

Music

Purpose of study

Music is a universal language that embodies one of the highest forms of creativity. A high quality music education should engage and inspire pupils to develop a love of music and their talent as musicians, and so increase their self-confidence, creativity and sense of achievement. As pupils progress, they should develop a critical engagement with music, allowing them to compose, and to listen with discrimination to the best in the musical canon.

Aims

The national curriculum for music aims to ensure that all pupils:

- 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 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
- understand and explore how music is created, produced and communicated, including through the inter-related dimensions: pitch, duration, dynamics, tempo, timbre, texture, structure and appropriate musical notations.

Key Stage 1

Pupils should be taught to:

I can use my voice expressively and creatively by singing songs and speaking chants and rhymes.

I can play tuned and untuned instruments musically.

I can listen with concentration and understanding to a range of high-quality live and recorded music.

I can experiment with, create, select and combine sounds using the inter-related dimensions of music.

Key Stage 2

Pupils should be taught to:

I can play and perform in solo and ensemble contexts, using my voice and play musical instruments with increasing accuracy, fluency, control and expression.

I can improvise and compose music for a range of purposes using the inter-related dimensions of music.

I can listen with attention to detail and recall sounds with increasing aural memory.

I can use and understand staff and other musical notations.

I can appreciate and understand a wide range of high-quality live and recorded music drawn from different traditions and from great composers and musicians.

I can develop an understanding of the history of music.