



Respectful, Responsible and Resilient Learners

Music Policy

Reviewed: September 2023

Review date: September 2024

Intent

At Abingdon Primary School, it is our intent that we make Music an enjoyable learning experience. We believe that each child should be able to experience a broad and rich Music Curriculum, and make progress during their time at Primary School.

Our main priority at Abingdon Primary School, is to teach and perfect the skills implemented by the National Curriculum for Music. At Abingdon Primary School, children are taught Music weekly, using 'Charanga Music Schools'. This ensures the children receive a broad and rich Music Curriculum, which is scaffolded appropriately throughout each Key Stage, and develops the children's musicianship, through singing, listening, playing, composing, performing and evaluating. Through the effective teaching and learning of the knowledge, skills, understanding and key vocabulary, we intend to maintain and stimulate pupil curiosity, interest and enjoyment of the subject of Music.

We are committed to ensuring our children understand the value and importance of Music, and aim to provide a practical Music Curriculum, where the children are introduced to a wide variety of musical genres and instruments. At Abingdon Primary School, we believe that it is important to provide a cultural outlook for our children, therefore we teach them to listen to, appreciate and play a variety of different styles and genres of music. Our teaching focuses on the children learning to play a variety of different tuned and untuned instruments, as well as developing the ability to sing in tune and with other people.

At Abingdon Primary School, we aim to:

- Fulfil the requirements of the National Curriculum for Music,
- Provide a broad and rich Music Curriculum,
- Ensure the progressive development of knowledge, skills and key vocabulary,
- Provide the children with opportunities to confidently perform, by singing or playing an instrument, as either a soloist or as part of a group,
- Enjoy and have an appreciation for different styles of music,
- Describe music using a wide range of musical vocabulary to accurately describe and appraise

Implementation

At Abingdon Primary School, we believe that for our children to develop a real love and enjoyment for Music, it is important that they take part in practical sessions, where they are given the opportunity to sing, listen, play, perform, compose and evaluate.

Provision and Delivery: EYFS

Music at Abingdon Primary School, is embedded into the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) Curriculum, and the Reception children work towards achieving the Early Learning Goal, 'Being Imaginative and Expressive' by the end of the academic year. The Reception children sing a variety of songs and nursery rhymes daily, and develop early musicianship, by exploring a range of percussion instruments, as part of the Outside Continuous Provision. As well as this, children in Reception are taught Music each week following Charanga's 'Original Music Scheme'. Music is taught for approximately half an hour, and is delivered by a Cover Supervisor, during PPA time.

Provision and Delivery: Years 1-6

In Years 1 to 6, the children are taught Music using Charanga's 'English Model Music Curriculum' scheme, which is aligned with the National Curriculum for Music and the non-statutory Model Music Curriculum published in 2021. Music should be taught for one hour a week (although this may be broken into smaller lessons) and is delivered by Class Teachers. Children in Years 1-6 also get the opportunity to learn to play the Recorder for one half term, within a 2-year cycle.

Our Music Curriculum

At Abingdon Primary School, we teach Music using Charanga's 'Original Music Scheme' in Reception and Charanga's 'English Model Music Curriculum' scheme, in Years 1-6. Both Music Schemes provide clearly-sequenced units and lessons, with week-by-week support for each year group. The spiral design of the Charanga Schemes ensures the children are continually revisiting, building and extending their knowledge and skills year on year. At Abingdon we have some mixed age classes, and therefore we teach Music on a 2-year cycle, to ensure full coverage of the Music National Curriculum. Children within each Key Stage (KS1, LKS2 and UKS2) are all taught the same unit at the same time (see Music Long Term Plan). Throughout the year, children will be taught approximately six units and within every unit, children will listen, sing, move, play instruments, improvise or compose and perform a wide variety of songs in many styles.

