



Thythorn Field
Primary School

Music Policy

Adopted By School: June 2024

Review Date: June 2027

Governor Signature:

Thythorn Field Primary School

Music Policy

Vision Statement

Our vision for Music at Thythorn Field is excellence, opportunity and challenge for all with rich and sustained opportunities for children to develop their cultural capital. All of our pupils are supported to develop and grow musically to reach their full creative potential. By sharing music that reflects the culture and society we live in, we are enabling our children to better understand their world. Through delivering a progressive, broad music curriculum, we can instil a lifelong love of music, equipping individuals to use their skills of collaboration, creativity and communication throughout their lives.

Aims

- To enable all children to develop and grow musically at their own level and pace so that they reach their full potential regardless of gender, faith, race, colour or academic ability.
- To encourage children to sing and play with enthusiasm and enjoyment, free from inhibitions.
- To give children access to a range of musical experiences encompassing music from other countries and across different styles and eras.
- To share music reflecting the culture and society we live in, enabling a better understanding of the world.
- To allow children to investigate, explore and experiment with sounds and music
- To give children the opportunity to develop compositional and performance skills
- To develop a basic understanding of notation so that they can record their own music.
- To instil a lifelong love of music, equipping individuals to make choices and recognise that music can be used in entertainment and recreation as a non-verbal means of expression and as a source of joy or solace.
- To help children feel part of a community through shared musical experiences.

Music Provision: The Model Music Curriculum (2021) and the National Plan for Music Education

The aims of the Model Music Curriculum and National Plan for Music Education shape the direction of our music provision. Opportunities are created for pupils to sing, listen, compose and perform in a variety of genres and styles and to different audiences through an ambitious approach where barriers to achievement are removed.

EYFS: We work towards the Early Learning Goals in EYFS. Children are introduced to the musical elements through activities related to these goals, building a repertoire of songs, exploring the different sounds of instruments and experimenting with ways of changing these.

KS1: During Key Stage 1, we encourage pupils to build on their natural enthusiasm for music through listening and responding physically, to a wide range of music. Children explore and enjoy sounds, creating different moods and effects. They play instruments, sing songs from memory and create accompaniments with growing confidence.

KS2: During Key Stage 2, pupils sing songs and have enhanced opportunities to learn to play instruments with greater confidence, skill and expression. They improvise and develop their own musical compositions, in response to a variety of stimuli. They explore their own thoughts and feelings through responding physically, intellectually and emotionally to different types of music.

Music contributes to the wider aims of Primary Education, offering the opportunity for transferable skills such as concentration, listening skills, creativity, intuition, aesthetic sensitivity, perseverance, self-confidence and sensitivity towards others. Our music lessons are musical and practical in every sense, whilst allowing natural cross-curricular links to be made. Where relevant, we make appropriate use of technology to create and record music.

Whole class instrumental tuition

- Year 2 are taught the recorder at an entry level.
- Year 4 are taught the ukulele at an entry level by a Leicestershire Music teacher (10 week block).

At the end of their block of tuition the pupils usually perform a class assembly for the whole school and parents/carers are invited.

Additional Instrumental and Choral Opportunities

- Piano/Keyboard tuition is offered by a peripatetic teacher with a performance assembly once a term which parents/carers are invited to. We are trying to increase our peripatetic music offer.
- KS2 Lunchtime choir – rehearsing for assembly performances or Leicestershire Music events such as the Winter Song Festival.
- Harvest Assemblies and Christmas performances (Nativity, Christmas show, Carol Service at a local church).
- Year 6 leavers performance.
- Singing and listening exploration in music assemblies.
- Promotion of events run by Leicestershire Music.
- Whole School enrichment events such as African Drumming day.

Parental involvement

Parents can support their child's progression in music by encouraging their child to practice their instrument at home, attending music performances, assemblies and productions in school and promoting musical discussions.

Equal Opportunities and Inclusion.

We teach music to all children, whatever their ability, in accordance with the school curriculum policy of providing a broad and balanced education that challenges stereotypes and supports the appreciation of other cultures. All pupils have an equal opportunity to reach their full potential across the music curriculum regardless of their race, gender, cultural background or special needs. Adaptive teaching approaches are used to ensure music lessons are fully inclusive. Uptake of provision is monitored closely by the subject leader, to ensure inclusiveness and equality.

Assessment and recording

Assessment is ongoing and evidence for recording and reporting purposes is gained from teacher observation and through video recordings on an iPad or Tapestry for EYFS. Attainment in music is recorded at the end of each academic year. Quizzes are used at the start/end of each unit to monitor progress and understanding.

Resources

Music Express (which covers all of the National Curriculum requirements for each Key Stage) constitutes the main content of our scheme of work and is taught by non-specialists. We have carefully selected the units that we teach to ensure we have coverage of the key areas of singing, listening, composing and performing and ensure progression of skills and the opportunity to build upon these, as well as the development of musical vocabulary. This is complemented by the use of resources such as Sing Up and those free to access from Leicestershire Music, such as their Active Listening lists. We have a music studio where music lessons are taught, and which houses a range of tuned and untuned musical instruments.

Professional Development of Staff

Those who teach Music access training through Leicestershire Music service. The subject lead attends a Music Network meeting once a term through TELA. We also access support from teachers from the Leicestershire Music Service when necessary. The subject Lead has met with the Music Lead from a local secondary school to discuss progression into Year 7.

Monitoring and review

Monitoring of the musical provision being provided around school takes place at regular intervals throughout the year. This is done through pupil interviews, discussion with staff and video recordings of work. We are also developing a whole school Music floor book to support this cycle.