

# St. Hugh's Catholic Primary School

## Music Policy

### Mission Statement

St Hugh's School provides a welcoming, safe and secure environment for all.

Our school aims to be a community which reflects real gospel values of love and forgiveness. A community in which each individual, child or adult, can work in an atmosphere of mutual respect and understanding; so as to broaden their appreciation of the world, its cultures and its people.

Every day ..... Growing in God's Love

### Rationale

*'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.'*

National Curriculum 2014

Music is a powerful and unique form of communication that can change the way children feel, think and act. It brings together intellect and feeling and enables personal expression, reflection and emotional development. Music promotes children's spiritual, cultural and social development. The learning of music develops an awareness and appreciation of musical traditions, from the past and present, in a variety of cultures and societies. This helps children understand themselves and relate to others, forging important links between the home, school and wider world. The teaching of music develops children's ability to listen and appreciate a wide variety of music and to make judgments about musical quality. It encourages active involvement in different forms of music making, both individual and communal, developing a sense of group identity and togetherness. It also increases self-discipline and creativity, aesthetic sensitivity and fulfilment.

### Aims

At St. Hugh's, we strive to:

- Provide all children with an education in music that is stimulating, enriching and inspiring through curricular and extra-curricular learning.
- Encourage confidence in all the children through their involvement in music.
- Develop an understanding and appreciation of different types of music and increase their ability to make judgments of musical quality.

Our music curriculum is based around the aims of the National Curriculum (2014) which are to ensure that all pupils:

- Perform, listen to, review and evaluate music across a range of historical periods, genres, styles and traditions, including the works of the great composers and musicians
- Learn to sing and to use their voices, to create and compose music on their own and with others, have the opportunity to learn a musical instrument, use technology appropriately and have the opportunity to progress to the next level of musical excellence
- Understand and explore how music is created, produced and communicated, including through the inter-related dimensions: pitch, duration, dynamics, tempo, timbre, texture, structure and appropriate musical notations.

### Objectives

- To teach music through the National Curriculum (2014) and the early learning goals of the Expressive Arts and Design area of the EYFS.
- To promote all the children's achievements in music within the school and the wider community.
- To provide all children with the opportunity to express themselves creatively and to develop their musical skills through an understanding of pitch, rhythm, dynamics, duration, timbre, texture and structure, using both instruments and voices.

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- To develop performing, composing and appraising skills by applying listening skills and knowledge and understanding of music.
- To become increasingly aware of how music is produced, for example, through the use of instruments and musical processes including relevant symbols and notation.

#### **Planning**

Short-term planning is carried out by teachers within guidelines set at the medium-term planning stage. Planning should show objectives, teaching strategies, differentiation, possible groupings, use of additional adults and evaluation. In classes where instrumental teaching is taking place, the music teacher will plan lessons in liaison with the class teacher.

#### **Teaching and Learning**

The music curriculum is defined by the programmes of study in the National Curriculum (2014) and the early learning goals of the Early Years Foundation Stage and the expected standards of children's performance by the attainment targets. The content of the programmes of study is largely implemented by the scheme of work provided by 'Music Express'. The teaching of music is based on these units of work. The units are progressive and build on previous work and experiences.

The teaching of music in the foundation stage allows children to explore sound and the building of patterns of sound. Children in the reception class have access to musical instruments. They also explore music through dance, movement, story, role play and singing.

Children have additional opportunities to develop their understanding of skills in music. Extra-curricular activities are provided by teaching staff and contracted music specialists. Outside musicians are invited to perform to the children to give them experiences of live music.

The 'Wider Opportunities' initiative provides whole year groups with the opportunity to learn an instrument. This is currently provided by Liverpool Music Support Service. This initiative currently provides instrumental teaching to up to three different year groups for one hour a week per class for an entire academic year. In the year groups in which instrumental takes place, 'Music Express' will not be followed.

#### **Assessment and Recording**

Assessment will form an integral part of the teaching and learning of music. This will be done by observing children working and performing, by listening to their responses and by examining work produced. It is expected that work involving performance or composition is regularly recorded live.

Parents are given the opportunities to discuss their child's progress during parent interview times. Each year a written report is given to parents. Where instrumental teaching takes place, there will be a celebration performance at least once a year to which parents will be invited.

#### **Resources**

Music resources are located on the upstairs corridor by Years 5 and 6. These resources include a wide variety of tuned and percussion instruments. A selection of instruments can also be found in the Reception, Year One and Year Two classrooms. The piano is located in the hall. Violins, on loan from the Liverpool Music Support Service, are stored in the library. When drumming takes place, the drums are stored in the 'WOW' room.

Resources are monitored yearly. Stock and maintenance check are carried out on a regular basis by the music co-ordinator(s) in order to provide high quality musical resources.