



Warwick Bridge School

Music Policy

Rationale

At Warwick Bridge Primary School, we provide opportunities for all children to create, play, perform and enjoy music, to develop skills and appreciate a wide variety of musical forms. We embrace the National Curriculum purpose of study which states:

“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 pupil’s 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.” National Curriculum 2014

Objectives

The objectives of teaching music at Warwick Bridge Primary School are to:

- Encourage our children’s understanding and enjoyment of music through an active involvement in listening, composing and performing;
- Provide the opportunity for children to develop their individual skills, sharing experience and cooperating with others;
- Help children to develop an awareness of musical traditions and developments from a variety of cultures.

Teaching and Learning Music at Warwick Bridge Primary School

At Warwick Bridge Primary School, we aim to make music an enjoyable learning experience. We encourage children to participate in a variety of musical experiences through which we endeavour to build up the confidence of all children. Children are given the opportunity to discover, explore and develop technical skills through practical music lessons. Music lessons are timetabled for each class on a weekly basis. This involves both whole class and small group activities. We aim to meet as far as possible the requirements of the National Curriculum.

Pupils’ understanding of music will be developed through activities which bring together the requirements of performing, composing, listening and appraising. Children are taught to recognise the musical elements of:

- duration

- dynamics
- pitch
- tempo
- timbre
- texture

Children are taught to make music together, to understand musical notation, and to compose pieces. They are also taught to sing and play in time controlling the sound and pace. They are taught different ways to represent sounds graphically and symbolically.

One of the main methods employed to help children to access and engage with music in school is singing. Our teaching focuses on developing the children's ability to sing expressively, in tune and with other people. This is achieved through weekly singing assemblies and a choir for Key Stage 1 and 2 pupils. Through singing songs, children learn about the structure and organisation of music. We teach them to listen to and appreciate different forms of music from various backgrounds and cultures. Assembly songs are also linked to various annual celebrations and festivals such as Harvest, Christmas, Spring, and Easter.

As children get older, they are expected to maintain their concentration for longer, and to listen to more extended pieces of music. Children will be enabled to develop descriptive skills in music lessons when learning about how music can represent feelings and emotions. Children are also taught how to use technology as a tool for creating, manipulating and storing sound.

To aid the teaching and learning of music at Warwick Bridge Primary the following musical resources are available:

- Interactive whiteboards and computers.
- Keyboards
- Tuned and untuned percussion instruments
- A range of musical resources on CD which includes classical, popular and cultural music
- Recorders
- Various music books

The teaching and learning of music at Warwick Bridge Primary School also takes place in various extra-curricular clubs. This provides further opportunities for children to develop an appreciation and enjoyment of music. Currently, children are allowed to participate in the following extra-curricular clubs:

- keyboard lessons
- singing lessons (School Choir)
- woodwind lessons
- guitar lessons
- brass lessons

These lessons are delivered by peripatetic music teachers and regular teaching staff.

Music Curriculum Planning and Cross Curricular Links

At Warwick Bridge Primary School, we use the Music Express scheme of work and Charanga for music as the basis for our curriculum planning. The Music Express scheme builds upon prior learning. While there are opportunities for children of all abilities to develop their skills and knowledge in each teaching unit, the progression planned into the scheme of work means that the children are increasingly challenged as they move through the school. The Music Express scheme of work links quite closely to the Early Learning goals in the Early Years Foundation Stage and the objectives in the 2014 National Curriculum. However, teachers also have access to other ideas and resources and are expected to adapt any published materials used to meet the needs of their pupils. We also encourage cross-curricular links, ensuring music is taught as a holistic part of the curriculum where possible. Charanga also compliments the Music Express schemes of work.

Teachers will assess children's work in music by making informal judgements as they observe them during lessons. Video recordings are made of live musical performances for the children to use as self-assessment. Other sound-based methods are also employed to capture children's performances. On completion of a piece of work, the teacher will assess the work and give oral or written feedback. Older and more able pupils are encouraged to make judgements about how they can improve their own work. Assessment is used as a tool for helping children to make future progress. Individual class teachers will keep samples of children's work for their own evidence.

