

Crabtree Farm Primary School

Music Intent, Implementation and Impact

At Crabtree Farm, we aim to give our children the musical skills and knowledge to express themselves and live music experiences to inspire them.

Intent

The aims of music teaching are to enable children to:

- ensure our children have covered the skills required to meet the aims of the National Curriculum;
- know and understand how sounds are made and then organised into musical structures;
- know how music is made through a variety of instruments;
- know how music is composed and written down;
- know how music is influenced by the time, place and purpose for which it was written;
- develop the interrelated skills of performing, composing and appreciating music;
- enjoy and appreciate a wide variety of musical styles;
- make and quantify judgements about the quality of music.

Implementation

All music throughout our school is delivered by a music specialist working in the school for 2.5 days each week (half a day of this, he is employed by the Nottingham Music Service to teach Whole Class Ensemble to Year 4). Each class receives 30 minute music lessons each week (F2-Year 3) or 1 hour lessons every other week (Years 5 and 6). In addition to this Early Years, Key Stage 1 and 2 pupils receive 25 minute singing assemblies every week. The choir sing for 30 minutes every Thursday lunchtime. Mastery electric guitar, acoustic guitar, descant recorder and keyboard groups are taught on Fridays.

Music throughout our school is taught from Music Express. Our peripatetic music teacher, Mr Hull, adds his own lessons to the scheme or adapts the lessons when appropriate. Mr Hull has written his own or adapted other units of work to meet the needs of the children at Crabtree Farm. These are in F2 and Years 5 and 6.

Topics that the children study in music build upon prior learning. There are opportunities for children of all abilities to develop their skills and knowledge in each teaching unit. The planned progression built into the scheme of work means that the children are increasingly challenged as they move through our school.

All children in our school receive specialist singing lessons from Mr Hull to ensure good coverage of singing objectives. Children have a weekly singing assembly, which is split into a lower school and assembly.

In Year 4, pupils receive music tuition on the acoustic guitar as part of a Whole Class Ensemble (WCE), which is delivered by Nottingham Music Service (NMS) on a weekly basis.

Pupils who wish to continue learning the guitar in Year 5 can do so in small group peripatetic lessons, which are free for pupils to access and take place throughout the week with the assistance of Mr Hull. Children also enrich their own experience by attending an after-school club in the form of 'Area Band', which is held at our school.

Children in Year 6 who have continued to work on their guitar skills can undertake their 'Grade 1' in guitar, with some children going onto take their 'Grade 2'.

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 for more able children;
- 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.
- teaching mastery groups (descant recorder, electric guitar, acoustic guitar, keyboards) for those children who have shown a talent in learning an instrument or who want to play a new instrument.

Impact

Children's work in music is assessed by making informal judgements about the achievement of learning objectives as they are observed during lessons. At the end of each key stage, the teacher makes a summary judgement about the work of each pupil in relation to the National Curriculum level of attainment. We use this as the basis for assessing the progress of the child and for completing reports to parents.

We have an iPod dedicated to music where we record the progress of a class, mastery group or individual. Mr Hull records at the end of a unit of work to document the progress that children have made towards a particular learning objective. The videos are saved on the server and shared with class teachers to show the progress that their class have made.

Children in Year 4 are assessed by the Nottingham Music Service and they share their assessments with us online so that we can see the progress that our children have made through the year.

Our children are ready for the next year/key stage of their music education.