



Music at Wheatcroft



"Music is a universal language that embodies one of the highest forms of creativity."

Music is taught so that every child may have the opportunity to develop skills which enable them to bring together intellect and feeling by expressing themselves creatively, and thereby enrich the quality of life.

Our intended aims are to:

- engage and inspire children to develop a love of music and their talent as musicians.
- provide opportunities for all children to engage in creative musical activity.
- develop children's understanding and appreciation of a range of different kinds of music, develop and extend their own interests and increase their ability to listen with discrimination and make judgements of musical quality.
- provide children with the knowledge, skills and understanding needed to make and perform music.
- develop skills, attitudes and attributes that can support learning in other subjects and that are needed for life and work.

How we intend to implement this:

- Music is a driver of the curriculum at Wheatcroft. Musical activity, particularly singing, is used to enhance learning across the curriculum and as part of the daily routine.
- Music is taught as a separate subject but with links to other curriculum areas where appropriate.
- In the foundation stage, musical learning comes within the area of learning and development 'Expressive Arts and Design'.
- Key Stage 1 planning, based on the North Yorkshire scheme of learning, develops children's sense of pulse, pitch and rhythm and their knowledge of mood and structure in music through a vocal-aural approach to teaching.
- Key Stage 2 planning develops these skills further through a range of listening, singing, playing, improvising and composing activities, each term or half term having a particular musical focus.
- WCET (whole class ensemble teaching) is embraced in projects running in Key Stage 2 – all children are given an opportunity to learn a musical instrument.
- As part of a 'singing school', children are encouraged to sing every day and develop their vocal skills with an emphasis on singing.
- Children are given opportunities to use classroom instruments musically and taught to handle these properly.
- There are opportunities for every child to participate in creative improvisation and composition as part of a whole class and smaller groups.
- Where appropriate, children use and understand musical notations.
- Children are given opportunities to listen to the best in the musical canon including a variety of pieces from different historical periods, genres, styles and traditions, and begin to develop an understanding of the history of music.
- Children are encouraged to take up peripatetic instrument lessons where appropriate and extra-curricular activities such as Singing Squad, orchestra and Musical Theatre are provided to enable children to further extend their musical experience and develop their musical skills and enjoyment of performing together.

How we intend to measure impact:

- Through 'pupil voice', children are able to talk positively about their musical learning, their enjoyment of it and the impact it has.
- Musical learning is built on progressively and assessment measures achievement against a progression of skills in listening, playing and performing, and improvising and composing.