Inclusion

At Warwick Bridge Primary School, we teach music to all children, whatever their ability and individual needs. Music forms part of the school curriculum policy to provide a broad and balanced education to all children. Through our music teaching we will provide learning opportunities that enable all pupils to make good progress. Children will be provided with equal opportunities for participating and communicating their own musical ideas. We strive hard to meet the needs of those pupils with special educational needs, those with disabilities, those with special gifts and talents, and those learning English as an additional language, and we take all reasonable steps to achieve this.

At Warwick Bridge Primary School if a child's progress falls significantly outside the expected range, they are provided with an Individual Pupil Plan (IPP). This IPP is considered in enabling children with special educational needs to access and engage with the music curriculum. Factors such as classroom organisation, teaching materials, teaching style, differentiation are considered to enable the child to learn more effectively. In catering for our gifted and talented pupils we provide them with the challenge and support they need to maximise their potential through teaching and learning activities that specifically cater for their above average musical needs. In this way we offer opportunities for enrichment and extension activities in existing music lessons, and possibly in additional or different lessons.

Musical Events

At Warwick Bridge Primary School we believe that music enriches the lives of people, and so we endeavour to involve as many children as possible in musical activities. Every year, children are given the opportunity to participate in our Christmas, Easter and Summer productions which allows them to showcase their musical abilities. These events include whole school singing; performances from the school's choir in addition music players. Parents of performing children are invited to the end of year musical event. We also provide other special opportunities for children to perform, such as

assemblies celebrating various festivals and our Eight Secrets of Success. We have regular informal performances in singing assemblies to celebrate the achievements of the children.

Health and Safety

The health and safety of our pupils at Warwick Bridge Primary School is of great importance. Therefore, the following guidelines will be followed in order to ensure our children's safety:

- Instruments will be checked regularly to ensure that they are in good repair and of good quality. All splintered or rusty instruments will be thrown away immediately;
- Children who are taught to play a wind instrument will have an individually labelled instrument and so there will be no need for sharing;
- Wind instruments will be sterilised before they are reissued to other pupils;
- Heavy instruments will be stored at an easily accessible height which will prevent the need for any climbing;
- The school's piano will only be moved by an adult member of staff;

At Warwick Bridge Primary, we enable pupils to have access to the full range of activities involved in learning and sharing music. Where children are to participate in activities outside the classroom, for example external performances and attending musical events (e.g. Carlisle and District Music and Drama Festival), a risk assessment will be carried out prior to the activity, to ensure that the activity is safe and appropriate for all pupils.

The Role of the Music Subject Leader

The Music Subject Leader will take responsibility for monitoring the standards of children's work and the quality of music teaching in school. The Music Subject Leader will support colleagues where needed in their teaching and provide appropriate staff development training where necessary. The Music Subject Leader will also keep staff up-to-date with examples of musical activities and useful teaching resources. The Music Subject Leader will ensure that the Scheme of Work is in use throughout the year groups, and will help with implementing this.

The Music Subject Leader will keep informed about current developments in Music, through attending various training sessions and accessing a range of resources. This will enable the Music Subject Leader to provide a strategic lead and direction for this subject in the school.

- The Music Subject Leader will take the lead in teaching new songs during assemblies and provide the musical accompaniment on piano for most of the songs taught.
- The Music Subject leader will lead the school choir and organise both internal and external performances for the school's choir.
- The Music Subject Leader will maintain the music cupboard and instruments.
- The Music Subject Leader will liaise with the Music Service and peripatetic music teachers.
- The Music Subject leader will organise termly musical assemblies/concerts.
- The Music Subject Leader will ensure that children are exposed to external musical performances and will take responsibility for organising these trips.

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February 2022 – February 2024

- The Music Subject Leader will carry out any necessary risk assessments for music related trips.

Policy written and adopted by Warwick Bridge staff **February 2022**

Ratified by Governing Body

Date to be reviewed **February 2024**

Head Teacher

Chair of Governors

Signed:.....

Signed:.....

Date:.....