

Music Policy

To experience a diverse range of music and show creativity through knowledge and musical skills.

Great Ponton CE Primary School



Approved by:

Date: 21/01/2025

Last reviewed on:

January 2025

Next review due by:

January 2027

Aims and objectives

Music is a unique way of communicating that can inspire and motivate children. It is a vehicle for personal expression and it can play an important part in the personal development of people. Music reflects the culture and society we live in, and so the teaching and learning of music enables children to better understand the world they live in. Besides being a creative and enjoyable activity, music can also be a highly academic and demanding subject. It also plays an important part in helping children feel part of a community. We provide opportunities for all children to listen to, create, play, perform and enjoy music, to develop the skills to appreciate a wide variety of musical forms, and to begin to make judgements about the quality of music.

The aims of music teaching are to enable children to:

- know and understand how sounds are made and then organised into the different musical structures.
- know how music is made through a variety of instruments;
- know how music is composed and written down in notational form.
- know how music is influenced by the time, place and purpose for which it was written;
- develop the interrelated skills of understanding, listening, singing, playing, creating and performing music.

Teaching and learning style

At Great Ponton CE Primary School we make music an enjoyable learning experience. We encourage children to participate in a variety of musical experiences through which we aim to build up the confidence of all children. Singing lies at the heart of good music teaching. Our teaching focuses on developing the golden strands of music. We teach them to listen and to appraise different forms of music. As children get older, we expect them to maintain their concentration for longer and to listen to more extended pieces of music. Children develop descriptive skills in music lessons when learning about how music can represent feelings and emotions. We teach them the disciplined skills of recognising pulse and pitch. We also teach children how to work with others to make music and how individuals combine to make sounds. We teach them about musical notation and how to compose music. Most of our music work is taught through Charanga Music scheme. As a school we hold a music concert each term to showcase the music from that term. In the Christmas term KS1 hold the Christmas production and includes singing and performing. KS2 children hold a Carol Concert during the Christmas period. KS2 children hold the end of year performance.

We recognise that there are children of widely different musical abilities in all classes, so we provide suitable learning opportunities for all children by matching the challenge of the task to the ability of the child. We achieve this in a variety of ways by:

- setting common tasks which are open-ended and can have a variety of responses;
- setting tasks of increasing difficulty (not all children complete all tasks);
- grouping children by ability in the room and setting different tasks to each ability group;
- providing resources of different complexity depending on the ability of the child;
- using classroom assistants to support the work of individuals or groups of children
- using mixed ability or age groups

Additional music teaching

Children are offered the opportunity to learn individual music instruments during their time with us. Parents are asked to pay for these lessons and they may be in lesson time or outside school hours depending on the numbers and/or instruments involved. We make use of LMS and the Music Foundation for these additional lessons.

Children are also offered the opportunity to take part in live Music events throughout the year which are given to us through the Lincolnshire Music Service.

Music curriculum planning

In the main music lessons are planned using the Charanga scheme of music and delivered by class teachers. The pupils' lessons will focus on different types of music and involves musical instruments in some lessons. In EYFS/KS1 music is planned within the Creative Curriculum to explore different instruments, learn about rhythm and pattern and encourage composition through experiment. Personal and social development of pupils in this age group is contributed to through music. A variety of songs and other activities linked to music will encourage counting, word learning and co-operation.

The contribution of music to teaching in other curriculum areas

English

Music contributes significantly to the teaching of English in our school by actively promoting the skills of reading, writing, speaking and listening. Children develop their language skills through singing songs, with attention to diction, meaning, rhythm and rhyme. They use reference books and develop research skills when finding out about the history of music and musicians. Music is also used to stimulate discussion or creative writing. Through working with others in a musical setting, children develop their ability to communicate ideas effectively.

Mathematics

Music contributes to the teaching of mathematics in that children who study the structure of music are observing patterns and processes. Talent in music is often linked with talent in mathematics, as the rhythm and structure of music is mathematically based.

Computing

Computing is used in music where appropriate. Children use computer programmes to compose music. They also use computers in music to enhance their research skills through the Internet and CD ROMs. They listen to music on the Internet and comment on what they have heard and why they like it. Children improve the presentation of their work through the use of computers.

Personal, social and health education (PSHE) and citizenship

Music contributes significantly to the teaching of personal, social, citizenship and health education. Through the common goal of making music, children learn to work effectively with other people and build up good relationships. Music is the basis of many social activities and has an important role to play in the personal development of many young people. It has a vital role to play in building self-confidence. Participation in successful public musical performances is sometimes one of the most memorable things young people do at school.

Spiritual, moral, social and cultural development

Listening, creating or performing music can sometimes be a moving and even spiritual experience. We encourage children to reflect on the important effect that music has on people's moods, senses and quality of life. Children at our school have the opportunity

to encounter music from many cultures and, through their growing knowledge and understanding of the music, they develop more positive attitudes towards other cultures and societies.

Teaching music to children with special needs

We teach music to all children, whatever their ability, in accordance with the school curriculum policy of providing a broad and balanced education to all children. Teachers provide learning opportunities matched to the needs of children with learning difficulties, and our work in music takes into account the targets set for individual children.

Assessment and recording

Teachers assess children's work in music by making informal judgements as they observe them during lessons. The class teacher will make a judgement on a child's musical ability and creativity.

Resources

There are sufficient resources for all music teaching units in the school. We keep resources for music in a central store. Each Class Teacher has a Charanga account which has access to all units of work.

The school musical events

We believe that music enriches the lives of people, and so we wish to involve as many children as possible in musical activities. The children have the opportunity to perform to other children in the school and to their parents during our music concert each term.

Monitoring and review

Teachers will feedback to parents during parents evenings and will complete a written report on each child's musical ability and progress in the end of term report.