Curriculum Statement - Music

Intent

Music lies at the heart of life at Woodbridge Primary School and our intention in the music curriculum is to encourage a life-long love of music in every child while developing the skills, knowledge and understanding that children need in order to become **confident** performers, composers, and listeners.

Children will develop the musical skills of singing, playing tuned and untuned instruments, improvising and composing music, and listening and responding to music. They will develop an understanding of the history and cultural context of the music that they listen to and perform, which will consequently broaden their experience of other cultures. Where possible, they will also increase their understanding of their different history and geography topics by learning about music related to those subjects.

They will learn the different ways in which music can be written down and become **confident** in their understanding of the different inter-related dimensions of music.

Our music curriculum will help children to develop all of the Woodbridge Primary **7Cs** and other transferable skills such as team-working, leadership, creative thinking, problem-solving, decision-making, and presentation and performance skills. These skills are vital to children's development as learners and have a wider application in their general lives outside and beyond school.

We have established extra curricular opportunities: individual music lessons and performance opportunities in class assemblies, instrument assemblies, the Suffolk Schools Celebration at the Snape Maltings, Christmas performances , all of these culminating in the Upper KS2 summer show. We are committed to embracing and providing further opportunities where they arise.

Implementation

As every child already owns their own instrument, their voice, the basis of musical education at WPS is taught through singing. Children are encouraged to find their singing voice and to have the **confidence** to sing out with their class, in groups and on their own, right from the Early Years Foundation Stage.

We also recognise that the benefits of singing are numerous and far-reaching beyond specific musical objectives and we therefore encourage singing for the benefit to our well-being, as well as a means to learn about music; it is healthy, promotes good breathing and posture, enhances our self-esteem and can make us feel better about ourselves. Singing also allows children to learn and retain new vocabulary quickly and seamlessly encouraging their learning in other subjects and topics. All classes, therefore, sing throughout the curriculum; weekly during singing practices; in our

general assemblies and at occasions of national importance (religious festivals, sporting events, royal events etc.).

In addition to regular singing, we teach more specific music objectives during music lessons using the Sparkyard music curriculum. In these lessons, children are taught to play and sing, to improvise and compose, notation skills, and to listen and learn about a variety of recorded music from all over the world. Key musical concepts and themes are developed and revisited across the year groups, building on knowledge and understanding at every stage.

Children are able to access music lessons with peripatetic teachers. The instruments currently on offer are piano, drumkit, guitar, and ukulele. These dedicated teachers are very supportive of the WPS **7Cs** ethos and work with the pupils to perform in fun instrumental assemblies at different times during the year.

Other opportunities to perform and demonstrate musical learning come through the termly class assemblies, the Christmas performances the Harvest and Easter celebrations, and the Upper KS2 show at the end of the year.

Impact

The impact of the music curriculum at WPS can be seen in the **confidence** and skill with which they perform, whether singing or playing at the different opportunities provided: in a class lesson, in whole school events, or outside school such as at the Snape Maltings or carol singing at a local care home.
Children develop in their understanding of music, be it in their knowledge and understanding of the inter-related dimensions (building blocks) of music, in their skill to sing and play or in their appreciation of different genres and the cultures the music comes from.
Children grow in their enjoyment of music as a performer or a listener which, for many, leads to a life-long love of music that is proven to support well-being at all ages.
Teaching other subjects through singing increases the children's **confidence** in their learning across all areas of the curriculum.
Evidence of the positive impact of the musical opportunities at WPS is also present in the numbers of children choosing to learn an instrument outside of lessons and the fact that many of those children go on to learn instruments at FHS