



The Batt C.E. School & St Mary's CE Infant School

Music Curriculum Statement



Our Intention is that...	...all children at our schools enjoy Music! In doing so, they will experience a rich Music curriculum where they can develop the skills of listening, composing, performing and appreciating music while gaining an understanding of the history of music across a range of historical periods, genres, styles and traditions. We love to sing and The Batt were the first school in Oxfordshire to receive the Sing Up Platinum Award. We are passionate about Music being inclusive - a subject that every child can enjoy and participate in regardless of ability, educational need or background. We actively encourage our more vulnerable children to access the extra-curricular opportunities on offer and are frequently reminded how music can develop a child's development and confidence.
Implementation	Key skills and knowledge are embedded through a carefully sequenced music curriculum. In EYFS children begin singing, experimenting and composing with sounds through child and teacher-led activities during continuous provision in the classroom and garden. This is supplemented by lessons based on the BBC EYFS Listen and Play Series. Across KS1 and 2, classroom music is based on the units in the Music Express Scheme, though at times, these are supplemented or replaced with History topic-based music lessons e.g. a unit of Tudor Music in Year Five and Wartime Songs in Year Six. Several staff are confident musicians and enjoy the flexibility this provides.

All children in Year Four learn the violin or cello (for six months) through First Access provided by an experienced teacher from Oxfordshire County Music Service. The children develop instrumental technique and read music from staff notation resulting in a real understanding of basic music theory. They are instructed from the beginning to be aware of audience and the course culminates in a concert for parents.

Children at The Batt have many opportunities to sing. There are two separate singing sessions in the hall every week led by the music coordinator, a vocal specialist -Year One, Two and Three together (EYFS join in the Spring Term) and Year Four, Five and Six together. During this time, children further develop their understanding of the inter-related dimensions of music through clapping pulse and rhythms, using percussion instruments, and listening and commenting on styles of performance. They learn to sing in parts through singing in rounds. Year Six Singing Leaders play an important role by leading the singing from the front, helping with actions and supervising the younger children playing percussion instruments. Personalised stickers are given out to children who have participated well. These sessions result in the performance of songs at Harvest, Christmas and Easter in the church.

Apart from the whole-school singing, other year groups often perform e.g. at the church during services. Key Stage One perform a Christmas Nativity, Year Five perform Tudor songs to parents, and Year Five and Six sing, act and dance in a Summer musical.

All children listen to a variety of music from different traditions and genres when entering and leaving the hall for Collective Worship. They watch a powerpoint presentation about each piece of music so that they gain a deeper understanding of the features of the music as well as its historical context. There is a music timeline for them to refer to. Children are encouraged to share responses and ideas which may be recorded on the music board

Extra-curricular opportunities

	There are two choirs at The Batt site. The Junior Choir is open to Year Two and Three and the Senior Choir for Years Four, Five and Six. The choirs work towards performances at school events eg The Carols by Candlelight Service and Spring Concert. They also participate in community events such as singing carols at a local day centre. There are visiting peripatetic teachers who offer lessons in guitar, ukulele, flute, trumpet, violin and cello. Children having lessons are given a platform to perform in assemblies and at church services. There are regular demonstrations given by the teachers in order to maintain and recruit pupils. In addition, performances from visiting musicians are encouraged. We recently enjoyed a short recital given by a violin student from the Royal College of Music.
Impact	By the time the children leave our schools, they will have gained a rich and varied primary music education and been encouraged at every opportunity to further their musical interests. At the very least they will leave with a solid foundation which will enable them to embrace further opportunities in Music at secondary school and beyond. It has been noted on many occasions by teachers of the Arts at secondary school, that children from The Batt stand out for their confidence and enthusiasm for Music and performance. It is hoped that for many, we will have ignited a love for music that will last them a lifetime.