

Music

INTENT

Whitnash aims to make music an enjoyable learning experience. We encourage children to participate in a variety of musical experiences through which we aim to build up the confidence of all children. Our teaching focuses on developing the children's ability to understand rhythm and follow a beat. Through singing songs, children learn about the structure and organisation of music. We teach them to listen and to appreciate different forms of music. Children develop descriptive language skills in music lessons when learning about how music can represent different feelings, emotions and narratives. We also teach technical vocabulary such as volume, pitch, beat and rhythm and encourage children to discuss music using these terms.

IMPLEMENTATION

The music curriculum at Whitnash is supported by the 'Charanga' programme. This is a comprehensive and progressive planning and teaching tool to support the delivery of music. The programme helps to ensure a wide exposure to different genres of music, with lots of practical opportunities to explore and develop as musicians and singers. This provision is also supported by the Warwickshire Music Service, providing instrument lessons to targeted year groups throughout the course of an academic year.

Musical concepts are taught within activities where the children are encouraged to explore, experiment and create music themselves. These opportunities extend to the children's knowledge and understanding of the musical elements; pitch, duration, pace, timbre, texture, dynamics, structure and silence.

Children are taught a specific musical instrument for at least a school year, ranging from Ocarina, steel pans to guitar. These lessons incorporate teaching musical notation, singing, as well as learning to play an instrument. Follow on group music lessons are also available to pupils to continue to develop their skills and ability on a musical instrument the following year. Opportunities are taken to perform in class, in whole assemblies and also to parents and the wider community where possible.

Additional opportunities are offered in music, such as the key stage 2 choir which performs regularly in school and at events in the local community.

Children are also encouraged to perform to others within the classroom, during assemblies and in various performances throughout the year.

IMPACT

Music assessment is ongoing to inform teachers with their planning, lesson activities and differentiation. Summative assessment is completed at the end of each unit to inform leaders of the improvements or skills that still need to be embedded. The school's Target Tracker system is used to capture progress.