

Music at Bedford

Music Intent, Implementation and Impact

Intent

The National Curriculum for music aims to ensure that all children:

- perform, listen to, review and evaluate music
- be taught to sing, create and compose music
- understand and explore how music is created, produced and communicated

At Bedford Hall Methodist School, we aim for all our pupils to develop a lifelong love of music through a musical atmosphere of quality experiences which will engage and inspire them. Our children gain a firm understanding of music through listening, singing, playing, evaluating, analysing, and composing across a wide variety of historical periods, styles, traditions, and musical genres. We aim to develop a curiosity for the subject, as well as an understanding and acceptance of the validity and importance of all types of music, and an unbiased respect for the role that music may wish to be expressed in any person's life.

We are committed to ensuring children understand the value and importance of music in the wider community and are able to use their musical skills, knowledge, and experiences to involve themselves in music, in a variety of different contexts. At the heart of our curriculum is creativity, curiosity and excitement. We believe that musical opportunities will support pupil mental health and allow them to express their emotions and self-regulate.

Implementation

The music curriculum has the building blocks of singing, listening and analysing critically, performing and composing at its core. This is embedded in the classroom through the structured music programme Charanga as well as the weekly singing assemblies, various concerts and performances, musical clubs, Rock Steady and individual teaching of instruments from specialist music teachers. In the classroom children learn key aspects of music through cross-curricular links. They also 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 before the added complexity of an instrument.

Impact

Whilst in school, children have access to a varied programme, which allows them to discover areas of strength, as well as areas they might like to improve upon. We aim to give equal opportunities to every child, offering free places for pupils to learn an instrument. We offer both classical tuition and 'rock band' lessons. Our children are able to enjoy music in as many ways as they choose – either as listener, creator or performer. They can dissect music and comprehend its parts. They can sing and feel a pulse. They have an understanding of how to further develop skills less known to them, should they ever develop an interest in their lives.

Curriculum music

area	what happens now	what we would like to see
Whole Class Ensemble Tuition	School has purchased a class set of recorders and provides whole class tuition by a specialist teacher who is released once a week. Learning has been supported by an afterschool club which has run throughout the year.	Good progression in the ability to play a musical instrument.
Singing	<p>The music specialist leads singing assembly once a week and weekly choir club which is open to all year groups and well attended. Once a month the school singing in church with piano accompaniment.</p> <p>Singing is incorporated into every lesson and follow a progression of skills from 2year old nursery to Y6. The choir sing out of school in supermarkets and Residential homes termly. Pupils are invited to sing at special church events, parent assemblies and luncheon club for Parishioners. Termly performances provide further opportunities for pupils to learn to sing songs for an audience. The Christmas performances are accompanied by a piano.</p> <p>The coordinator measures pupil engagement and progress through observation and pupil voice. All pupils reports they enjoy singing and have plentiful opportunities to sing.</p>	More opportunities to join with other choirs in the Epworth Trust for events during the year.
Instrumental music	<p>Opportunities to play un-tuned percussion instruments are built into every lesson. A class set of quality instruments are available for classroom use as well as a full set each for Preschool and Reception. Classical instrumental tuition is provided one to one by specialists from the music service. Rock steady rock school provide contemporary tuition in 'band' format. Disadvantaged pupils are given free or subsidised places. The school offers 4 rock bands and all places are taken.</p> <p>Good standards are achieved in musicianship and performance, measured from starting point.</p>	<p>Encourage more pupils to take up an instrument and have individual tuition.</p> <p>Create a spreadsheet to show the proportion of pupils accessing music instrument provision (boy/girl/SEND/retention and progression) including 'Soft' outcomes such as improved behaviour/academic.</p>
Technology	Music technology is provided as a learning resource in class through the programmes YuStudio, Music explorer, Rhythm grids, Percussion writer and Quick beats. Pupils can also access class ipads to compose using Purple Mash. Pupils in EYFS use Minimash to create music.	Promote DJ and composition opportunities with Hub and WMS.

area	what happens now	what we would like to see
<p>Opportunities to experience live music performance</p>	<p>Children hear live music performed by other children every term through our 4 Rock Steady rock bands. One class of pupils attend the Gala Music concert annually. All pupils virtually watch the annual summer concert performed by Wigan Music service. All music concerts are provided free of charge for pupils.</p>	<p>Provide opportunities for pupils to hear live music –adults to perform Choir to visit Bridgewater/Chethams/RNCM free lunchtime concert</p>

Partnerships

area	what happens now	what we would like to see
Partnerships with schools	<p>We have strong partnerships with the schools within the Epworth Trust and have collaborated to learn a shared Trust song plus a song for the Methodist conference. We have joined with the choir at Westleigh to sing in church.</p> <p>Participation in local networks includes working with the local hub and attending events put on by Wigan music service such as The Gala Concert.</p> <p>We work with the local high school on different projects such as joining with them for their end of term performance.</p> <p>The music lead is a Epworth Special leader for the subject which involves supporting other schools within the trust on different aspects of music, such as planning, training and delivery.</p>	<p>Further musical events with schools in the newly expanded wider Trust –organise summer event? Joint talent competition?</p>
Partnership or relationship with local music service or Music Education Hub	<p>We work closely with the local music service and buy in their services for individual instrumental provision. We understand and take advantage of the Music Education Hub’s offer.</p>	<p>Closer work with the local music hub –explore subsidy to subscriptions.</p>
Cultural partners for music	<p>Music coordinator has completed minibus training in order to take the choir out for excursion to see live music and perform for others. We have sung in local supermarkets and Residential homes and been invited to sing every term.</p>	<p>Choir to visit free lunchtime concerts delivered by Royal Northern College of Music, Cheethams, Halle and Manchester University.</p>

