

Music

Intent

Our intent at St Mary's is that music lessons are fun, engaging and inspiring. We aim for all our pupil to:-

- 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 use their voices.
- Create and compose on their own and with others music, problem solving where different notes will be arranged.
- Understand and explore how music is created, produced and communicated.
- Identify and talk about the dimensions of pitch, duration, dynamics, tempo, timbre, texture, structure.
- Understand and use different musical notation.
- Develop personal musicianship

In St Mary's these aims are taught through our Threshold Concepts -

Perform

This concept involves understanding that music is created to be performed.

Compose

This concept involves appreciating that music is created through a process which has a number of techniques.

Transcribe

This concept involves understanding that compositions need to be understood by others and that there are techniques and a language for communicating them.

Describe music

This concept involves appreciating the features and effectiveness of musical elements.

Implementation

The music curriculum ensures children sing, listen, play, perform and evaluate. This is embedded in the classroom through the structured music programme Charanga as well as singing assemblies, various concerts and performances, musical clubs and teaching from specialist music teachers. The elements of music are taught in the classroom lessons so that children are able to use some of the language of music to dissect it, and understand how it is made, played, appreciated and analysed. In the classroom children learn key aspects of music through cross-curricular links. They also learn how to compose, focusing on different dimensions of music, which in turn feeds their understanding when listening, playing, or analysing music. Composing or performing using body percussion and vocal sounds is also part of the curriculum, which develops the understanding of musical elements without the added complexity of an instrument.

Impact

The integral nature of music and the learner creates an enormously rich palette from which a child may access fundamental abilities such as: achievement, self-confidence, interaction with and awareness of others, and self-reflection. Music will also develop an understanding of culture and history, both in relation to children individually, as well as ethnicities from across the world. Children are able to enjoy music in as many ways as they choose – either as listener, creator or performer. They can dissect music and comprehend its parts. They have an understanding of how to further develop skills less known to them, should they ever develop an interest in their lives.