

Kneesall C of E Primary School Music Curriculum Overview



Why do children at Kneesall study Music?

At Kneesall C of E primary school, we aim to inspire our children to have a love of music and a desire to learn how to become musicians.

The music curriculum at Kneesall enables all pupils to develop their musical potential through engaging experiences, recognising that music as art is an important part of cultural identity. We also recognise that music benefits both cognitive development and character development, and performing is a crucial part of this. We encourage and prepare students for lifelong musical learning and appreciation, both in and out of school.

What are the aims of the Music curriculum?

The national curriculum for music aims to ensure that all pupils:

- perform, listen to, review and evaluate music across a range of historical periods, genres, styles and traditions, including the works of the great composers and musicians.
- learn to sing and to use their voices, to create and compose music on their own and with others, have the opportunity to learn a musical instrument, use technology appropriately and have the opportunity to progress to the next level of musical excellence.
- understand and explore how music is created, produced and communicated, including through the inter-related dimensions: pitch, duration, dynamics, tempo, timbre, texture, structure and appropriate musical notations.

Music Curriculum Intent

It is our intent that we make music an inspiring and enjoyable learning experience which develops the children's musical skills and a life-long love of music. We encourage children to participate in a variety of musical experiences to develop a love of music and develop their talent as musicians, and in turn increase their self-confidence, creativity and sense of achievement.

Our teaching focuses on developing the children's ability to understand rhythm and follow a beat through performing on a range of musical instruments. By singing songs, children learn about the structure and organisation of music. We teach them to listen and to appreciate different forms of music across different time periods, cultures and traditions. This supports children to understand the cultural capital of being open minded in their listening as well as knowledgeable about a breadth of musical genres in the world today. The children learn to appreciate how music supports other areas of the curriculum such as dance and drama.

Children develop descriptive language skills in music lessons when learning about how music can represent different feelings, emotions and narratives. We also teach technical vocabulary such as volume, pitch, beat and rhythm and encourage children to discuss music using these terms. As pupils progress, they should develop a critical engagement with music, allowing them to compose and to listen with confidence.

Music Curriculum Implementation

At Kneesall primary, we utilise the Kapow Music scheme of work from Foundation through to Year 6, to ensure a wide exposure to different genres of music, with lots of practical opportunities to explore and develop as musicians and singers.

Over the course of the scheme, children will be taught how to sing fluently and expressively and play tuned and untuned instruments accurately and with control. They will learn to recognise and name interrelated dimensions of music – pitch, duration, tempo, timbre, structure, textures and dynamics. Our children will then have the opportunity to use this knowledge in their own improvisations and compositions.

Additional opportunities are offered in music, such as the Key Stage 2 choir which performs regularly in school and at events in the local community and Rocksteady music lessons.

We also aim to provide the children with live music opportunities to hear professionals perform a range of genres using a variety of instruments.

Music Curriculum Impact

The impact of the Kapow Music scheme is that our children will:

- Be confident performers, composers and listeners and will be able to express themselves musically at and beyond school.
- Show an appreciation and respect for a wide range of musical styles from around the world and will understand how music is influenced by the wider cultural, social and historical contexts in which it is developed.
- Understand the ways in which music can be written down to support performance and composing activities.
- Demonstrate and articulate an enthusiasm for music and be able to identify their own personal musical preferences.
- Meet the end of key stage expectations outlined in the National and EYFS curriculum.