



Bilton Church of England Junior School

“The National Plan is clear about the importance of music: it will ensure not just that more children have access to the greatest of art forms, but that they do better as a result in every other subject”

DFE & dcms

2011

MUSIC POLICY AT BILTON JUNIOR SCHOOL

This policy summarises the practicalities of an ethos which is fundamental to all music activity in our school, involving the whole community – children, parents, staff, governors and community partners.

The Vision

The value of music as an academic subject lies in its contribution to enjoyment, for its social benefits, for those who engage in music seriously as well as for fun. High quality music education enables lifelong participation in, and enjoyment of, music, as well as underpinning excellence and professionalism for those who choose not to pursue a career in music.

Our vision is to enable children from all backgrounds and every year group to have the opportunity to learn a musical instrument; to make music with others; to learn to sing; and to have the opportunity to progress to the next level of excellence.

Planning

The National Curriculum Programmes of Study form the basis of the music schemes with QCA materials providing relevant activities. However, as part of a Creative Curriculum, a cross-curricular approach is integrated alongside discrete teaching methods.

Teaching and Learning:

Each class receives a music lesson of 55 minutes provided by the music specialist and twenty –five minutes of singing practice each week. Lessons provide all pupils with opportunities for increasing their knowledge and understanding and developing their skills, confidence and expression in music through singing and playing simple melodic instruments; exploring sounds; and active and passive listening. The computers in school provide opportunities to explore a wide -range of musical compositional software through ICT. Also, technology is widely used within lessons to extend pupils understanding and experience of musicians, composers and genres.

Assessment:

The National Curriculum sets out 8 levels of attainment. The descriptions of each level which best fit the pupils performance will decide each child’s level of attainment. At Key Stage 2 this usually varies from level 2 to level 5, with the expected attainment for the majority of pupils at the end of the Key Stage [end of year 6] being level 4. The achievements [i.e. compositions, performing in a group, choir etc.] are also recorded.

Out-of-School Hours Learning and Study Support:

Bilton Junior provides many extra- curricular opportunities for developing the musical interests and talents of the pupils. The wind band and string group provide opportunities for instrumentalists to develop their technique alongside other musicians. The two choirs, ‘Encore’ and ‘Chorale’ further develops the singing strategy within the school, providing all pupils with many high quality experiences of performance both in school and in the wider community.

Professional Development:

The school is committed to providing music through a specialist, for whom regular continuing professional development opportunities are offered. All members of staff are able to observe lessons and teach with support from the specialist.



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Partnerships in the community:

1. Parents. All children need the support of their parents to enable them to reach their full potential. In music support is welcomed from the parents in providing facilities and encouraging their children to practise their instruments. Parents are also invited to demonstrate and share with children their skills and expertise.

2. Church. We are linked closely with St. Mark's Church in Bilton and participate in several services throughout the year. Of particular importance is one at Christmas in which the whole school takes part, and one in July which forms part of the Year 6 leavers calendar.

3. Instrumental Teaching.

The school currently provides a diverse selection of visiting instrumental teachers covering 'Cello, Violin, Guitar, Drums and Brass. Offering such a breadth of musical development opportunities has resulted in a significant increase in pupils choosing to learn an instrument. Teachers are recruited not only on their teaching ability but also on their own performance experience which is integral to motivating and inspiring instrumentalists. These teachers develop and extend the pupils' knowledge and musical experience by providing lessons and ensemble opportunities. All pupils have regular performance opportunities both within the school and the wider community.

The lessons take place between 8.30 and 3.30pm.

The school takes part in local opportunities organised by the Warwickshire Music Hub.

4. Wider Opportunities.

This Government initiative involves Year 3 and 4 pupils at present and allows them to learn an instrument as part of a whole class ensemble.

Management:

The music specialist provides the music curriculum, manages the timetabling and work of the peripatetic instrumental teachers, and organises concerts and musical events in the school. The specialist also keeps up-to-date with developments in music education, is responsible for the purchase and organisation of music resources, and represents the school on local committees which further the work of young people's music. The music department conforms to all **Health and Safety** requirements and the school has a relevant policy statement.

Resources:

It is necessary to have in place many resources in order to meet the requirements of the National Curriculum. The school has a well-equipped music room with piano, hi-fi system, classroom percussion instruments, recorders, some orchestral instruments [flute, clarinet, oboe, violins and cello] music stands and a range of books and printed music. The school has also has on loan from CMS a set of brass instruments as part of the Wider Opportunities programme.



Bilston Church of England Junior School

MUSIC TIMETABLE

2011-2012

Day	9 -10	10 -11	11 -11.15	11.15 – 12.15	lunch	1.20 – 2.15	2.15 –2.30	2.30 – 3.30	3.30 – 4.30
Monday									
Tuesday									
Wednesday	3Bs	5AB	Break	6AL		cover 5BT	break	4ED	CHOIR
Thursday	3AN	5CM	Break	6er	WIND BAND	4FG	break	4JD	
Friday	3MB	5BT	Break	6KW	STRING GROUP	PPA	break	Singing assemblies	