing, and to listening and understanding music, via a structured programme of pieces representing the history of music, pieces introducing the instruments of the orchestra, and pieces from different musical cultures around the world.