

Oulton Primary School

Music Curriculum Intent

Intent

At Oulton Primary School, it is our intent that we make music an enjoyable learning experience. We encourage children to participate in musical experiences to build up the confidence of all children. Our teaching focuses on developing the children's ability to understand musical terminology and features. In this way children can understand rhythm, follow a beat and explore the structure and organisation of music. We believe that every child should have the opportunity to develop their musical potential and we aim to nurture and encourage musical development across the school.

Implementation

As a whole school approach, we follow the 'Music Express scheme' in which children take part in weekly music lessons. The scheme allows for cross-curricular links to be made wherever possible. For example, learning songs about ourselves when learning the same topic in science sessions. The scheme follows a range of topics, embeds and builds upon prior skills to ensure a full and comprehensive coverage of the National Curriculum. We ensure that skills taught in the scheme are reflected and built upon within our classrooms to continue to develop the musical understanding of every child as they progress through the key stages. In KS2, children are also given the opportunity as part of their weekly lessons to learn an instrument with a specialist music teacher from Leeds Artforms.

In EYFS, alongside the 'Music Express' lessons, music is interwoven into daily routines and children have the opportunity to explore music in provision areas and develop ideas modelled by adults such as creating their own songs to well-known tunes. Children are encouraged to explore different everyday objects and the sounds that they can make as well as using these to make up rhythms and patterns.

We also offer an after-school choir which children can join to build on the skills they are developing and share a love and enjoyment of listening, performing and responding to music.

We welcome parents to our productions throughout the year to share the musical ability we have at our school.

Impact

Through the child's journey at Oulton, their musical skills and understanding are built on year on year, from singing simple songs from memory and performing simple rhythm patterns in EYFS and KS1, to more advanced techniques skills, and understanding in lower KS2, further developing in upper KS2 where the children have the ability to read and follow a simple musical score. Throughout all of this, the child's enjoyment of music is a key element, running alongside the taught musical skills and objectives.

"Music education can help spark a child's imagination or ignite a lifetime of passion. When you provide a child with new worlds to explore and challenges to tackle, the possibilities are endless. Music education should not be a privilege for a lucky few, it should be a part of every child's world of possibility." Hillary Clinton