

	Offley Endowed Primary School Policy		Review Date : Feb 2026 Next Review: Feb 2028
Policy Title:	Music		Users: Staff, Governors Parents

1. Intent

It is our intent that by fulfilling the requirements of the National Curriculum for music all children have the opportunity to improvise, perform, compose, listen and appraise music. By encouraging children to develop their own musical responses and abilities we aim for children to experience, appreciate and use music as a means of self-expression, communication and enjoyment which will continue into adulthood. At Offley Endowed Primary School we recognise that the personal development of pupils, spiritually, morally, socially and culturally, plays a significant part in their ability to learn and achieve. We therefore aim to provide an education that provides pupils with opportunities to explore and develop their own values and beliefs, spiritual awareness, high standards of personal behaviour, a positive, caring attitude towards other people, an understanding of their social and cultural traditions and an appreciation of the diversity and richness of the cultures.

Music is a unique way of communicating that can inspire and motivate children. It is a vehicle for personal expression, and it can play an important part in the personal development of people. Music reflects the culture and society we live in, and so the teaching and learning of music enables children to better understand the world they live in. Besides being a creative and enjoyable activity, music can also be a highly academic and demanding subject. It also plays an important part in helping children feel part of a community. We provide opportunities for all children to create, play, perform and enjoy music, to develop the skills, to appreciate a wide variety of musical forms, and to begin to make judgements about the quality of music.

This policy reflects the school values and philosophy in relation to the teaching and learning of music.

The objectives of teaching music in our school are to enable children to:

- ☐ know and understand how sounds are made and then organised into musical structures;
- ☐ know how music is made through a variety of instruments;
- ☐ know how music is composed and written down;
- ☐ know how music is influenced by the time, place and purpose for which it was written;

2. Implementation

At Offley Endowed Primary School and Nursery we make music an enjoyable learning experience. We encourage children to participate in a variety of musical experiences through which we aim to build up the confidence of all children. Singing lies at the heart of good music teaching. Our teaching focuses on developing the children's ability to sing in tune and with other people. Through singing songs, children learn about the structure and organisation of music. We teach them to listen to and appreciate different forms of music. As children get older, we expect them to maintain their concentration for longer, and to listen to more extended pieces of music. Children develop descriptive skills in music lessons when learning about how music can represent feelings and emotions. We teach them the

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disciplined skills of recognising pulse and pitch. We also teach children to make music together, to understand musical notation, and to compose pieces.

We recognise that in all classes children have a wide range of musical ability, and so we seek to provide suitable learning opportunities for all children by matching the challenge of the task to the ability of the child. We achieve this in a variety of ways:

- ☐ setting tasks which are open-ended and can have a variety of responses;
- ☐ setting tasks of increasing difficulty;
- ☐ grouping children by ability in the room and setting different tasks to each ability group;
- ☐ providing resources of different complexity, depending on the ability of the child;
- ☐ develop the interrelated skills of performing, composing and appreciating music.

3. Additional Music Teaching

Children are offered the opportunity to study a musical instrument with peripatetic teachers. Peripatetic music teaching is organised by the Local Education Authority's Music Support Service.

Our school participates in the first access program. This service is provided free of charge to children and all musical instruments are provided by our school. Children at Offley Endowed Primary school are offered the Guitar in Years 5 and 6, with the children learning as a class for 2 years. Children in Years 3 and 4 learn the recorder in the spring and summer terms as part of their music curriculum lessons.

4. School Choir

At Offley Endowed Primary School, we have a successful choir with the average number of children participating being in the range of 50 – 60. Our school choir is all inclusive and involves all the children in key Stage 2. Choir meets every week and curriculum time is put aside for the teaching of singing.

These objectives are at the core of Offley Endowed Primary school choir:

- ☐ Fun and enjoyment
- ☐ Singing in unison
- ☐ Looking at Harmony
- ☐ Community visits
- ☐ Performance
- ☐ Team Work

5. Resources

The school has a supply of un-tuned and tuned percussion instruments and some pitched instruments including 2 pianos, 1 electronic keyboard and a class set of recorders and guitars. These are available for use by all classes.

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6. Impact

Formative assessments take place regularly during music lessons. Assessments are based on formal and informal methods, using observation, performance skills and recordings as a cumulative and wide-ranging effective system. Children are assessed at working towards, at, or beyond their age-related expectations. These assessments form the basis of the annual report to parents. Reports to parents record not only pupils' skills, but also their wider achievements, opportunities and participation in the musical life of the school.

7. The Contribution of Music to Teaching in Other Curriculum Areas

English

Music contributes significantly to the teaching of English in our school by actively promoting the skills of reading, writing, speaking and listening.

Children develop their language skills through singing songs, with attention to diction, meaning, rhythm and rhyme. They use reference books and develop research skills when finding out about the history of music and musicians. Music is also used to stimulate discussion or creative writing. Through working with others in a musical setting, children develop their ability to communicate ideas effectively.

Mathematics

Music contributes to the teaching of mathematics in those children who study the structure of music are observing patterns and processes. Talent in music is often linked with talent in mathematics, as the rhythm and structure of music is mathematically based.

Science

Music is used as a focus in science in the study of sound across all stages of learning.

Computing

Computing is used in music where appropriate. Children also use computing in music to enhance their research skills through the Internet and use of Ipads. Children improve the presentation of their work through the use of computing.

History and Geography

Music is used in these subject areas to help illustrate different cultures and historical times.

Personal, social and health education (PSHCE) and citizenship

Music contributes significantly to the teaching of personal, social, citizenship and health education. Through the common goal of making music, children learn to work effectively with other people and build up good relationships. Music is the basis of many social activities and has an important role to play in the personal development of many young people. It has a vital role to play in building self-confidence. Participation in successful public musical performances is sometimes one of the most memorable things young people do at school.

Spiritual, moral, social and cultural development

Listening, creating or performing music can sometimes be a moving and even spiritual experience. We have great involvement in our Church where the children have many opportunities to perform songs and hymns from various artists. We encourage children to

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reflect on the important effect that music has on people's moods, senses and quality of life. Children at Offley Endowed Primary School have the opportunity to encounter music from many cultures and, through their growing knowledge and understanding of the music, they develop more positive attitudes towards other cultures and societies.

8. SEND

We teach music to all children, whatever their ability, in accordance with the school curriculum policy of providing a broad and balanced education to all children. Teachers provide learning opportunities matched to the needs of children with learning difficulties.

9. Subject Leader Role

The school has a subject leader. The subject leader's responsibilities are:

- ☐ Planning work with teachers
- ☐ Prepare policy and scheme of work
- ☐ Develop policy and scheme of work
- ☐ Prepare and develop a subject development plan
- ☐ Specify and order resources
- ☐ Monitor and maintain condition and availability of resources
- ☐ Monitor teaching and learning in Music.

10. Links to Other Policies

This music policy should be read in conjunction with the following school policies, in addition to the Teaching and Learning policy:

- ☐ Assessment
- ☐ Presentation
- ☐ Homework
- ☐ Marking
- ☐ Equal Opportunities