

Music Statement



Music Intent Statement

Basic Curriculum Principles:

1. Learning is a change to long-term memory
2. Our aims are to ensure that our pupils experience a wide breadth of study and have, by the end of each key stage, long-term memory of an ambitious body of knowledge

Our high quality music curriculum should engage and inspire pupils to develop a love of music and their talents as musicians, and so over time increase their self-confidence and creativity. At Kew Woods, we follow the National Curriculum and provide a breadth of learning opportunities across the main disciplines of Music – **perform, compose, transcribe and describe**. Our aim is not to overload pupils' working memory but to allow repetition of the basics so that knowledge is in their long term memory. By teaching key concepts it allows for repetition and retrieval. The key concepts are: **listening and appraising, interrelated dimensions of music, singing, playing instruments, improvisation, composition and performance**, across a range of historical periods, styles, traditional and musical genres. This will then allow pupils to apply their knowledge and deepen their understanding. Music should be taught musically; therefore, each lesson is practical, engaging and creative.

Implementation:

To strengthen our schema and support teachers, we use the quality resource Charanga in teaching music lessons at our school. The Charanga scheme supports all requirements of the National Curriculum whilst providing an integrated, practical, exploratory and child-led approach to music.

Our music subject leader ensures all teachers are trained to use Charanga. The scheme supports specialist and non-specialist teachers by providing engaging and exciting resources and week by week lesson plans, therefore reducing teacher workload. One session per week of music is taught by the class teacher or specialist music teacher, as well as a whole school singing assembly session.

Pupils listen to a variety of songs and compositions from different genres and cultures and learn about the history of music. Follow on lessons allow for retrieval practice and consolidation of knowledge. The interrelated dimensions of music are taught by weaving them throughout each unit, encouraging the development of musical skills.

The Charanga scheme enables pupils to understand the different musical concepts through a repetition-based approach. Pupils will build on previously learned skills throughout each unit, enabling a more secure and deeper learning of key skills. In each unit, the interrelated dimensions of music are embedded through engaging musical games. Singing is at the heart of all musical learning. Once the pupils know the song, they play tuned instruments

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(glockenspiels) alongside, with the chance to improvise and even compose as the pupils move through the units. Pupils learn to sing and play as part of an ensemble and as a soloist. Progression throughout music is initially measured and assessed at the end of each unit through performances to identify short term progress and put in place support and interventions.

During their time in the school, each child will have the opportunity to learn to play an instrument (currently a recorder or a guitar). Performances by each class take place at the end of a block of work for parents and other pupils to enjoy.

In addition to structured music lessons, Kew Woods provides the pupils with a variety of opportunities throughout the school year, which promote a love of music and performing arts. These include concerts and assemblies throughout the year which parents and carers are invited to such class assemblies, Reception Nativity, KS1 and a separate KS2 Carol Concert and a KS2 summer performance where each class performs as well as individual and small group performances. Parents have also enjoyed attending 'Kew Proms' where pupils played instruments solo, in a duo, as a group or as a class. We have a thriving school choir who perform in the community annually (local restaurant, church, local hospital, supermarket). Pupils have the opportunity biannually to rehearse and perform at the Young Voices concert in Manchester. Year 6 annually perform a musical, with every pupil having a part. Our Year 6 pupils have prepared for this by attending a school funded musical in London whilst in Year 5. Year 6 also include musical aspects in their leavers assembly. As a school we facilitate private individual guitar and piano lessons if requested (additional cost).

Impact:

Short term progression pupils make in music in their performance will be evidenced at the end of each lesson and each unit. There will be improved musical skills and increased fluency and control. Pupils should become more confident and knowledgeable when talking about the interrelated dimensions of music. Pupils should be inspired and have a sense of achievement at the end of each performance. They will appreciate and have a solid understanding of a wide range of musical concepts, styles and genres.

However, we will assess knowledge over time to ensure it is in the long term memory. We acknowledge that knowledge precedes creativity and it is essential to fully grasp the n=basic aspects first. We compare pupils' work over time. Assessments are made against expectations fully at the end of each key stage. This may be in evidence from lesson observations and learning walks, online evidence or pupil interviews.

Policy Implementation and Review

This policy was reviewed by SLT, shared with staff and approved by governors. It will be reviewed annually as per the policy review cycle.

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