

OAK FARM JUNIOR SCHOOL MUSIC

POLICY

Introduction:

At Oak Farm Junior School, we believe that Music is a universal language that explores the realms of expression, imagination and creation. A dynamic music education should engage pupils to have a love of music and to develop a curiosity of musical styles, talent as musicians, and so increase their self-confidence, creativity and own sense of opportunity and achievement.

Music in the National Curriculum Key Stage 2:

Pupils should be taught to sing and play musically with increasing confidence and control.

They should develop an understanding of musical composition, organising and manipulating ideas within musical structures and reproducing sounds from aural memory.

Pupils should be taught:

Play and perform in solo and ensemble contexts, using their voices and playing musical instruments with increasing accuracy, fluency, control and expression

Improvise and compose music for a range of purposes using the interrelated dimensions of music

Listen with attention to detail and recall sounds with increasing aural memory

Use and understand staff and other musical notations

Appreciate and understand a wide range of high-quality live and recorded music drawn from different traditions and from great composers and musicians

Develop an understanding of the history of music.

Teaching and Learning

Pupils have weekly whole class music lessons which develop understanding and the using of “Musical Elements” to create effective soundscape compositions in Year 3; Animal Magic and Year 4; Weather and Seasons.

Specific melodic pieces are learnt in Year 4; Egyptian, Year 5; Scotland and Year 6; Rivers and The Water Cycle and Group Performance

Specific rhythmic pieces are learnt in Year 3; Beat It, Year 5; America and Year 6; Rivers and The Water Cycle.

All year groups spend one term learning a whole class musical instrument:

Year 3 - Ocarina

Year 4 - Recorder

Year 5 - Ukulele

Year 6 - Glockenspiels

Children develop their specific knowledge of the history of music in Year 6. Throughout all units of work, in all years; a broad general knowledge of world composers is acquired.

Children build upon and enhance their performance skills in small or solo and large groups; both vocal and instrumental to increase accuracy in aural memory, use of sound control, fluency and the use of expression.

All children have units of theory work to improve and progress their knowledge of rhythms and notation; mainly in the Treble Clef, but also in year 6, and with specific instrumental teaching, the Bass Clef.

Visits by musicians from various cultural and musical backgrounds, wherever possible, for year groups and whole school appreciation.

Assessment for Learning

Assessment for all units of work is carried out through observations and questioning during the lesson and after; recorded work, record-keeping of notes taken, written work in books, end of unit evaluations and pupil self-assessment. Year 6 take a Baseline test.

Assemblies

Pupils take part in a weekly school assembly song practice, with focused singing to reinforce musical knowledge and participation as well a various subject topics and issues from the wider community.

In other assemblies through the learning week, children can volunteer to perform to the whole school -w whether it is through a school music activity or to perform a piece they have learnt outside of school. The whole school perform a song together in Monday assemblies.

Specific Instrumental Teaching

All children are offered and encouraged to learn a musical instrument - Brass, Drum, Guitar, Piano and Woodwind are all taught weekly by peripatetic staff from the Hillingdon Music Service or Freelance. These lessons can lead to graded exams.

Extra-Curricular Music

Music after school or during lunch is also an active part of oak farm, with group instrumental lessons, which also encourage adults to join in, and band practice.

The school has a large Junior choir which rehearses weekly and takes part in supporting year group productions, entertaining the wider community and taking part in a variety of performance events with other school in the borough.

Instrumental Concert

Every year an Instrumental Concert is held to celebrate the learning of students that partake in instrumental lessons in years 4, 5 and 6, including all of the choir and after school music groups.

Review

This policy is reviewed regularly.

Kerry Stonely. March 2018