



OLSJ
OUR LADY + ST JOSEPH
CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

MUSIC POLICY
OUR LADY & ST JOSEPH CATHOLIC PRIMARY
SCHOOL

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Music Policy School Mission Statement

'With Christ at our centre, we love, listen and learn.'

This policy outlines the teaching, learning, and management of Music at Our Lady and St Joseph Catholic Primary School and is based on the new National Curriculum, implemented September 2014. The implementation of this policy is the responsibility of all teaching staff.

Intent

'Music is a universal language that embodies one of the highest forms of creativity.' National Curriculum 2014. At Our Lady & St Joseph we strive to make music enjoyable and accessible to all pupils from all backgrounds and abilities. We know the value that music can have on our pupils' mental health and well-being and, as such, our music curriculum intends to inspire creativity, self-expression and allows children to connect with others. We hope to foster a life-long love of music by exposing them to diverse musical experiences from a range of singers, performers, composers and cultural backgrounds to ignite a passion for music in any form.

Music is unique in its power to evoke emotional responses and to transcend cultural differences. Furthermore, a high-quality music education enhances the development of the whole child. Areas such as creativity, social interaction, co-operation, discipline, focus, and memory, as well as speech, language, and numeracy, all benefit from such an education.

Some children come to school having been exposed to a range of songs and rhymes, and are encouraged to develop this early musicianship in a range of activities and experiences at school. However, for others, school is the first opportunity for children to experience music.

At Our Lady and St Joseph Catholic Primary School, we believe that:

- Music should be accessible to all;
- Music encourages social growth, particularly in relation to self-esteem, self-awareness, and cooperation;
- Music provides and deepens understanding of different cultures and traditions, and instils in children a respect for other ways of life.

At Our Lady and St Joseph Catholic Primary School we aim to follow ten key principles:

1. To **inspire enjoyment** of Music.
2. To enable all children to **develop their full potential** through a variety of musical activities.
3. To help **raise levels** of attainment for every child.
4. To develop **performing and composing** skills.
5. To develop **listening and appraising** skills.
6. To promote the **benefits**, both educationally and socially, of participating in Music in school and in the wider community.
7. To develop **self-expression** and explore the **emotional potential** of music.
8. To promote **positive attitudes towards other cultures**, and appreciate Music from a variety of time periods.
9. To offer a range of **extra-curricular activities** which further develop musicianship.
10. To help children appreciate the **support for Christian worship** and values that can be provided by sacred music.

Implementation

Music is present in nearly every aspect of life at Our Lady & St Joseph. Specialist music instructors are employed to teach the music national curriculum to all children from Nursery to Year 6. Music lessons are linked to topics and themes across the school and therefore support pupils in developing a wider understanding and knowledge of the curriculum. Music lessons specifically focus on supporting children to:

- Become confident performers, composers and listeners
- Sing and use their voices individually and in a group
- Use instruments appropriately to create and compose music on their own and with others
- Have opportunities to learn a musical instrument
- Understand and explore how music is created, produced and communicated
- Listen to, review and evaluate the work of a range of composers and musicians from different genres, periods and cultures
- Enjoy and have an appreciation of a range of different musical styles such as classical, jazz, hip hop, pop, rock and many more
- Use and understand musical language and notation
- Have opportunities to play instruments
- Have opportunities to critique music
- Have opportunities to perform to an audience.

Extra-Curricular Activities:

- In KS2, individual or small group instrumental tuition is delivered by Tower Hamlets Arts and Music Education Service (THAMES) for guitar, brass woodwind instruments;
- Opportunities to join the school choir;
- Performances during assemblies, in the local community, in school shows and concerts;
- Trips which expose children to a wide variety of musical styles and traditions.

In addition to weekly music lessons, children also have the opportunity to learn a musical instrument. As such, we have a woodwind and brass tutor hired by THAMES Music to provide one to-one and group tuition. We also have a Guitar tutor in KS2 and each Year 3 child is given the opportunity to learn the recorder. We aim to nurture talent and support children in developing their musical skills through a highly trained professional tutor.

Music and SEMH:

Supporting mental health and well-being are fundamental parts of our school and we fully understand the vital role that music plays in this. Therefore, we have a fully qualified Music Therapist employed for three days a week who works predominantly with children with a Special Educational Need (SEN) running individual and personalised sessions to suit their needs. These are often Social, Emotional or Mental Health (SEMH) needs. Musical clubs, such as choirs and ukulele, also reach out to those who have a passion for music or are affected by poor mental health. Every child at Our Lady & St Joseph has the opportunity to access some form of music and this has, and will always be, key to how we operate at Our Lady and St Joseph Primary School.

Music and Religion:

Music plays a major role in the ethos of a Catholic school. It plays a vital part in developing a child's relationship with God and the Church, and provides them with another channel through which to praise God or to reflect. All children attend a weekly hymn practice and sing hymns throughout the year during assemblies and mass.

Impact

The impact of our Music provision is as follows:

- Music can support the mental health and well-being of our most vulnerable children
- Children have the opportunity to play and learn a musical instrument
- Children create and compose their own music
- Children perform to an audience
- Children experience music from a wide range of genres

We will measure the success of our Music teaching by:-

- The motivation and interest displayed by our pupils;
- On-going observation of children's development;
- Planning scrutiny;
- Observations of the teaching and learning in Music both internally and externally

The role of the Music Coordinator is to:

- Ensure quality first teaching;
- Ensure progress is made by all;
- Review and monitor planning;
- Evaluate pupils' work;
- Liaise with outside consultants;
- Work alongside staff to support where required;
- Attend relevant courses to be aware of new ideas and practices;
- To arrange appropriate INSET for colleagues;
- Be responsible for ordering resources;
- Carry out a curriculum review and relay findings to the Governors and staff;
- Update the policy document and schemes of work as necessary;
- Arrange relevant school trips and extra-curricular activities.

Evaluation

The Music policy will be reflected in our practice. This will be monitored and evaluated by the Head Teacher, the Senior Leadership Team, and the Music Coordinator in the form of lesson observations, discussion, and regular scrutiny of planning and pupils' work.

This policy will be considered annually when updating our School Improvement Plan and Music Action Plan. INSET will be planned to support Whole School responses and where possible individual professional needs.