



# **Ashton Keynes Primary School**

## **Music Policy**

**Updated September 2022**



*Music is a universal language that embodies one of the highest forms of creativity. A high-quality music education should engage and inspire pupils to develop a love of music and their talent as musicians, and so increase their self-confidence, creativity and sense of achievement. As pupils progress, they should develop a critical engagement with music, allowing them to compose, and to listen with discrimination to the best in the musical canon.*

National Curriculum for Music 2014

Music is highly valued at Ashton Keynes School. Children are given a wealth of opportunities to develop and celebrate their skills.

### **Aims of the curriculum – All pupils will**

- 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.

### **Curriculum**

- All classes receive music lessons with either their class teacher or music leader. Charanga online music scheme is used across the school and fully supports the aims of the national curriculum 2014. This scheme has been devised especially for classroom teachers and is topic based, cross curricular, musically diverse, fully resourced and accessible to non-music readers. Years 1 – 6 will follow the new Music Model Charanga Scheme.
- Additional topic based, cross-curricular musical activities take place in the classroom, where appropriate, led by the class teacher, with the support of the specialist teacher where required.

- Whole school singing assemblies take place weekly led by the music leader and head teacher. Children are given the opportunity to listen to a wide range of music from different historical periods, focus upon a musical element and develop their singing skills whilst singing a variety of songs and hymns.
- Currently (School year 2022 – 2023) year 4 are receiving **first access** whole class ukulele tuition with the intention that more children will continue learning the ukulele or guitar. These lessons are being provided by the school and funded partially by Wiltshire music and by the school.
- During the Spring and Summer terms Years 2 and 3 have whole class recorder lessons.
- Every class is given the opportunity to perform during a class production and class assembly.
- EYFS sing throughout the day and listen to a variety of music throughout the week. They have weekly Charanga music lessons and have access to a wide range of musical instruments through their continuous provision. A stage in the outside classroom provides opportunities for performing.

### **Assessment**

At AKPS, assessment is an integral part of the teaching process. Assessment is used to inform planning and to facilitate differentiation. The assessment of children's work is on-going to ensure that understanding is being achieved and that progress is being made.

At the start of each Charanga unit taught, children are introduced to the key knowledge, skills and vocabulary from that unit using musical progression guides. Teachers then will use this discussion to tailor any planning to ensure gaps or misconceptions are addressed throughout the unit.

At the end of a unit a digital recording of the children's performance will be created to see and hear the progress made. This is then added to class files. The final lesson of each MMC unit is an assessment checkpoint with an interactive quiz providing opportunity to gain a clear insight into progress made. During terms where first access instrumental tuition or class production replaces Charanga units, digital recordings will be made at the end of each term to record progress. Assessment is tracked and monitored three times a year alongside opportunities for pupil voice.

In Early Years children are assessed using the Development Matters descriptors for Expressive Arts and Design. Teachers use their knowledge gained about each child through observations, assessments and interactions to make their own judgements termly. Regular assessment occurs which informs planning and next steps. A profile assessment is completed at the end of the year to support a successful transition into KS1 and inform parents.

## **Musical Tuition**

All children have opportunities to learn a musical instrument. Presently, lessons are available for brass, voice, clarinet, flute, guitar and ukulele, violin, piano and drums. External peripatetic teachers provide this tuition (employed by the Swindon Co-operative Music Service), and the children are asked to pay for these weekly lessons and the hire of or cost of the instrument. Pupil Premium children are offered 70% of the cost of lessons from the school.

Children who play instruments or those who sing are given regular opportunities to celebrate their achievements at assemblies and concerts.

## **Clubs**

A popular after school choir led by the music leader is very well attended and performs at local events.

## **Resources**

Resources are kept in the music suite. In addition to a wide range of tuned and untuned percussion instruments we have a set of 15 glockenspiels, 10 steel pans, 15 descant recorders, 15 African drums, 26 ukuleles and 30 ocarinas.