

Music Curriculum - Intent

The National Curriculum for music aims to ensure that all pupils are taught to:

- Perform, listen to, review and evaluate music
- Be taught to sing, create and compose music
- Understand and explore how music is created, produced and communicated.

At St Mary's, the intention is that children gain a strong understanding of what music is through listening, singing, playing, evaluating and composing across a wide variety of historical periods, styles, traditions, and musical genres, according to their age and year group. We are committed to ensuring children develop a love of various types of music and understand the value and importance of music in the wider community, and are able to use their musical skills, knowledge, and experiences to involve themselves in music, in a variety of different contexts.

Music Curriculum - Implementation

The music curriculum at St Mary's school ensures that the children sing, listen, play, perform and evaluate. This is developed in classroom activities (with wider curriculum links, i.e. counting songs in maths) and weekly music lessons, as well as weekly Pray and Praise, in special celebration assemblies or Masses in Church (Harvest, Christmas, Ash Wednesday, Easter) and through various concerts and performances across the year. Musical skills are further developed through the learning of musical instruments, individually, in groups and as whole classes. In these lessons, children learn how to play an instrument, understand the principle of creating musical notes, as well as how to read basic music notation.

The main elements of music are taught in classroom lessons through topics. The children have the opportunity to watch, listen, sing, play and perform supported by visual and aural prompts. Composing, writing lyrics and performing using body percussion and vocal sounds is also part of the curriculum, which develops the understanding of musical elements without the added complexity of an instrument.