



## Securing an Excellent Music Curriculum for the Children of Botley C of E Primary School

### The Intent of the Music Curriculum

Music is all around us; it is a universal language which connects us through people and places in our ever changing world. At Botley C of E Primary School, we believe that the opportunity to engage in musical experiences is crucial for the development of the whole child. Exploring music develops all aspects of a child's learning. The skills gained are directly transferable to other areas of the curriculum, allowing children to flourish, and proving invaluable in their future life. It is a practical subject, integrating: singing, playing, listening, creating, notating, rehearsing and performing activities.

The intent for our Music curriculum is to be creative, collaborative, challenging and celebratory. It will engage and inspire pupils to develop a lifelong love of music and grow their talent as musicians, helping them to develop a sense of their own individual identity and feel connected to the school community. Music is a subject uniquely placed to promote the social, spiritual and cultural life of the school and support pupil's emotional growth.

Our Music curriculum has been designed to cover all of the skills, knowledge and understanding as set out in the National Curriculum and seeks specifically to develop pupil's critical listening and fine motor skills together with enjoyment and confidence in performing and a range of increasingly complex concepts relating to an art form that is highly emotional and emotive.

### The Implementation of the Music Curriculum

Music is an essential aspect of the children's learning in every year group and is carefully sequenced across the school to form a supportive and challenging journey which utilises and builds on the singing, listening, performing and composing skills from the previous year. Sequences of learning in the key areas all contribute towards the steadily increasing development of musicianship.

The music curriculum at Botley will stimulate the children's interest by exploring a range of both musical and non-musical stimuli and children will participate in real music making activities which are recognisable as such outside of the classroom. Children will have access to music through regular class lessons, worship, workshops as well as extra opportunities such as peripatetic music lessons, singing squad and wider performance opportunities. Pupils will perform, listen to and evaluate music across a range of historical periods, genres, styles and traditions including the works of the great composers and musicians.

In the Foundation Stage music is taught within appropriate aspects of the Early Years Curriculum. In Years 1-6, Music is delivered through subject specific teaching, with

meaningful links being made with other subjects in order to strengthen connections and understanding and provide a purpose for learning within integrated units of learning.

Wherever possible pupils will demonstrate their understanding orally or through music making rather than through written response.

Staff will model and demonstrate explicitly the subject-specific vocabulary, and support children to use musical vocabulary themselves when reflecting and appraising their own work and the work of others.

Assessment is ongoing throughout each unit and will inform teachers of progress and to support them with responsive teaching approaches that ensure that they appropriately meet the needs of all. Our children will be musicians and will be given a variety of experiences both in and out of the classroom as appropriate in order to create memorable musical learning opportunities and to experience success and enjoyment within the subject.

### The Impact of the Music Curriculum

The impact of our Music curriculum is that all children will leave our school with a confidence and passion for music and have experience of a range of musical activities. Children will, year on year, have built upon their prior learning in order to develop their confidence within the subject and have the ability to recall their learning over time, making links and connections. They will be equipped with a strong musical understanding underpinned by high levels of aural perception, be able to use musical terminology effectively, accurately and appropriately and demonstrate high or developing levels of practical skill.

Recordings of practical aspects of the children's learning throughout the journey, including the final quality musical outcome, along with evidence in pupil's books will show the curriculum content has been taught at an age appropriate level across the school and that there is a breadth of coverage. A high proportion of the children will be working at Age Related Expectations or beyond at key points and they are effectively prepared for the next stage of their educational journey within the subject of Music.

