

What does Music look like at Vicarage Primary School?

At Vicarage School our Music curriculum follows the requirements of the National Curriculum is taught by a Specialist Music Teacher. It is ambitious, fully inclusive and meets the needs of all learners, starting from building strong foundations in our EYFS, supporting and challenging them on their journey to being secondary ready, and ultimately ensuring that they are equipped with the cultural capital, skills and knowledge they need to succeed in the future.

In EYFS and KS1 pupils explore the sounds of their voices and instruments and recognise the sounds and can name some of the percussion instruments. They begin to describe music and think of it abstractly and create patterns of sound. Music supports their learning through songs and sounds.

In year 3 pupils learn to play the recorder and begin to read basic music notation. They can name and notate basic rhythm notes using French Time Names. They understand that each of the rhythm notes have different time values and can link this to maths. They play as a whole class and sometimes play solo.

In year 4 pupils learn to play the ukulele. They know that sounds strummed simultaneously create chords, which can sound happy or sad. They can use chords to accompany songs and know the musical names of the rhythm notes e.g. crotchet and quaver. They can read some of the pitch notes on the staff.

In year 5 and 6 the pupils use Boomwhackers and tuned percussion to play as an ensemble. They learn to sing and play in harmony and unison. They understand that music comes from different places and times in history. They can improvise within a given rhythmic and melodic structure. They listen to music from the great composers such as Beethoven and Vivaldi and play some of the themes on their instruments as a class or solo. They develop musical literacy skills and can work out simple musical themes to play. Year 6 pupils can listen and describe music as Medieval, Baroque, Classical or Modern and develop language to describe some of the characteristics that define these styles and create Dance music using GarageBand.

Performance is at the heart of musical teaching and learning at Vicarage Primary School and all pupils participate in a key stage performance.

Our Music curriculum is based on four key concepts,

Performing	Composing
Notating	Appreciation

These key concepts are the 'big ideas' which run as threads through the curriculum. The same key concepts are explored and revisited in each unit of work in every year group. This enables pupils to build on prior knowledge, deepen their contextual knowledge and always working towards the bigger picture of achievement at the end of each year group or phase.

What do the children enjoy about Music at Vicarage Primary School?

"V.I.S is really good because we learn new music and sometimes create our own. Year 4

"Creating the Graphic Scores was the best fun I've had in music. Our performance word was Sugar Rush". 5S

"Performing at the O2 was awesome. I'll never forget that". 6M

Music at Vicarage School

Examples of learning and enrichment activities at Vicarage Primary School.

We have found that music is a great way to unite the school as well as celebrate differences.

We enjoy visiting musicians who come and play for us. E.g. Decoda, who always bring a variety of instrumentalists to help us learn.

We enjoyed working with visitor Ollie Turner from STOMP. He helped us develop our rhythm and body percussion skills.

We have Music Interaction sessions to support and develop the communication skills of our children with Special Needs.

We have after school clubs such as Vicarage Instrumental Scheme (V.I.S) with visiting music teachers and choir club to develop and further the skills of those who love music.

Reasons for learning Music

Music forms an important part of the school curriculum. It is a unique way of communicating that can inspire and motivate pupils to learn. It helps develop personal expression and creative ability through sound.

Musical learning has been scientifically proven to lead to better brain development and human communication.

We measure the impact of our curriculum through the following methods:

- ✓ **Pupil conferencing** – Are children happy, engaged, motivated to do well, challenged? Do they know more? Can they remember more?
- ✓ **Assessment** – Exit quiz and evaluations completed at the end of each topic to assess pupil's understanding, knowledge and skills. The information from assessments will be used to inform leaders of school improvements or skills that need to be further enhanced.
- ✓ **Book Looks** – Are all children making at least sufficient progress from their various starting points? Images and videos of pupil's practical learning.
- ✓ **Lesson Visits** – Quality of teaching and learning is good to outstanding
- ✓ **Parent surveys** – Are parents happy with the curriculum we provide, if not – how can we improve?
- ✓ **Subject portfolio** – Can you see progression of skills and knowledge across the school? Is the curriculum ambitious and goes beyond the National Curriculum?