

WESTFIELD COMMUNITY SCHOOL



Music Policy

September 25 2023

Music Policy – Westfield

Aims and Objectives

Music is a unique way of communicating that can inspire and motivate children and change the way they think, feel and act. It is a vehicle for expression and can play an important part in personal development. Music promotes the culture and society we live in, therefore the teaching and learning of music enables children to have a better understanding of themselves, relate to others and understand the world they live in. The teaching of music develops children's ability to listen and appreciate a wide variety of music and plays an important part in helping children feel part of a community as they take an active involvement in different forms of music making, both individual and communal. At Westfield we provide opportunities for all children to create, play, perform and enjoy music, to develop the skills to appreciate a wide variety of musical forms and begin to make judgements on the quality of music.

The objectives of teaching music at Westfield are:

- To know and understand how sounds are made and then organised into musical structures.
- To know how music is made through a variety of instruments.
- To provide all children with the opportunity to express themselves creatively and to develop their music skills through an understanding of pitch, rhythm, dynamics, duration, timbre, texture and structure, using both instruments and voices.
- To develop performing, composing and appraising skills by applying listening skills and knowledge and understanding of music.

Teaching and Learning.

At Westfield we make music an enjoyable learning experience. We encourage children to participate in a variety of musical experiences through which we aim to build confidence. The musical curriculum is defined by the programme of study in the National Curriculum. The content of the programmes of study is implemented through the scheme of work provided by Charanga. The teaching of music is based on these units of work. The units are progressive and build on previous work and experiences.

The teaching of music in foundation stage allows children to explore sound and the building of patterns of sound known as 'music'. We relate the musical aspects of the children's work to the objectives set out in the Early Learning Goals (ELG) which underpin the curriculum planning for children aged three to five. Music contributes to a child's personal and social development.

The 'Wider Opportunities' initiative provide whole year groups with the opportunity to learn an instrument.

Children in some year groups are offered the opportunity to study a musical instrument with peripatetic teachers. Peripatetic music teaching is organised by the Local Education Authority's Music Service. These lessons are normally taught in small groups of children who have chosen to learn one of a variety of instruments such as violin, guitar or singing lessons. This is in addition to the normal music lesson, and usually takes place during normal lessons, from which children are withdrawn for the duration of the instrumental lesson.

We have a school Musical Theatre club which we encourage children from Years 3-6 to join. The club is run by a class teacher and they meet on a weekly basis. It's primary aim is

to enable children to enjoy singing and performing together, resulting in an end of year production.

Assessment for Learning.

Children demonstrate their ability in music in a variety of ways. Teachers assess children's work in music by making informal judgements as they observe them during lessons. Teacher gives oral or written feedback as necessary to inform future progress.

Resources

Music resources are located on the Middle Phase. These resources include a variety of instruments including a selection of percussion musical instruments.