



FAIR FIELD JUNIOR SCHOOL

MUSIC VISION STATEMENT

Updated: July 2021

Music Vision Statement:

Our music curriculum aims to provide all students with a high-quality music education which engages and inspires them to develop a life-long love of music, increases their self-confidence, creativity, and imagination, and provides opportunities for self-expression and a sense of personal achievement. Modelled on the National Curriculum, we offer opportunities for students to develop their talents in all aspects of music including composition, singing and appreciation. Children participate in a wide range of activities to develop their talents in all aspects of music including rhythm work, instrumental skills, composition, singing and appreciation. We believe that opportunities for children to play in small groups or ensemble also helps to foster essential life skills such as co-operation, mutual support, self-discipline and commitment. Music plays an important role in helping children to feel part of a community. We organise and collaborate in projects to enable children to share their musical skills at different events both inside and outside of school. We foster cultural capital and promote the fundamental British values of diversity and tolerance through studying musicians from differing cultures and backgrounds, various styles and through the exposure to successful male and female musicians.

Our Vision:

- That students will develop an ability to listen to, and appreciate a wide variety of music, including different styles, periods and cultures.
- That students will have opportunities to participate in various musical events both inside and outside of school.
- We will encourage active involvement in creating and developing musical ideas using voice and instruments.
- We will nurture a sense of group identity and togetherness through composing, rehearsing and performing music with others to an audience.
- We will help students develop self-discipline and creativity, aesthetic sensitivity and fulfilment through music.
- We will develop students' awareness and understanding of music from a variety of styles, periods and cultures.
- We will provide a theoretical and practical approach to the teaching of music, enabling children to understand musical notation in order to create music practically through instruments.
- We will foster a passion for music and allow children from all socio-economic backgrounds the opportunity to play an instrument.

- We will expose children to various instruments in order to allow children to identify and follow potential passion.
- We will enable all students to access and develop an enjoyment of music which will sustain through their lives.
- All children will feel successful and confident.

Music is a unique way of communicating that can inspire and motivate students. It is a vehicle for individual expression, and it can play an important role in the personal development of all. Music can reflect the culture and society that we live in or come from, and the teaching and learning of music enables students to learn more about the world we live in. Music can play an important role in helping students feel part of a community. We provide opportunities for all to create, play, perform and enjoy music; to develop the skills to appreciate a wide variety of musical forms, and to develop the confidence to make informed judgements about music.

The aims of the music curriculum are to:

- Perform, listen to, review and evaluate music across a range of different periods, genres, styles and traditions, including the work of the great composers and musicians.
- Learn to sing and use the voice, to create and compose music on their own and collaboratively, to learn a musical instrument, use technology appropriately and to have the opportunity to progress to the next level of musical excellence.
- Understand and explore how music is created, produced and communicated through the inter-related dimensions: pitch, duration, dynamics, tempo, timbre, texture, structure and musical notations

Inclusion

Music is unique in the way it brings people together: our curriculum ensures that every student is given the opportunity to take part and to experience music. We have modelled our school curriculum on the National Curriculum and drawn up a progression pathway in order to achieve success for all. Tasks are differentiated accordingly to facilitate access for all. All children are given equal opportunity to take part in opportunities that enrich, compliment and extend our teaching. We will commit to training staff to be aware of and sensitive to the issues that can prevent participation and to access means that overcome barriers to musical inclusion

Teaching and learning

We aim to make music an enjoyable learning experience. Our curriculum exposes children to a wide variety of different styles, cultures and time periods. It allows for cross curricular links and a holistic learning approach. Our curriculum covers Grade 1 theory, ensuring a solid understanding of musical notation is achieved. Singing lies at the heart of music teaching and coming together during assemblies is an important part of school life. We hold weekly singing assemblies and gives focus to developing

students' ability to sing in tune and within groups, as well as learning about the structure and organisation of songs. We teach them to listen to and appreciate different forms of music. Students develop descriptive and analytical skills in music when learning how music can represent feelings and emotions. We also teach students how to compose music and to how to make music together. We do this by setting tasks which are open-ended and can have a variety of inclusive responses and success measures.

Planning

We plan our music, referencing the national curriculum, the school's values and approach to learning. We create our own unique scheme of work basing our theory component around the ABRSM and Trinity Grade 1 theory exam. We incorporate instrumental learning via Charanga, which allows for successful musical modelling. The curriculum has been carefully created ensuring progression and the extension of students' prior learning. While there are opportunities for students of all abilities to develop their skills and knowledge, the progression planned means that students are increasingly challenged as they move through the school.

Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural Development

Creating, performing and listening to music can be a moving or even spiritual experience for many. We encourage students to reflect on the important effect that music can have on their mood and senses. Students are given the opportunity to experience music from different cultures, which encourages positive attitudes towards other beliefs and societies.

Resources

All children in the school have purchased their own recorders, sourced by the school. These will be used throughout lower and upper key stage. There is a wide selection of maintained musical instruments for use in classrooms, including a class set of glockenspiels. A central area in school stores the rest of the musical instruments which can be used for lessons. This includes a full drum kit along with a number of keyboards and a piano.

Assessment and Monitoring

Students demonstrate their ability in music in a variety of different ways. Teacher's will assess students' work in music by undertaking both formal and informal assessments during lessons. The teacher will assess a piece of work giving oral or written feedback as necessary to inform future progress. Achievement is recorded using a standardised spreadsheet which is based on the objectives outlined in the National Curriculum Statement.