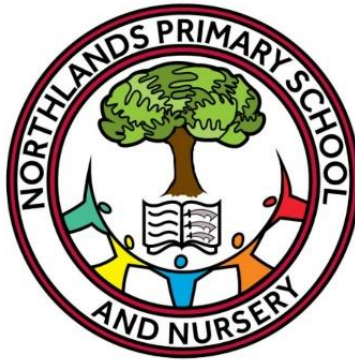


Northlands Primary School and Nursery



Music Policy

Ratified at the Full Governing Board meeting on _____

Signed _____

Due for review: Every two years



Inspire
Challenge
Succeed

Northlands Primary School and Nursery Policy for Music

Curriculum Intent

Music is a universal language which transcends any barriers to entry of spoken and written languages. At Northlands, this principle is celebrated, ensuring all pupils (including those with additional needs) are given equal opportunity to express themselves effectively and uniquely, through the language of sound.

Lessons provide engaging and fun musical experiences which help to foster pupils' overall passion for learning, not limited to the subject of Music. Pupils at Northlands build their self-esteem in music lessons through experimentation with the Creative Process (exploring, creating, refining, and performing/sharing). Music lessons also help children to develop the essential life skills of collaborating, giving and receiving constructive feedback, and creative problem solving.

Given the opportunity to listen to a broad repertoire of music from around the world and from different eras and traditions, pupils gain direct connection to unfamiliar cultures and times, thus deepening their understanding of the world.

Shared musical experiences between children, staff and parents help to build a strong and connected school community.

Extra-Curricular after-school clubs are provided to KS1 and KS2 children, every day, to give extra opportunities and encouragement to those children with a particularly keen interest in the subject. These currently include choir, songwriting and keyboard clubs.

At Northlands, pupils are given an exciting insight into the fascinating and rewarding world of music, which provides them with the best possible foundation to develop their musicality as they progress through their early and primary stages of music education.

Aims and Objectives

- To deliver an exciting, engaging and stimulating curriculum that children love to immerse themselves in
- To consistently build students' confidence in their ability to express themselves musically
- To meet the requirements of the *Statutory Framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage* (relevant ELGs) and suggested approaches from *Development Matters*
- To meet the requirements of the *National Curriculum for Music* and suggested approaches from the *Model Music Curriculum*
- To accelerate students' musical development, helping them connect the interrelated strands of singing, playing, performing, composing, improvising, listening and appraising.

Support for pupils with additional needs

Music lessons are available to all students at Northlands. Music gives an opportunity for *all* students to thrive and have fun during their education, regardless of their needs. Due to the largely practical nature of the subject (singing and instrumental work), we find that student engagement in lessons is high, including those children who are more challenged by the unique technicalities of Reading, Writing and Mathematics.

Children with additional needs are included in all musical learning opportunities, both in and out of class. In class, this would include the chance to perform and share the music we have been practising during the lesson. Out of class, this would include events such as Singing Assemblies, Year Group productions, and Choir performances in external venues. Children with additional needs are helped by support staff when appropriate, and personalised questioning is used by the Music Teacher to include all children in discussions.

For children currently more suited to learning outside of the whole class environment (Meadow and Conker Rooms), the *Musical Communication* intervention is used as a tool to foster engagement skills, turn taking, listening skills, as well as spontaneous communication and interaction.

Internet Safety

Internet access is planned to enrich and extend learning opportunities in Music lessons. As such, we have acknowledged the need to ensure that all pupils are responsible and safe users of the Internet and other communication technologies, both in and out of school. The Internet is used regularly in Music lessons, and the Music Teacher ensures that all materials are age appropriate.

Students in Key Stage 2 are given access to the Sing Up! home learning platform with the aim of helping them to develop their independent musical learning. This forms a bridge between Music lessons in school and learning continuation at home. Please see this quote from the Sing Up! website:

"... we support our members in providing student access to Sing Up resources by assessing our platform and our own practices against the requirements of the standards of the ICO's Age-Appropriate Design Code. We are satisfied we meet those stringent standards for the protection of children online."

The Early Years Foundation Stage

Children in Nursery and Reception classes have weekly Music lessons, in line with KS1 and KS2 classes. This provides a stimulating and unique context and opportunity for our youngest children to achieve the relevant Early Learning Goals as outlined in the early Years Foundation Stage Framework (2021).

Curriculum

At Northlands we offer a tailored Music curriculum which has been developed with a clear progression of skills and knowledge. The core skills of Singing, Listening, Improvising, Composing and Performing (including instrumental performance) form the foundation of musical study at Northlands. All pupils have regular access to both rhythmic and melodic instruments in lessons, when required.

The Sing Up! Scheme of work is used to provide a robust foundation for the long-term Music plan. Bespoke instrumental lessons are also provided to KS2 children in the Spring and Summer Terms. This includes instruction on Recorders and Glockenspiels, aligning with the *Model Music Curriculum's* guidance of giving students the opportunity to “learn an instrument through whole-class ensemble...at Key Stage 2.”

Lessons are also planned to mark the occasion of significant global events, national traditions, and/or social initiatives, aligning with the Northlands Themed Weeks Schedule.

Assessment

Assessment is done on an ongoing basis throughout each school year and is based on a general impression rather than a judgement against tick charts or formal tests.

In the Early Years, observations are made by the Music Teacher and support staff on an ongoing basis in order to assess the children in line with the EYFS Framework.

KS1 and KS2 children are categorised according to whether they are currently performing above, at, or below age-related expectations. The Skills and Knowledge Progressions documents are used in combination with teacher judgment in order to inform these decisions.

To show progression from Year 1 to Year 6, three unique ‘Snapshot’ lessons are included across a school year, one in each term. These provide further evidence to help the Music Teacher make judgements about each child’s current attainment assessed against the age-related expectations.

These Snapshot activities are filmed, in accordance with Ofsted recommendation, and are uploaded to the school’s server.

Linked policies / documents:

- Sing Up! Music Scheme
- Model Music Curriculum
- National Curriculum for Music
- Early Years Foundation Stage Statutory Framework
- Development Matters