Accommodation and resources

area	what happens now	what we would like to see
Spaces for Music	Music is taught in classrooms Choirs/ensembles take place in the hall or classrooms. Instrumental tuition happens in practice rooms.	Choir to practise in a larger space, such as church, which is more spacious.
Resources available for Music	The school has a good bank of quality instruments including a class set for each key stage. We have purchased a class set of recorders and glocks for whole class tuition. School borrows instruments from the music service for individual lessons. We have school subscriptions to Charanga, Pop UK, and Out of the Ark and make use of the many free resources available such as Sing Up and Bristol Music.	Explore subscription to Sparkyard for assemblies, choir and to enhance curriculum resources.

Inclusion

area	what happens now	what we would like to see
Overview	<p>The curriculum is made accessible for all learners, including those with SEND. There is a practical element in every lesson that takes account of the sensibilities of all sections of the school community and allows every child to participate.</p> <p>Whether songs are sung in languages spoken by families in the school community</p> <p>Whether tuition is offered in non-Western instruments and genres, which reflect the heritage and traditions of pupils at the school</p> <p>Learners are exposed to music from cultures other than their own through the classical music played every morning in Collective worship and in music lessons.</p> <p>Interventions for other subjects do not routinely take place during Music lessons. Pupils are taken out for interventions will miss a different lesson each week.</p>	<p>Incorporate songs sung in languages spoken by families in the school community. Learn Ugandan songs in anticipation of upcoming visit.</p> <p>Offer tuition in non-Western instruments and genres, which reflect the heritage and traditions of pupils at the school such as African drumming.</p>
Special Educational Needs and Disabilities	<p>Music is inclusive and the needs of children with SEND are assessed to enable them to participate in music-making through Charanga. Lessons are differentiated through outcome.</p> <p>Adjustments are made for children with SEND such as recorders with partially covered holes, aids to concentration and earphones. We use Signing and action songs to involve all pupils.</p>	<p>Learn from the expertise offered by specialists in nurture settings.</p>
Religion	<p>We welcome the feedback and wishes of families when performing musical events and at parents evening. Religious beliefs and wishes are met in respect of Music by taking notice of these views. As a church school we tailor our curriculum around Christian values and the valuing of all people.</p>	<p>Introduce more music from around the world in listening program –rewrite ‘Music to come into assembly’ list with greater breadth of world music –use NAXOS rather than You Tube.</p>

area	what happens now	what we would like to see
Financial hardship	The school provided subsidies for instrumental provision through Rock Steady and through the Music service. Free places are also offered for talented pupils who would not otherwise be able to afford lessons through Pupil premium.	Remissions policy for extension and enrichment activities (such as concert trips), choir club and ensembles and instrumental/vocal tuition.

Objectives 2024/25

These are the headlines for things we want to do and achieve this year which will move Music at your school towards our vision.

1. Incorporate more live music performances into the school year to inspire pupils musically.
2. Provide opportunities for more pupils to learn an instrument as whole classes –expand recorder tuition to other year group and extend to glocks in another year group led by class teacher.
3. Work collaboratively with the Trust on group performances such as joint choir performance.
4. Increase pupil exposure to all different kinds of music from around the world. Link to musical performances on screen.
5. Link music to RE wherever possible ie Easter Pop UK day. Use RE resources linking to music to link –Gill Vaisey, Lat Blaylock

Action Plan

action	link to objective	who	resources or cost	music hub support sought	complete by	
1	Book live music performances for each term including live links to orchestral and operatic performances such as Halle and WMS. Link to Trust Infinity 8 initiative	1	TB		no	July 2025
2	Link with High School for termly performance	1	TB	none	no	July 2025
3	Work more closely with GM Music hub to enhance live music provision.	1	TB		yes	July 2025
4	Work regularly with individual teachers to upskill in delivering their own music.	2	TB		no	July 2025
5	Ensure teachers are able and active in delivering whole class glockenspiel tuition.	2	Class teachers	none	no	July 2025
6	Arrange choir visit to Summerseat Primary to take part in joint performance.	3	TB	Petrol for minibus		Nov 2024
7	Use NAXOS more frequently throughout the day –all classes and assembly to promote wider breadth	4	All classes TB monitor	none	no	July 2024
8	Utilise minibus to take groups of children out of school to lunchtime concerts	1	TB	Petrol for minibus	no	July 2024
9	Book Pop UK for tuition/ concert in Spring term	5	TB	£450 1 day or 3 days £895	no	April 2024
10	Ensure all purchased singing resources for RE are in use	5	Class teachers Monitored by TB	none	no	July 2024