

MUSIC POLICY

St John's Church of England Infant School



Date Approved	Sept 2025
Review Date	Sept 2026

All of our policies are written with the aim of improving our school and of realising our Christian vision:

From the smallest of seeds fed with faith and  **love our St John's family will flourish and grow.**

Our vision underpins every document, procedure and decision made within our setting. We are committed to enabling all members of our small community to **flourish and grow** through the values of faith and love and to ensuring that they go on equipped for 21st century living and to have a positive impact on the world.

Based on the teachings of Matthew 13:31

St John's Infant School believes that the study of Music should enable children to enhance their own personal expression and to enjoy performing, composing and appreciating music with others. We believe in an ambitious, progressively sequenced, broad and balanced curriculum that meets the contextual needs of the school. Music taught at St John's is seen as a powerful and unique form of communication. Music should provide opportunities and experiences for the children to:

- Develop their own self confidence within an expressive art form.
- Develop and achieve aspirations, confidence and resilience to shine through a love a learning
- Promote an understanding that working with others towards a common aim is rewarding and with support we can all achieve.
- Develop an ability to express ideas, thoughts and feelings through music.
- Develop awareness and understanding of musical traditions, styles and cultures from other times and places.
- Develop their understanding of musical concepts, skills and knowledge in line with National Curriculum expectations.
- Develop as a whole person, as an individual and as a social being through participation in musical activities.
- Develop and nurture a positive attitude to the importance and place of music in the curriculum amongst pupils, staff and parents where respect and support are the building blocks to learning.
- Develop an all-rounding musical ability and to add to their growth and development
- All children are entitled to a rich and creative musical curriculum in order to promote pupil's social, moral, spiritual and cultural development.
- Experience music from the community in which they live from a range of sources.
- Prepare children for their roles in the next stage of their education and 21st Century life.

Entitlement and Cross Curricular Planning

Here at St John's the children are taught music through FS to Year 2. Teachers aim to promote a love of singing, composing and appraising, through our new curriculum Charanga. Lessons are taught as part of a whole day once a term. This allows children to demonstrate key skills on a regular basis enabling retrieval of knowledge as part of these days, allowing for continued assessment. The teaching and learning opportunities in music will include:

- The opportunity to listen and respond to a variety of music from different periods and cultures during assemblies.
- Use of ICT where appropriate.
- Making cross-curricular links for example with history or geography, art and science through Cornerstones Topics.
- Encouraging the children to perform to others during assemblies, concerts or end of term events.

- Inviting and encouraging children to take part in a range of services in the community, for example Church services, Christingle, Music club and performances with outside agencies and companies.
- To encourage children to share the musical abilities openly with peers and teachers to best nurture their skills and guide them towards additional opportunities
- Challenge opportunities for all children during Music.

Resources

The school has a range of both tuned and untuned percussion instruments. These instruments are stored in the small hall and are readily accessible to children and staff.

To support in the teaching of Music, we have arranged to borrow additional instruments on a termly basis from a local Grammar School to give our pupils the best possible chances to explore Music further.

There is also a small collection of music on CD. In addition, there are resources available through the Charanga website, which all staff have access to. A selection of song books, sheet music and productions are available directly from the Music Co-ordinator.

Assessment and Recording

Assessment forms part of the planning, teaching and learning process and takes place throughout the year using the rigorous assessment tools on Charanga alongside a bespoke assessment Grid which links to the National Curriculum Objectives. Staff are provided with an assessment grid to complete for every child, and lessons are monitored by the Music Co-ordinator on a termly basis. This assessment will include assessment on verbal, written and practical skills, which will be completed by the Class Teacher.

In accordance with the school's policy, parents will receive a written report on all aspects of a pupil's school work, including Music at the end of the summer term. This will reflect whether the pupil has achieved an age-expected level of development in Music.

Differentiation

Differentiation in music is based as much upon the needs of the group as well as the needs of the individual. All lessons are designed and adapted to meet these needs. At St John's we

teach music to all children. Through our music teaching we provide learning opportunities that enable all pupils to make progress. We do this by:

- Setting suitable learning challenges.
- Responding to each child's diverse learning needs, striving to overcome potential barriers to learning and assessment for individuals and groups of pupils

The action necessary to respond to an individual's requirements for curriculum access will be met through greater differentiation of tasks and materials, consistent with school-based intervention as set out in the SEN Code of Practice. Some pupils may need specialist equipment and approaches or alternative/adapted activities, consistent with school-based intervention plans. If required Charanga provide a separate SEN curriculum to support learning in Music.

Equal Opportunities and Inclusion

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.

At St John's we plan to provide for all pupils to achieve, including boys and girls, higher achieving pupils, gifted and talented pupils, those with SEN, pupils from all social and cultural backgrounds and children who are subject to safeguarding.

Every pupil has equal access to the music National Curriculum. Learning experiences are differentiated in such a way as to meet the needs of all pupils.

All pupils in the school have equality of opportunity in terms of curriculum balance, curriculum time, use of resources, use of facilities and access to extra-curricular activities.

Monitoring and Review

The monitoring of the standards of children's work and of the quality of teaching in music is the responsibility of the music subject leader. The work of the subject leader also involves supporting colleagues in the teaching of music, being informed about current developments in the subject and providing a strategic lead and direction for the subject in school.

Class teachers are responsible for the delivery of the music curriculum with guidance and advice from the music subject leader and visiting specialists.