

Withnell Fold Primary School

Music Policy



January 2025 - 2027

Introduction

Music gives a soul to the universe, wings to the mind, flight to the imagination and life to everything.”

- Plato

At Withnell Fold, we believe that music is a valued aspect of a child’s learning process. It is a practical, creative subject, which can be of benefit to all children in developing imagination, the ability to listen attentively, and the ability to express personal thoughts and feelings.

Aims

Withnell Fold aims to:

- Teach children to perform, listen to, review and evaluate and appraise music across a range of historical periods, genres, styles and traditions, including the works of the great composers and musicians.
- Help children 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.
- To develop a rich understanding of how music is created, produced and communicated, including through the inter-related dimensions: pitch, duration, dynamics, tempo, timbre, texture, structure and appropriate musical notations.
- provide pupils with knowledge, understanding and enjoyment of music, achieved through the combined experiences of performing, composing, listening and appraising, in line with National Curriculum expectations.
- deliver lively, stimulating music lessons which enhance the creative topic based curriculum.
- develop an understanding of music within our culture and that of other cultures and ethnic communities around the world.
- bring music to the community by performing for others.
- offer extra curricular music experiences as an extension of class work.

Objectives

- to implement a series of half-termly plans and to partake in events which take place in and outside of school which;
 - enable all pupils to achieve according to their age and ability
 - enable all pupils to progress in terms of musical skills and concepts
- to provide a variety of learning experiences and activities which utilise various materials and techniques and are appropriate to the child's age and ability.
- to maintain an appropriate system of assessment, reporting and record keeping

The Role of the subject leader

The Music subject lead has the following responsibilities:

- to support the implementation of the school music policy
- to update the music policy
- to attend courses and Network meetings to further developing the teaching and learning of music throughout school.
- to promote extra curricular activities and music education within the school
- to support the growing confidence and skills of all staff.
- to monitor the content of half-termly topic plans from each year group to ensure National Curriculum coverage.
- to organise and maintain resources

The Role of the Class Teacher

- to plan, deliver and assess the National Curriculum for Music, ensuring coverage of statutory requirements by following the school's long term plan for music.
- to keep the music subject lead informed of any resources which need replacing or are required to deliver a unit of work
- to be aware of exceptional music talent and encourage and stimulate this talent
- to be aware of children with special needs and to provide them with activities suited to their ability.

Delivery of Music

At Withnell Fold, music opportunities are provided through:

• Class music lessons

All staff deliver the National Curriculum in class music lessons. Whenever possible, music is linked with topics to give it importance and relevance. Music lesson observations are carried out by the Music subject lead to ensure the teaching of music covers the National Curriculum requirements.

Music is regarded as a natural activity and aside from the class music lesson, it could take place at any time during the day, for example singing nursery rhymes and songs to further support learning in English.

In addition, we add value to music in school through:

- **Musical Performances** – KS1 Nativity, KS2 Summer Production, musical instrument demonstrations, special themed assemblies, Sing Together Concert with opportunities to sing at live events in Lancashire.
- **Extra Curricular clubs** – Young Voices club which takes part in the Young Voices concert in Manchester,
- **Whole School Worship**
- **Instrumental Lessons**
 - Peripatetic music teachers provide lessons every week to children from Years 3-6. Children are given the opportunity to learn the guitar, flute, and clarinet.

Assessment

Assessment will form an integral part of the teaching and learning of music. This will be done by observing children working and performing, by listening to their responses and by examining work produced. Photographs and videos will be taken to inform assessment and provide evidence of meeting objectives. Reference will be made to the National Curriculum.

Differentiation

Within the music curriculum, activities will be suited to the needs of all pupils – sufficiently demanding for the more able pupils, whilst encouraging the average and less able to rise to new levels of achievement. Support will be provided by support staff to those individuals / groups of children who need it.

Equal Opportunities

Music influences people regardless of their musical expertise. The value of music lies in its power to deepen personal experience. Realisation of this comes through engaging pupils in performing, composing, listening and appraising. The contents of this music policy relate to all pupils at Withnell Fold Primary School, regardless of musical background, race, gender or educational ability. Ethnic considerations are dealt with sensitively and sympathetically.

Special Educational Needs

Children with special educational needs work alongside their peers in all musical activities. Music is often taught through practical activities which offer all children the opportunity to contribute and participate.

Reporting

Attainment in Music is commented on at the end of the academic year in a report to parents and opportunities are available to discuss progress at Parents' Evenings.

S Moreton

Reviewed – February 2025

Next review date – February 2027