



Curriculum statement for the teaching and learning of Music

“Next to the word of God, the noble art of music is the greatest treasure in the world”

Martin Luther King

‘Music gives a soul to the universe, wings to the mind, flight to the imagination, and life to everything’ Plato

INTENT

At Porthleven School, we aim to offer a high-quality Music education that has our curriculum drivers of ‘World Citizens’, ‘Resilient Individuals’, ‘Respectful Communicators’ and ‘Healthy Advocates’ at the heart of everything we do. Our children gain a firm understanding of what music is through listening, singing, playing, evaluating and composing across a wide variety of opportunities.

We are committed to ensuring children understand the value and importance of music to their own and others’ lives and well-being and the impact music has in the wider community. Music boosts creativity and supports the development of social skills, self-discipline and confidence.

We provide a music curriculum where children develop a solid understanding of the connected dimensions of music: pulse, voice, pitch and rhythm. As world citizens, our children will experience an assortment of music taken from different times and cultures including Funk in Early Years, Hip Hop in KS1 and Gospel and classical in KS2.

It is important that, as respectful communicators, children use the skills to perform, compose and appraise. At Porthleven, we celebrate festivals such as Harvest and Christingle as well as performing to the wider community, Age Concern, and Porthleven Food Festival.

All children have access to music regardless of their academic ability, race, ethnicity, background and language. We aim to provide children with the opportunity to progress to the next level of their creative excellence through the first-hand experience of learning a musical instruments. In addition, children are offered the opportunity to build on these with additional instrumental lessons in school time (privately or in small groups), including financial support for Pupil Premium children. Within our wider curriculum, pupils can take part in extra-curricular musical groups including choir, recorders, competitions, and ensemble groups. We celebrate their resilience and purpose with presentation assemblies.

Cornish folk music has been around for centuries, with some of its earliest recorded songs dating back to the 16th century. It’s a vibrant and integral part of Cornish culture. Pupils will perform, sing, play and share with music specialists from the Cornwall Music Service Trust, As One, and Hall for Cornwall, as well as appraise performances from Porthleven Band, Helston Jazz Band and other renowned performers, for example, the Cadgewith Singers and the Culdrose Military Wives.

IMPLEMENTATION

Curriculum Design:

Music teaching at Porthleven School delivers the requirements of the National Curriculum through the use of the Charanga scheme of work. Teachers follow the suggested scheme of work, although adaptations can be made to utilise the services available to us and where they are deemed to be more appropriate for thematic learning in other curriculum areas.

The Units of Work are designed to be taught over 6 steps, where all the learning is usually focused around one song. Charanga Units of Work allow children to understand the following musical concepts: singing, dimension of music, listening, responding and appraising, and playing, sharing and performing. Through a repetition-based approach to learning, the same musical concepts are taught through different musical activities enabling a more secure, deeper learning and mastery of musical skills.

Performance is at the heart of musical teaching and learning at Porthleven School and pupils participate in a range of performances. These include nativities (EYFS, KS1), Carol Service, Age Concern performance (Years 3 – 5) and a Harvest and Leavers performance (Year 6). Pupils also take part in community events (Food Festival, Christingle). Confident pupils are encouraged to perform in solo performances. Parents are invited and welcomed to watch all these performances whether at school or outside of school.

Within the EYFS setting, music is an integral part of children's learning journey. Rhyme and rhythm are utilised throughout the learning of phonics, handwriting and mathematics. Children learn a wide range of songs and rhymes and develop skills for performing together. Singing and music-making opportunities are used frequently to embed learning, develop musical awareness and demonstrate how music can be used to express feelings.

In KS1 and KS2, all lessons provide the children an opportunity to listen to at least one new song per session. They will apply their knowledge of the concepts to different genres e.g. gospel, reggae, blues. Children also listen, appraise and learn about the work of one iconic singer/musician/composer/band (from different times in history and different ethnic backgrounds) per term. This helps to build pupils' cultural understanding and knowledge.

Alongside our curriculum provision for music, pupils also have the opportunity to participate in additional 1:1 music teaching by being offered the opportunity to learn a musical instrument. Our music teaching is organised by the Cornwall Music Service Trust. As part of our offer for Pupil Premium children, instrumental lessons are provided free of charge.

IMPACT

Our music Curriculum is planned to demonstrate progression and build on and embed current skills. We focus on the progression of knowledge and skills linked to the musical concepts and the teaching of vocabulary associated with each unit of work. The impact of music, although not assessed, will be evident across other areas of the curriculum. Music plays a key role in brain development as it helps with the nurturing of language, motor skills, emotional intelligence and collaboration skills.

The impact of Porthleven's music curriculum will be evident through:

- Our children are engaged and excited by our music curriculum.
- The skills that they are taught equip them with a range of skills to enable them to appreciate music throughout their lives
- Our children have become confident performers, composers and listeners, who can express themselves musically at school and beyond.
- Our children show an appreciation and respect for a range of music from a variety of genres across a variety of generations.
- Our children demonstrate and express their enthusiasm for music
- Our children progress throughout the music curriculum which enables them to meet the expectations outlined at the end of each key stage for the national curriculum