

WESTFIELD PRIMARY SCHOOL

Music Policy

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This Policy was written by E. Carey January 2025



INTRODUCTION

Music is important because it can provide fulfilment throughout life. It is a powerful, unique form of communication that can change the way pupils feel, think and act. It transcends different cultures, abilities and generations.

Listening to and making music fulfils an instinctive human need for self-expression and creativity. It stimulates responses on both emotional and intellectual levels.

Besides being a creative and enjoyable activity, music can also be a highly academic and demanding subject.

Musical activities include performing vocally or with instruments, exploring sounds and composing as well as listening and responding to music of different styles and cultures. All these activities involve the musical elements of pitch, duration (rhythm), dynamics, tempo, timbre, texture and structure.

At Westfield Primary we are committed to creating a universal language that embodies one of the highest forms of creativity; music.

We are dedicated to ensuring that every child receives a high-quality music education which engages and inspires, supporting children to develop a love of music and fostering their musical talent.

Through our Music curriculum we aim to build on pupils' self-confidence and give each child a sense of achievement. Our well thought out curriculum gives children the opportunity to build on their musical vocabulary, perform, listen and evaluate as well as to examine in depth the inter related dimensions within music.

They are then given the opportunity to apply what they have learned through wider opportunities provided to them both in and outside of school. We also aim to provide further opportunities for personal, spiritual, moral, social and cultural development through the teaching of Music.

Our aims are to:

- develop the children's knowledge within the classroom while also encouraging children to explore their love of music further through our choir and 1:1 music lessons. This ensures that all children from any background are exposed to cultural experiences that they may not get elsewhere.
- Encourage children to express their own opinions and let their creativity flow, both within the classroom and our work with outside agencies.
- Teach children how to respect their peers and embrace the cultural diversity within the school.

We aim to encourage parental engagement with the Music curriculum by ensuring parents and carers have the opportunity to watch and support their children in a range of different musical performances throughout the year.

Organisation (implementation)

The award winning music scheme Charanga has been carefully chosen in order to ensure that all children are given the opportunity to cover the music national curriculum whilst at Westfield. Charanga gives staff high quality planning to follow as well as a list of key vocabulary for each Key Stage and a set of interactive resources available on the whiteboard. Therefore, ensuring that both musicians and non-musicians have the confidence, professional knowledge and tools to deliver exciting and progressive music lessons.

Charanga is a flexible scheme which allows staff to differentiate where appropriate for all needs and its specific SEND curriculum allows for more personalised teaching where necessary. At Westfield we have adapted the Charanga scheme to suit the needs of our children. The scheme has been carefully adapted for all year groups (EYFS, KS1 & KS2) to ensure that as children progress through school, they develop a critical engagement with music, allowing them to compose, and to listen with discrimination to a wide range of high-quality pieces of music from different eras, cultures and genres.

Charanga also provides:

- A variety of singing experiences.
- An opportunity to play a variety of instruments (pitched and non-pitched)
- Time to compose individually and in groups of varying sizes.
- An opportunity to listen to, appreciate and appraise a wide range of music.
- An opportunity to use I.T. to record sounds.

How we deliver Music at Westfield

At Westfield, Music is taught in classes. Within the class, musical activities are available in a variety of settings: as a class, as groups or as individuals. All staff support and play their part in delivering the curriculum. Lessons usually take place in classrooms, assembly hall and in the Symphony Suite. Instruments are stored in the Symphony suite, including electronic keyboards, glockenspiels and other percussion instruments from around the world. Resources are reviewed regularly and upgraded within the music budget. Singing assemblies are held weekly as well as termly performances/ assemblies for Harvest, Christmas, Easter and end of term leavers.

Pupils in EYFS and KS1 are taught music each week by their class teacher. Pupils in Year 5 and 6 are taught music for 6 weeks each term on rotation with Modern Foreign Languages.

Year 2 also have the opportunity to learn to play the recorder as part of their weekly music lessons during the Summer term.

Music is accessible to all pupils at their own level, it is taught as a discrete subject but cross-curricular links are emphasised wherever possible. Children are assessed regularly in their classwork and at the end of a unit of study. Recording children's musical achievements and progress is accomplished in a variety of ways:-

- Uploaded compositions/ performances on SeeSaw
- visual recordings - photographs, art work
- written evidence through graphic and conventional scores and the written language

The annual report to parents, on the child's progress and attainment is informed by the summative assessments.

Music as part of PPA provision

Children in Year 3 and 4 have access to weekly instrumental lessons run by Grooveline education as part of the PPA provision. This is taught by an experienced musician who delivers high quality lessons across a 6 week block. Each half term is a different topic (Boomwhackers, Piano skills, Vocal skills, Ukulele and Song writing).

Wider opportunities

KS2 pupils have the opportunity to sing in the school choir which is run throughout the year (run by Mrs Carey .

Pupils can also take 1:1 instrumental lessons which are paid for by parents which is also run by Grooveline.

KS2 children who are part of the school choir are given the opportunity to take part in larger concerts outside of school and alongside other schools. (Young Voices and Woking schools picnic in the park). They also visit the local community and sing at Mayford Grange on occasions throughout the year (Christmas carols).

Monitoring and Review

Monitoring of the standards of children's work and of the quality of teaching in music is the responsibility of the Music lead. The work of the Music leader also involves supporting colleagues in the teaching of Music, being informed about current developments in the subject, and providing a strategic lead and direction for the subject in the school.

The Music lead has specially-allocated, termly management time in order to review evidence of the children's work and undertake lesson observations of Music teaching across the school.

The Music lead monitors the quality of teaching and learning, progress and attainment in Music through; regular Quality Assurance, pupil and staff voice, lesson observations, recordings of lessons and analysis of the data which is completed on the relevant assessment grid at the end of each term.

The Music Coordinator writes an annual action plan in which she evaluates the strengths and weaknesses in the subject and indicates areas for further improvement.

Continuing Professional Development

Training will be arranged as and when deemed necessary by the Music lead in response to subject monitoring. In addition to training from external providers CPD may include; signposting to online resources to support subject knowledge, modelling lessons, 1:1 staff coaching.