ST. LEO'S AND SOUTHMEAD CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL
SERVING THE COMMUNITY
MUSIC POLICY
Reviewed September 2016

In our school, we want to celebrate God's gift of life together; by inspiring, enhancing and developing tomorrow's talent, today!
We respect all; aiming to achieve and live our values.
A place to allow humanity to flourish!

Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural Development

Music is a unique way of communicating that can inspire and motivate children. It provides opportunities to promote spiritual, moral, social and cultural development. It is a vehicle for personal expression and it can play an important part in the personal development of children. Music reflects the culture and society we live in, and so the teaching and learning of music enables children to better understand the world they live in. Besides being a creative and enjoyable activity, music can also be a highly academic and demanding subject. It also plays an important part in helping children to feel part of a community. At St Leo's and Southmead we provide opportunities for all children to create, play, perform and enjoy music, to develop the skills to appreciate a wide variety of musical forms, and to begin to make judgements about the quality of music.

The National Curriculum (2014) states that:

"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."

Aims

We provide opportunities for all children to create, play, perform and enjoy music.

- To assist the children in developing a love and enjoyment of music, to enrich their life experiences.
- To provide a means of "excellence and enjoyment" in the curriculum and out of school.
- To continue to raise standards in music and the broader curriculum.
- To learn to sing and to use their voices, to create and compose music on their own and with others.
- To know that music can be used to create mood and atmosphere, to celebrate, to worship and to reflect. To understand that it can be an emotional response.

Musical Experiences

1. Planned Teaching for each class following the National Curriculum and Music Express scheme of work.
2. A range of music for the children to listen to as part of the Accelerated Learning approach to Teaching and Learning ongoing at St. Leo's and Southmead.
3. Delivering high quality music lessons consistently across the school using models seen taught by Knowsley Performing Arts Team.
4. To promote singing within the school and across the curriculum.
5. A school choir who are given the opportunity to sing for a range of audiences.
6. Offering extra-curricular musical tuition, delivered by an outside agency.

Music across the curriculum

English

Music contributes significantly to the teaching of English in our school by actively promoting the skills of reading, writing, speaking and listening. Children develop their language skills through singing songs, with attention to diction, meaning, rhythm and rhyme. Music is also used to stimulate discussion or creative writing. Through working with others in a musical setting, children develop their ability to communicate ideas effectively.

Mathematics

Music contributes to the teaching of mathematics in that children who study the structure of music are observing patterns and processes. Talent in music is often linked with talent in mathematics, as the rhythm and structure of music is mathematically based.

Music and Science

Music can enrich the understanding of learning about how different sounds can be made and how sounds can be changed.

Music and History/Geography

Through singing songs and listening to music from different times and places, music can enhance children's understanding of the past and the cultures of other countries.

Music and Physical Education

Dance provides direct links with music in that it gives children opportunities to respond to music through movement.

Music and Religious Education

Through singing songs in collective worship and as part of our religious celebrations, music plays an important role in our worship, understanding and celebration of Christianity.

Planning

Our school uses the Music Express scheme of work as the basis for its curriculum planning, alongside the National Curriculum 2014. While there are opportunities for children of all abilities to develop their skills and knowledge in each teaching unit, the progression planned into the scheme of work means that the children are increasingly challenged as they move through the school.
The teacher delivering the music session writes the lesson plans, which list the specific learning objectives and expected outcomes for each lesson.

Assessment

The children are assessed at the end of each topic using the National Curriulum objectives 2014 and the Essentials Curriculum by Chris Quigley. This identifies which milestone the children are working within, enabling the teacher to plan future lessons, which move the children on within their learning.

SAFEGUARDING

Safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children is defined for the purpose of this guidance as:-

• Protecting children from maltreatment

• Preventing impairment of children's health or development.

• Ensuring that children grow up in circumstances consistent with the provision of safe and effective care.

• Taking action to enable all children to have the best outcomes.

Promoting British Values at St Leo's and Southmead Catholic Primary School Serving the Community

At St Leo's and Southmead Catholic Primary School we aim to help, guide and prepare our children as future citizens. As our Mission Statement says, our school is "A place to allow humanity to flourish!" This statement permeates everything that we do in school and captures what British Values are about:-

- Democracy
- The Rule of Law
- Individual Liberty
- Mutual Respect
- Tolerance of those of different faiths and beliefs.

We grasp every opportunity throughout the school day to teach, model and show by examples all of the above. We have provided further information on our school website. We are proud of our school and are proud of the British Values that we live and learn about.