

Music

At Offley Endowed Primary School we believe music is a universal language that embodies one of the highest forms of creativity.



Intent - We aim to...

Provide the opportunity for all children to have the skills required to enjoy and explore musical activities.

Provide children with the opportunity to discover an interest and talent in music, build confidence and nurture well-being.

Inspire a love and curiosity of music in all children that spans a range of genres, forms, traditions and cultures, giving them a broad vocabulary both in terms of technical language but also descriptive language through their emotional response to music.

Allow children to critically engage with music, providing opportunities to sing, perform, compose, improvise and listen with discrimination to a range of musical forms and genres.

Understand that music is steeped in history and traditions and has evolved over time.

Give all children the opportunity to learn how to use their voice, to sing in a choir and to learn to play an instrument.

Ensure that all children get to perform in public and experience live music.

Implementation - How do we achieve our aims?

We view music as an entitlement for all, and that high quality music provision can support academic success. By centring music for all at the core of our music curriculum, we are instilling in the children an understanding that music develops skills for life. Music is taught by our music specialist to all children from Nursery through to Year 6. The school has a fully inclusive choir for all children from Years 3-6. All children get the opportunity to perform as part of the school choir locally and nationally. They are also exposed to live music performances both locally and nationally. Children are taught music in their year groups in order to ensure progression.

Singing

Children are taught singing technique: posture, tone production and control of expressive qualities. Range: notes and rhythms used when performing. Ensemble work: singing together (from Nursery to Year 6). Children in KS 2 are all in the school choir which is timetabled weekly.

Performing

All children are given regular opportunities to perform through class assemblies, Key Stage performances, annual music concerts and being part of The Young Voices concert series. Children who learn an instrument with a peripatetic teacher are also encouraged to perform regularly e.g in assemblies. Children in KS2 all learn an instrument (recorder in LKS2 and guitar in UKS2) and perform as part of school performances at Christmas and in the Summer.

Composing

Composing is based around the following elements: Melody - improvising and refining rhythmic and melodic patterns and extended structures. Harmony - harmonising and adding additional parts. Expression - using musical expression when improving and composing. These skills are developed during weekly music lessons.

Musicianship

Through their weekly music lessons, children develop their musicianship as they refine their skills around rhythm (including pulse and tempo), melody, harmony and texture, form and structure and expression (dynamics, articulation and tone). All children play instruments starting with percussion and moving onto tuned instruments such as glockenspiels. In KS2 all children learn how to read music and play an instrument through weekly whole class lessons.

Listening & appraising

Children are exposed to a wide range of genres. Through SQUILT work they evaluate: Concepts- identify how musical concepts (rhythm, melody, harmony, form and expression) contribute to musical intentions. Context - identify and compare features of music from different periods and traditions and for different purposes. Improvement - evaluate pieces of music, identify features which are strengths and suggest improvements.

Extended opportunities

There are peripatetic music lessons available to all children from Year 1 - 6 in piano, violin and ukulele. Disadvantaged children are fully funded to receive these lessons.