

HOLY SOULS RC PRIMARY SCHOOL

Pride in our achievements



Vision Statement

Holy Souls School is a Catholic School where we share our life in Christ in the growing knowledge that Jesus loves us. Our school is a place where everyone is able to feel welcomed, valued, secure, loved and happy. Everyone who comes into our school will be treated with respect. We remember that Jesus said, 'Treat others as you would like them to treat you'

Music Policy

Agreed by Full Governing Body
On 10th July 2025

Review Date: Summer 2028

Holy Souls RC Primary School

Policy Statement for Music

Intent

Music is important because it can provide fulfilment throughout life. It is a powerful, unique form of communication that can change the way pupils feel, think and act. It transcends different cultures, abilities and generations.

Listening to and making music fulfils an instinctive human need for self-expression and creativity. It stimulates responses on both emotional and intellectual levels.

Besides being a creative and enjoyable activity, music can also be a highly academic and demanding subject.

Musical activities include performing vocally or with instruments, exploring sounds and composing as well as listening and responding to music of different styles and cultures. All these activities involve the musical elements of pitch, duration (rhythm), dynamics, tempo, timbre, texture and structure.

Mission Statement

“To love one another as I have loved you” is at the heart of our Mission Statement. Holy Souls is a place where we share our life in Christ, in the growing knowledge that Jesus loves us. Our school is a place where everyone is able to feel welcomed, valued, secure, loved and happy. Everyone who comes into our school will be treated with respect and valued as a unique member of our school family.

Through our Mission Statement we encourage all pupils to take pride in their achievements. Our Music policy is used to help pupils develop their God given talents and with support from staff, to achieve their full potential.

Implementation

Our aim at Holy Souls Primary School is that all children will develop a love of music, and through music education in school we aim to:

- Enable each child to grow musically at his/her own level and pace.
- Foster musical responsiveness.
- Develop awareness and appreciation of organised sound patterns.
- Develop instrumental and vocal skills.
- Develop sensitive, analytical and critical response to music.
- Develop the capacity to express ideas, thoughts and feelings through music.
- Develop awareness and understanding of musical traditions, style and cultures from other times and places.
- Foster enjoyment of all aspects of music, including the opportunity for each individual to perform at their highest level possible.

Principles of the Teaching and Learning of Music

Music is important because making music is a pleasurable activity, which can provide

fulfilment throughout life. Understanding heightens appreciation of music. Knowledge of the work of a range of musicians and composers contributes to cultural understanding.

Strategies for the Teaching of Music

Medium term planning for Music follows the National Curriculum guidelines. Teachers use 'Spark Yard', our new music scheme, to support their delivery of the skills and techniques, in addition to other personalised resources.

Music is integrated into work in other curriculum areas where possible, for example through the Cornerstones Imaginative Learning Projects (ILPs) that we use as our wider curriculum scheme of work. Music is taught on a weekly basis as a whole for about 9-12 hours per term.

The predominant mode of working in music is whole class teaching, group work and individual instrumental tuition.

Instrumental tuition is offered in:

- String instruments
- Guitar
- Flute
- All brass instruments

Teaching and Learning Assistants (TLAs) are used in Music to assist with curriculum delivery where appropriate, for example in supporting children with Special Needs. They are also involved in outings and our own musical productions.

Inclusion

At Holy Souls School we are committed to inclusion. Teachers provide opportunities for all children to access the full primary curriculum, including Music. Children who show a particular talent and enthusiasm for the subject are encouraged to perform at the highest level possible and take advantage of the extra-curricular activities, such as being a member of our school Choir.

Equal Opportunities

All children are provided with the same learning opportunities, but recognising that children have individual styles of learning, teachers aim to provide as varied a range of tasks as possible.

Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND)

All children are included in Music lessons. We aim to cater for all abilities and needs through a variety of methods, including differentiation of the task or the resources used or by additional support by the class teacher or TLAs, where appropriate. At Holy Souls School we are committed to dealing sensitively with pupils' needs, whether these are social, emotional or learning needs.

Early Years Foundation Stage

Music plays a major part in the curriculum for the Early Years Foundation Stage. Children integrate singing, clapping and other musical activities into their daily routine.

Homework

Children's performance is improved through regular instrumental practice and children who have instrumental lessons are expected to practise every day.

Assessment

Formative assessment is used to guide the progress of individual pupils in Music. Teachers, in the course of their teaching, mostly carry out formative assessment informally. Children's progress is linked to the end of Key Stage level descriptors and recorded yearly. Excellence in Music is celebrated through assemblies, Masses and productions.

Feedback to pupils about their own progress in Music aims to be positive and constructive and can take the form of discussion and occasionally written marking.

Impact

The impact and measure of the music curriculum taught throughout school is to ensure that all children are equipped with musical skills and knowledge that will enable them to be ready for the curriculum at Key Stage 3 and for life as an adult in the wider world. We want the children to have thoroughly enjoyed learning about music, therefore encouraging them to undertake new life experiences now and in the future.

Recording and Reporting

Reporting to parents takes place at Parents' Evenings and annually through a written report.

The Role of the Co-ordinator

The co-ordinator's role for monitoring and evaluating progress in Music includes:

- Taking the lead in policy development and the production of schemes of work designed to ensure progression and continuity in Music throughout the school.
 - Supporting colleagues in their development of detailed work plans, implementation of the scheme of work and in assessment and record keeping activities.
 - Monitoring standards and progress in Music and advising the Headteacher on action needed.
 - Taking responsibility for the purchase and organisation of central resources for Music.
- Keeping up-to-date with developments in Music education and disseminating information to colleagues as appropriate.

Information Technology

This is used in Music for:

- Delivery of lessons via the online tool within *Spark Yard*.
- Internet research.

Health and Safety issues in Music

These include:

- Use of instruments in accordance with Health and Safety requirements
- Appropriate storage of instruments.

Use of Resources

There are no classroom resources for Music. All resources are held centrally in the Meeting Room/Music Room. Central resources in Music are the responsibility of the Music co-ordinator and their condition and appropriateness are reviewed annually.

Danielle Ellison
January 2025