

St Edward's Primary School a Catholic Voluntary Academy

Music Policy

Reviewed September 2020
Review Date September 2021





Our Mission Statement



...we should love people not only with words and talk, but by our actions and true caring.
1 John 3:18

Our Vision Statement

We are guided by our Mission Statement and we aim to:

- develop and care for the **whole child** through our teaching and sharing of the Catholic faith.
- show our love of God in the way we care and value each other and ourselves.
- aspire and equip children with those skills necessary to become contributing members of society and responsible adults.
- recognise and encourage all pupils' individual gifts and talents.
- provide an excellent quality of education striving to achieve the very highest standards for all pupils and, at the same time, develop lively critical minds.
- develop each pupil's appreciation of education as a lifelong and enjoyable process.
- work in partnership with the Parish and families, local schools and community groups recognising that only by working together can the school make its contribution towards the development of committed Christians and active members of the Church.

Introduction

Music is a part of our lives. Everywhere you go there is music. Music reflects our time and place, our heritage, the community we live in, and our multicultural world.

Our aim is to ensure that practical music making and a greater appreciation of music is within the reach of all children. This will enable them to develop creativity, express themselves through music and participate in rewarding group performances.

In addition, music offers children the opportunity to develop many life skills such as listening and concentration, physical coordination, patterns and number work, teamwork and social skills.

The National Plan for Music Education

The National Plan states that every child should have the opportunity to play a musical instrument for a year and at the very least a term of tuition must be offered to all children.



Music in the National Curriculum

At Foundation Stage children will sing songs, move to music, and explore sounds.

At Key Stage One children will sing songs, speak chants and rhymes, and play a range of tuned and untuned percussion instruments. They will experiment with sounds, relate them to simple symbols and use them to create their own musical effects.

At Key Stage 2 pupils will play and perform in solo and ensemble contexts. They will improvise and compose, learn to use musical notations, experience a range of music from different traditions, and develop an understanding of the history of music.

Continuity

The following dimensions are central to performing and composing and are a part of the curriculum for all year groups:

Pitch	(high and low sounds; melody)
Duration	(long and short sounds; rhythm)
Dynamics	(loud and quiet sounds; contrasts)
Tempo	(speed, keeping the pulse/beat)
Timbre	(quality of sound – the kind of sound instruments make and how to choose them for different purposes)
Texture	(combining sounds to create different effects)
Structure	(how music is put together, eg verse and chorus; beginning/middle/end)
Notation	(following symbols)

Curriculum Organisation and Strategies

- We use the TVMS interactive Charanga resource to plan music.
- St Edward's is supported by TVMS teaching sessions in FS2, Year 2, Year 3/4, 5 & 6.
- The Music curriculum at St Edward's is also linked to themes in FS, KS1 and KS2 where possible using our Creative Curriculum approach to teaching.

Assessment and Recording

- At St Edward's it is considered that the gathering of evidence of pupil attainment is an integral part of the teaching and learning process. The teacher in the course of their teaching carries out most of our assessment on an informal basis. Samples of work will be taken from the pupil, as appropriate.
- The formative assessment system:
 - sets out **steps** so that pupils reach or exceed the end of key stage expectations
 - judges whether pupils are on **track** to meet end of key stage expectations
 - pinpoints aspects of the curriculum where pupils are **falling behind** and **recognises exceptional performance**
 - supports **planning** and **teaching** for all pupils
 - **reports to parents** and, where pupils move to other schools, provide clear information about each pupil's strengths, weaknesses and progress
- Evidence of each pupil's attainment will also come from observing them at work, by questioning and by listening to the pupils and assessing their ongoing work.
- For further information regarding assessment, please refer to assessment and planning policy.

Reporting to parents

At St Edward's the parents are informed on a formal basis twice a year through interviews and informally as necessary for the individual child.

Parents are also informed about pupil's progress annually through a written report

Other opportunities for music

St Edward's children have the opportunity to join choir in KS2. The choir supports lots of aspects of school life including singing at Family Mass and liturgies. The choir helps to support links with the community, e.g. singing to the elderly at local homes at Christmas.

Performances

St Edward's children are invited to take part in annual end of year shows.

Individual/small group tuition

Children have regular opportunities to consider taking up a musical instrument. TVMS provide peripatetic teachers for woodwind, violin, viola and cello.

Equal Opportunities/Special Needs/Gifted and Talented

- Teachers ensure that pupils have access to the range of Music activities. Pupils are encouraged and supported to develop their Music capability using a range of resources. Teachers differentiate activities within Music to ensure that the specific needs of individual children are best met.

Resources

- Music instruments and resources are kept in a central resource area on the KS1 corridor.

Health and Safety

- Removal, repair and replacement of broken/damaged instruments is carried out regularly.
- Supervision/safe transportation of instruments around school to avoid injury
- Disinfecting of recorders (where appropriate)
- Children will be taught to use any equipment and apparatus in a safe and appropriate manner. They will be taught to consider their own safety and well-being and, just as importantly, that of their peers and others who work alongside them. Children will be taught the correct storage of resources. Children will use safe and tested equipment.
- For more information please refer to the Health and Safety policy.

Computing

We use computing to support music teaching when appropriate.

Children use software to enhance their skills listening, appraising, performing and composing.

The Role of the Music Leader

At St. Edward's the role of the Music Leader is:

- To be responsible for the purchasing and organisation of appropriate resources.
- To advise staff on the use of resources.
- To be informed of new developments in the teaching and learning of Music and to inform teaching staff.
- To ensure progress and continuity in Music throughout the school.
- To take the lead in policy development and the production of Schemes of Work.
- To support teachers in their implementation of the Schemes.
- To assist in the development and implementation of whole school assessment and record keeping with particular reference to Music.

