Music Policy 2026

St John Vianney Primary School

Music Policy

Being SJV

Sincere † Joyful † Virtuous

Vision

At St John Vianney Primary School, we believe that music is a powerful means of self-expression, creativity and personal development. Our vision is to inspire a lifelong love of music by providing all children with the opportunity to explore, create, perform and appreciate music in a supportive and engaging environment.

Through a rich and progressive music curriculum, children develop their skills in composing, improvising, performing and evaluating music. We encourage pupils to express themselves confidently through singing and the use of a range of instruments, including glockenspiels and percussion instruments, while exploring sounds, rhythms and musical ideas.

Intent

At St John Vianney Primary School, we aim to broaden children's musical understanding by exposing them to a diverse range of music from different cultures, traditions and historical periods. Through listening, performing and responding to music, pupils gain a deeper appreciation of the world around them and the role music plays in different communities and contexts.

As children progress through the school, they develop an increasingly sophisticated musical vocabulary and understanding of key musical elements, including pitch, rhythm, tempo, texture, structure and dynamics. By nurturing creativity, confidence and enjoyment, we strive to ensure that every child leaves St John Vianney with a love of music and the skills to engage with it throughout their lives.

Curriculum Aims

By the end of KS1, pupils will be able to use their voices expressively and creatively by singing songs and speaking chants and rhymes and play tuned and untuned instruments musically. They will listen with concentration and understanding to a range of high-quality live and recorded music and experiment with, create, select and combine sounds using the inter-related dimensions of music.

By the end of KS2, pupils will have played and performed in solo and ensemble contexts, using their voices and playing musical instruments with increased accuracy, fluency, control and expression. They will be able to improvise and compose music for a range of purposes

using the inter-related dimensions of music. They will listen with attention to detail and recall sounds with increasing aural memory use and understand staff a range of different musical notations. Pupils will appreciate and understand a wide range of high-quality live and recorded music drawn from different traditions and from great composers and musicians develop an understanding of the history of music.

Implementation

Curriculum Structure

The following list of skills will be gained through an active participation in musical activities which, in turn, contribute to the whole skill curriculum. St John Vianney's have subscribed to the **Charanga** scheme of learning with teachers delivering lessons once a week.

Children will learn:

- ✓ How to co-ordinate fingers, hands, arms, and lips.
- ✓ Social skills such as perseverance and self-confidence as well as co-operation and tolerance.
- ✓ A sense of achievement.
- ✓ How to read or identify notes be reading or by using the listening ear.
- ✓ How to develop listen skills and be sensitive to changes in sound.
- ✓ To be concerned about accuracy when playing an instrument or singing.
- ✓ The ability to memorise or mimic musical compositions.
- ✓ How to self and peer assess produced compositions.
- ✓ How to focus to achieve great results.
- ✓ Be allowed the creative freedom to explore musical compositions.
- ✓ Differentiation is achieved by the resource, task or support.

Early Years Foundation Stage

The Early Years Foundation Stage curriculum is based on seven areas of learning aiming to promote all aspects of a child's development. Music comes under the 'Expressive Arts and Design' area of learning in which they foster creativity and imagination through art, music, role play and design. The EYFS curriculum starts from birth and children progress though each stage of development aiming to achieve the Early Learning Goals by the end of their Reception year.

The EYFS Framework states that it is important for children to be given regular opportunities to engage with the arts, enabling them to explore and play with a wide range of media and materials.

The quality and variety of what children see, hear and participate in is crucial for developing their understanding, self-expression, vocabulary and ability to communicate through the arts.

The frequency, repetition and depth of their experiences are fundamental to their progress in interpreting and appreciating what they hear, respond to and observe.

Teaching and Learning

The Music curriculum is organised to teach a progression of skills which are built upon during every school year whilst at St John Vianney's. Charanga is primarily used as a scheme of work, but the individual teachers use their own creativity alongside this when planning the lessons for their particular classes.

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Resources

Pupils have access to a range of musical instruments in school such as drums, ukuleles, a piano and a range of percussion instruments.

Inclusion

SEND

At St John Vianney Primary School, pupils with special educational needs receive support from the class teacher to undertake music activities and will engage in peer and collaborative work with all pupils help support. Children will also be provided with additional resources or guidance when necessary. It is important that all children are able to develop their confidence through expression of their feelings about music.

Disadvantaged Pupils

We are committed to ensuring that pupils in receipt of Pupil Premium funding have equal access to the music curriculum in school. We also are in receipt of a few special bursaries for children who are in receipt of Pupil Premium to receive Rocksteady lessons.

Higher Attaining Pupils

Children with exceptional musical talent are showcased throughout the year at school assemblies and events.

Enrichment

We seek to inspire pupils beyond the classroom through a range of enrichment opportunities, which includes:

- ✓ Blackpool Music Services hub delivering ukulele lessons for Y3 and Samba drum lessons for Y4 weekly as part of their curriculum, which allows for progression when learning an instrument.

- ✓ Peripatetic teachers are available for individual tuition at a fixed cost for Piano and Guitar.
- ✓ Rocksteady also attends school weekly to provide singing, keyboard, drums and bass guitar lessons within a rock band at a fixed cost.

We also run an afterschool choir for children in KS2. The school choir receive the opportunities to sing in church, at assemblies and for our wider community.

Impact

The impact of our music curriculum is that children develop confidence, creativity and a genuine enjoyment of music. Pupils leave St John Vianney Primary School with a secure understanding of musical concepts and skills, including performing, composing, listening and appraising. Through regular opportunities to sing, play instruments and perform, children build resilience, teamwork and self-expression, while developing an appreciation of a wide range of musical styles, cultures and traditions. Our pupils are well prepared to continue their musical journey in the next stage of their education and beyond.

Assessment and Monitoring

Progression of skills throughout each Charanga unit is clear and there are opportunities for children to self and peer assess each other according to success criteria.

Conclusion

At St John Vianney Primary School, we are committed to ensuring that every child has the opportunity to experience the joy and benefits of music. Through a broad, inclusive and engaging curriculum, enriched by high-quality teaching, specialist provision and performance opportunities, we nurture confident and enthusiastic young musicians. We aim to foster a lifelong appreciation of music that supports children's personal development, wellbeing and cultural understanding.