

# Music Curriculum Statement

“Music expresses feeling and thought, without language; it was below and before speech, and it is above and beyond all words.” - Robert G. Ingersoll

“If you cannot teach me to fly, teach me to sing.” – J.M. Barrie, Peter Pan

## Intent

The National Curriculum for Music aims to ensure that all pupils:

- perform, listen to, review and evaluate music across a range of historical periods, genres, styles and traditions, including the works of the great composers and musicians
- learn to sing and to use their voices, to create and compose music on their own and with others, have the opportunity to learn a musical instrument, use technology appropriately and have the opportunity to progress to the next level of musical excellence
- understand and explore how music is created, produced and communicated, including through the inter-related dimensions: pitch, duration, dynamics, tempo, timbre, texture, structure and appropriate musical notations.

At Archbishop Wake, we believe music is **all-inclusive** and allows any child a means of expressing thoughts and emotions. Music may lend a voice to moments where words would fail to fully express intent. Our intention is to offer all pupils opportunities for a high-quality musical education to help body, mind and soul to work cohesively in order to communicate ideas and emotions. We are able to give the children the opportunities to explore different musical skills, from composing and improvising with music, to performing and evaluating it, in order to reach their musical potential. They will be exposed to different styles of music in order to widen their experiences and understand different cultures and learn to appraise what they hear. Children will learn to use their voice as an instrument, exploring its range and potential through these different genres of music. Children will experience the seven inter-related dimensions of music and become proficient in their understanding and use of these different elements (rhythm, pitch, dynamics, tempo, timbre, structure and texture.) Our expectation is that all our pupils can use our curriculum as a tool that will allow them to ‘Aim High, believe’, and have the confidence in their skills to ‘Fly High and Achieve’ whilst at our school, and in their educational journey in music as they progress onwards.

## Implementation

Following the Primary Curriculum, we approach our Music lessons by planning a variety of stimuli, activities and experiences through which to engage and motivate children’s learning. In every year group, the children will develop their understanding, skills and techniques in all areas of music, primarily through the

Aim high, believe; Fly high, achieve.

Charanga scheme of music, through sequences of lessons that build on prior knowledge and experiences to maximise learning for all children and make progress in a clear and structured manner. Children will have opportunities to explore a variety of instruments, using tuned and untuned instruments, including percussion, vocals, recorders, glockenspiels, and a string or wind instrument.

Music is an integral part of school life. Children sing collectively throughout the school week, with a dedicated singing assembly once a week, where children learn and rehearse both new and established songs, with a particular focus on songs that enhance and promote the spirituality encompassed within our school. The children have opportunities to take part in multiple performances and shows throughout their primary career, both in school and in the local **community**.

We also offer musical clubs for KS2, and peripatetic instrumental lessons for those children who have particular aptitude and enthusiasm and wish to pursue a specific instrument. We utilise the support from the local **community**, with visits and demonstrations from musicians and, as a school, we perform in many community events, and to different audiences within the community.

## Impact

Through their lessons as part of the curriculum, through times where we gather as a school, and through extra-curricular opportunities; children will learn to communicate their enjoyment and growth through music. They will be able to discuss and demonstrate their knowledge of the interrelated dimensions of music and use this **language** to express their understanding of how these areas come together in a unit of learning. They will **aspire** to use their voices and instruments to explore, practice and perform with confidence, at their own level, and understand the contributions they can make when performing with others. They will see music as a way to express their thoughts, feelings and ideas and respect the value of communicating these in a different way. Outcomes are measured through recorded performances, teacher assessment, and learning walks and observations by music leads. There is a whole school monitoring, evaluation and review cycle. Each subject leader reviews their subject annually. An action plan is put in place and shared with staff.

