

## Music

Music at Biddickhall Infant School and Nursery will give every child a chance to have confidence in their own creative ability and appreciate the work of others. We strive to intertwine music with our rich and innovative curriculum. Children are exposed to a variety of music ranging from contemporary artists to classical composers and local musicians. Throughout their time at school, our children are given the opportunity to learn how to play instruments musically and experiment with, create, select and combine sounds using the inter related dimensions of music.

We hold to the principle that every child is unique and therefore the education we provide must fit the needs of each individual in order for them to be effective learners. Therefore, we follow the Kodaly approach in directed music teaching time, which is available to all and excludes no one. Our aim is to create a happy environment in which children can feel safe and with a shared understanding that everyone can sing and should have the opportunity to develop their musical skills through singing – pulse, rhythm, pitch and the musical inner ear (the thinking voice) – achieve and become a well-rounded musician.

The Kodaly approach is based on the teachings of Zoltán Kodaly, a Hungarian composer and music educator. It is an ideal approach to use in the classroom as it develops other skills vital for the whole school curriculum – listening, concentration, confidence, independence, resilience, language and co-ordination.

He believed that music belonged to everyone and that everyone could develop their musicianship skills by using their own instrument – the voice. This means that this approach is totally inclusive – all children can have the opportunity to develop as a musician.

Kodály identified 3 stages of learning

- Unconscious experience
- Making conscious
- Reinforcement

Children are taught singing games and rhymes which are then developed to present a musical concept – always the sound before the symbol. Singing opens so many doors and develops many skills that are vital to the wider school curriculum and beyond. We hope to foster a lifelong love of music by exposing the children to diverse musical experiences. **“Music is a universal language that embodies one of the highest forms of creativity”** (The National Curriculum)

