



Our Music Curriculum



Intent

At Bushbury Hill Primary School, we provide opportunities for all children to create, play, perform and enjoy music, to develop skills and appreciate a wide variety of musical forms.

We embrace the National Curriculum purpose of study which states:

"Music is a universal language that embodies one of the highest forms of creativity. A high quality music education should engage and inspire pupils to develop a love of music and their talent as musicians, and so increase their self-confidence, creativity and sense of achievement. As pupils progress, they should develop a critical engagement with music..." National Curriculum 2014.

Music is a unique way of communicating that can inspire and motivate children. It is a vehicle for personal expression and it can play an important part in the personal development of people. Music reflects the culture and society we live in and so the teaching and learning of music enables children to better understand the world they live in. Besides being a creative and enjoyable activity, music can also be a highly academic and demanding subject. It also plays an important part in helping children feel part of a community. We provide opportunities for all children to create, play, perform and enjoy music, to develop the skills, to appreciate a wide variety of musical forms and to begin to make judgements about the quality of music.

Implementation

At Bushbury Hill Primary School, we follow the Charanga scheme of work which is provided through Wolverhampton Music school. We always aim to make music enjoyable and encourage children to participate in a variety of musical experiences through which we endeavour to build up the confidence of all children. Children are given the opportunity to discover, explore and develop technical skills through practical music lessons.

Forty-five minute music lessons are timetabled for each class on a weekly basis. This involves both whole class and small group activities. We aim to meet as far as possible the requirements of the National Curriculum. Pupils' understanding of music will be developed through activities which bring together the requirements of performing, composing, listening and appraising. Children are taught to recognise the musical elements of: duration, dynamics, pitch, tempo, timbre and texture.

Children are taught to make music together, to understand musical notation and to compose pieces. They are also taught to sing and play in time controlling the sound and pace. They are taught different ways to represent sounds graphically and symbolically.

To aid the teaching and learning of music at Bushbury Hill Primary School, the following musical resources are available: interactive whiteboards, computers and iPads; music software (for example, 'Garage Band'); tuned and untuned percussion instruments, whole class sets of recorders and ukuleles and half a class set of keyboards.

BHPS has also chosen to participate in the 'Whole Class Instrumental Teaching' programme – this is aimed at Year 3 children. This programme is run by the Music Service and provides a weekly lesson through the teaching of a focus instrument (recorder) during the course of the year. Following on from this a small group (approx.10) children who show potential during these lessons are given the opportunity to continue to learn to play the recorder in a small group throughout Year 4 and Year 5.

Impact

As children progress throughout the school, they develop a deep knowledge, understanding an appreciation of music and its place within the wider creative arts context. Through their growing knowledge and understanding of music, children gain an appreciation of life in different societies, helping to develop a sense of other cultures, and how nations rely on each other.