Each unit is made up of the following activities:

- **Activity 1:** Musicianship Options (Understanding Music or Improvising Together)
- **Activity 2:** Listen and Respond
- **Activity 3:** Learn to Sing the Song
- **Activity 4:** Play your Instruments to the Song
- **Activity 5:** Composing and Improvising (**KS1:** Improvise with the song, Compose with the Song and Create a Graphic Score. **KS2:** All of the above, as well as Compose with a Theme, Quick beats and Musical Notepad).
- **Activity 6:** Perform the Song

Each weekly lesson will always involve: Understanding Music, Listen and Respond, Learn to Sing the Song and Perform the Song. In some weekly lessons, there will be options for Playing Instruments, Improvising and Composing. Additionally, each Unit is centred around an age-appropriate Social Question and Musical Spotlight, which encourages the children to think deeply about the world, their communities and their relationships with others. Over the course of each Unit, the children are introduced to new songs. The children learn to sing and play each song, but also learn about all aspects of each song, including: its historical connections, narrative, related Musical Theory, Cultural Context and style.

Performances throughout the Year

Throughout a child's time at Abingdon, they have multiple opportunities to perform. These include, but are not limited to:

- Children in Reception perform a Christmas Sing-A-Long (Autumn Term)
- Children in KS1 perform in a Christmas Production (Autumn Term)
- Children in Year 6 perform in an End of Year Production (Summer Term)

All productions include the children learning to sing and move to range of songs. In some cases (Reception and Key Stage 1), practises for these performances forms the content of the Music lessons, for that particular half term.

Equal Opportunities

At Abingdon Primary School, we are committed to ensuring that our Music Curriculum takes into the consideration the needs of all children in a classroom setting. This ensures that every child has the potential to access the Music curriculum in an inclusive learning setting and make progress. The Music curriculum takes in to consideration issues of difference (including gender, race and ethnicity), and therefore Music from across a range of cultures is taught, listen to and dissected. Every lesson that is taught, is delivered in a fun and engaging way, which promotes a love for learning and an appreciation for different styles and genres of music.

Extra-Curricula Opportunities

Alongside the teaching of Music in school, we also provide extra-curricular opportunities for the children to further develop their love and enjoyment of Music and performance. This includes: weekly singing that takes place in assemblies, the school choir 'Abingdon Singers' (which runs weekly) and Rock Steady Tuition, which allows the children to learn an instrument (such as: electric guitar, keyboard, drums or vocals). We also offer weekly, small group Brass and Woodwind lessons, delivered by the 'Music of Schools Foundation'.

Impact

Evidencing Music

At Abingdon Primary School, staff evidence each Music Lesson that is taught, using a whole class 'Floor Book'. Photographs and videos of the children participating in each lesson, should be stuck in, along with a brief description of the learning that took place. At the start of each new unit, a 'Unit Overview' and the 'Knowledge Organiser' should be stuck in the 'Floor Book'. Each lesson should also be dated and have a clear Learning Objective.

Assessment

At Abingdon Primary, Class Teachers record on a weekly basis, whether the overall learning objective for each session was achieved or not. Additionally, at the end of each unit, teachers record whether each child is working at, below or above year group expectations.

Monitoring

We measure the impact of our curriculum through the following methods:

- Pupil voice interviews about Music lessons.
- Teacher observations to monitor the teaching of Music to a high standard.
- Images and videos of the children's practical learning.
- Analysing assessments and tracking progress.
- Floor Book Scrutiny's carried out by the Subject Lead and members of SLT.

Role of the Subject Leader

It is the role of the subject leader to:

- Review and develop the Music Policy and Curriculum.
- Monitor the quality of teaching and learning in Music across the school, through the scrutiny of assessment data, learning walks and pupil voice.
- Maintain a good knowledge of the Music Curriculum and stay up to date with any changes or developments.
- Communicate effectively with staff and ensure the curriculum is being taught to a good standard.
- Provide staff members with CPD opportunities, where appropriate.
- Liaise with external Music Tuition providers.