



The Teaching of Music at Ravensdale Junior School

Music Education Intent – At Ravensdale Junior, we believe that it is very important for our pupils to engage with music for many significant reasons. Research has shown that the learning of music can lead to better brain development. It encourages human connection and through enjoyment, can act as stress relief. It is a subject which incorporates many different subjects all at once: language, maths, reading, history knowledge as well as science skills. It is through music that children have the opportunity to explore, create and develop confidence as performers thus raising self-esteem. It is a subject in which children may excel independently or as part of a group. It is an all-inclusive subject through which children can learn about different cultures and music from all over the world and helps them to bind in to the wider life of the school.

The National Curriculum:

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 interrelated dimensions: pitch, duration, dynamics, tempo, timbre, texture, structure and appropriate musical notations

Subject Content

Pupils should be taught to sing and play musically with increasing confidence and control. They should develop an understanding of musical composition, organising and manipulating ideas within musical structures and reproducing sounds from aural memory.

Pupils should be taught to:

- play and perform in solo and ensemble contexts, using their voices and playing musical instruments with increasing accuracy, fluency, control and expression
- improvise and compose music for a range of purposes using the interrelated dimensions of music
- listen with attention to detail and recall sounds with increasing aural memory
- use and understand staff and other musical notations
- appreciate and understand a wide range of high-quality live and recorded music drawn from different traditions and from great composers and musicians
- develop an understanding of the history of music

Implimentation

Music is taught by teachers, teaching assistants and visiting peripatetic specialists. An overview for each year group sites themes for each termly unit; some of which are from Music Express. It also includes reference to popular musicals and films. The foundation planning template is used to plan music lessons. There is a half termly focus on a composer, group or performer: children listen to a selection of music and they may be given the opportunity to complete related work. Throughout the teaching of music at RJS, children will learn about the fundamental elements of music: **pitch**, **duration**, **dynamics**, **tempo**, **timbre**, **texture** and **structure**. There is provision for extra-curricular clubs: choir, recorders, and a variety of individual or shared paid instrumental tuition, including the Rocksteady School of Rock.

Impact

Children will accrue knowledge about important composers and performers throughout history whilst developing an appreciation of different genres of music. They will have the opportunity to explore sounds and develop composition skills with increasing competence using stave notation by the end of Year 6. Children will be encouraged to develop self-confidence when performing in front of an audience: to peers in the classroom, to parents and the rest of the school during assemblies, at Christmas concert, during the annual 'Talent Evening', and as part of the Year 6 End of Year Production.

Resources

Music Express books (A & C Black) and Music Express Online. Percussion instruments are kept in the library along with a class set of glockenspiels. A class set of tuned bells. Electronic keyboards are stored in the year 6 stockroom. Piano.