

Woodlands Primary School

Music Policy



Written by	Marion Jones
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Signed – Headteacher	

This policy has been impact assessed by Mary Chatley in order to ensure that it does not have an adverse effect on race, gender or disability equality

1. Introduction

- Music is a foundation subject in the National Curriculum. This policy outlines the purpose, nature and management of the music taught at Woodlands Primary School.
- The school policy for music reflects the consensus of opinion of the whole teaching staff and the governing body.
- The implementation of this policy is the responsibility of the whole of the teaching staff.

1. Aims and objectives

The school's aims are to:

- Provide a relevant, challenging and enjoyable curriculum for music for all pupils.
- Meet the requirements of the national curriculum programmes of study for music and the EYFS curriculum.
- Use music to enhance learning across the curriculum.
- To respond to new developments in technology which will enhance musical learning and keep music relevant to the present day.
- To give pupils an enjoyable and stimulating experience of music which will encourage them to keep enjoying music throughout their lives.
- To enable pupils to develop their musicianship and to enjoy performing to others.

2. National Curriculum Aims

Years 1-6

- The national curriculum for music aims to ensure that all pupils:
- Perform, listen to, review and evaluate music across a range of historical periods, genres, styles and traditions.
- Learn to sing and to use their voices, to create and compose music on their own and with others, have the opportunity to learn a musical instrument, use technology appropriately and have the opportunity to progress to the next level of musical excellence.
- Increase their self-confidence, creativity and sense of achievement.
- Understand and explore how music is created, produced and communicated, including through the inter-related dimensions: pitch, duration, dynamics, tempo, timbre, texture, structure and appropriate musical notations.

Early Years Foundation Stage

In reception Music is incorporated into a wide range of Early years areas 'Being Imaginative' and 'Exploring and using different materials and media.' We ensure that all pupils:

- Build up a repertoire of songs.
- Explore the different sounds of instruments and explore how sounds can be changed.
- Make up their own songs and music including the dimensions of dynamics, tempo, timbre and texture.
- Tapping out repeated rhythms and to experiment with a variety of different rhythms.

3. The Nature of music

- Music is a practical, creative subject, which can be of benefit to all children in developing imagination, the ability to listen attentively, and the ability to express personal thoughts, opinions and feelings.
- We aim for all children to have access to and enjoy the music curriculum and extracurricular opportunities.

4. Entitlement

All children will be taught the skills and knowledge of music as outlined in the programmes of study in the National Curriculum for music 2014.

At Woodlands Primary School at Key Stage 2 all children have the opportunity to learn to play a musical instrument through Arts Council funding using the MusicPlus scheme developed by Kent Music, the music education hub for Kent. Teachers are obliged to attend a training session in order to deliver this programme and for the school to receive the funding. The funding is reviewed every three years. Key Stage 1 also receive a lower amount of funding to be used to buy in music practitioners to run projects and for providing resources such as musical instruments.

- Year 2 Weekly Tuition as a class (Ocarinas term 4 and 6)
- Year 3 Recorder (from Terms 4 – 6)
- Year 4 Recorder (throughout the year, mostly in terms 1, 3 and 6).

Extra-curricular opportunities form an important part of the musical life of the school:

- Recorder club/guitar club (Year 2 from term 2)
- School Band (for children in KS2 who learn a musical instrument)
- Two choirs, Junior (years 3 - 4) and Senior years 5 – 6). The Senior Choir go to the Young Voices concert and compete in a local choir competition.
- Recorder club for KS2 (years 4 – 6)
- Ukulele club (Years 3 – 6).

Performance opportunities

There are three musical events per year for children to perform on their instruments: music assemblies in school time in November and March, and a school musical evening in June. There are also opportunities throughout the school year for musical groups to perform in the community, particularly at the Methodist Church. Children in Key stage 1 are involved in a Harvest and Easter service at the church.

- All Year 5 perform in the annual Christmas pantomime with an emphasis on year group singing.
- All Year 3 children perform a Christmas Nativity play with singing, Year 4s an Easter production and the year 6s put on their show in the summer.
- Children from Years 1, 2 and Reception perform a Christmas Nativity. Each class performs an assembly for parents in terms 3-6.
- Music lessons, for which a fee is required, are available in KS2 during the school day, in piano and violin through Kent Music, drums, guitar, flute and clarinet/saxophone with private teachers.
- Singing Assemblies take place weekly. Children are taught a variety of songs on different themes and for particular seasons and festivals.
- Every year a music workshop is provided to give all children a special experience of music. Examples include African drumming and junk percussion.

5. Implementation

This policy has been updated to incorporate the new music curriculum brought in in September 2014. The basic areas of musical activity – singing, playing, improvising, composing, listening and appraising still form the basis of the curriculum.

Children will be given opportunities to listen to and discuss examples of music from:-

- the European 'classical tradition'
- the countries and regions of the British Isles

- a variety of cultures, western and non-western.

The musical elements of pitch, duration, tempo, timbre, dynamics and structure will be progressively introduced, discussed and understood. Children will devise and recognise appropriate signs to aid composition and arrangements.

Music is taught as a separate subject, overseen by a music specialist from years 1-6. There is one lesson each week during teachers' PPA time and delivered by two music teachers. In Reception, music is taught by the class teachers. Children will be taught in their normal class groups. Musical activities are planned in such a way so as to encourage full and active participation and enjoyment by all children irrespective of ability. Children in KS 2 will increasingly be given the opportunity to use technology during music lessons, for learning music and for learning about music, and for composing and recording their work. Equal value and consideration is given to music from all cultures.

6. Resources

The school has a large bank of resources for music including songbooks and musical instruments, and online resources are also used for lesson planning such as Classical 100 and TES. The BBC Ten Pieces resource is used across KS2 for music appreciation and composition.

Apart from the large selection of percussion instruments, some instruments such as guitars are hired from Kent County Council. The school now has a music clubs page on the website which will be used to showcase children's work and musical events are reported on the News section of the website. Most musical instruments are kept in central resource areas and are readily accessible to the children. All children are taught the safe and appropriate use of equipment including keyboards, which use mains supply electricity.

7. Cross Curricular Links

In key stage 1 and Reception the planning structure is theme based. Music is used to develop excellence and enjoyment across a range of subjects. Links with English are made as pupils explore speech, discriminate sounds and consider rhythm and alliteration, also as children develop fine motor skills through using the programme 'Write dance.' Music is used in maths to reinforce patterns and sequences. In geography and history it is used to reinforce vocabulary and context and in science as an adjunct to how sounds are made. At KS2 music is frequently linked to cross-curricular topics for singing and composition.

8. Assessment

A separate assessment policy for KS2 is in place to incorporate and deliver the requirements of the new music curriculum. This follows training delivered by Soundhub, the music hub for Kent. Recordings, videos and self-assessments are used throughout the year alongside the assessments of the teacher. In key stage 1 children are assessed through target tracker statements each term and informal evidence and observations are recorded to ensure all pupils are working towards their goals.

9. Background Documentation

This policy was informed with reference to the National Curriculum, statutory orders for music, non-statutory guidance by bodies such as the Incorporated Society of Musicians and guidance from Kent County Council.