Ormiston Cliff Park Primary Academy

Subject Intent Statement

Music

Subject Leader: Mrs S Tempest

Intent

At Ormiston Cliff Park Primary Academy, we believe that music is a universal language that brings joy, connection and creativity to every child. Our music curriculum, supported by Kapow Primary, is designed to be inclusive, inspiring and accessible to all learners, ensuring that every pupil — regardless of background, ability or experience — can develop their musical potential and become a musician. The scheme and quality teaching helps to develop the skills, knowledge, vocabulary and understanding needed to become confident performers, composers and listeners.

In the EYFS, children begin their musical journey through play and exploration, in line with the Early Learning Goals for Expressive Arts and Design. They sing songs, explore sounds, move to music and experiment with instruments, building the foundations for rhythmic awareness, listening and self-expression. These early experiences nurture confidence, curiosity and a love of music that continues to grow throughout their primary years.

Key themes and skills introduced in EYFS are revisited and developed further in KS1, ensuring continuity and progression. This transition is aided by the continuity of learning created by the curriculum strands, which run from EYFS to Year 6.

Through music, we celebrate diversity, promote belonging and support wellbeing. Our aim is for every child to find their voice, connect with others and develop confidence, creativity, teamwork, performance abilities, resilience and leadership skills that they need to thrive — both in school and in life.

We enrich our curriculum through Music/Arts week as well as a variety of clubs and chances to perform in front of families and wider audiences.

Implementation

Through the Kapow Primary Music Curriculum, pupils experience a clear and carefully sequenced progression of musical skills, knowledge, vocabulary and understanding. Lessons are built around performing, composing, listening and appraising, allowing all children to develop as confident, expressive and reflective musicians. The curriculum's engaging and practical approach ensures that music is experienced through active participation, collaboration and creativity.

As children progress through the school, Kapow's spiral curriculum ensures that skills are revisited and deepened over time, enabling every learner to make meaningful progress. Inclusive teaching strategies, adaptive resources and opportunities for whole-class, group and individual performances ensure that all children can access and enjoy musical learning at their own level. Recap and recall activities are varied to keep the start of the lesson engaging and fun while still supporting active recall.

The Kapow Primary Music scheme of work is designed to be fully adaptable for pupils with SEND. Every lesson includes an adaptive teaching section, providing clear guidance on how activities can be modified to meet the needs of all learners. Lessons include a range of strategies to support and challenge every pupil, such as: scaffolding, multi-sensory approaches and opportunities for collaborative and independent learning.

Teachers create a positive attitude to music learning within their classrooms and reinforce the expectation that all children can achieve high standards.

Impact

We are confident that the music curriculum is having a positive impact on the quality of learning. We know this because of observations, learning walks, pupil voice, pupil's work and outcomes.

Pupils demonstrate their learning and provide tangible evidence of progress through a variety of activities and performances, including structured written work, annotated diagrams and creative responses.

Lessons encourage discussion, reflection and verbal explanations. This allows teachers to capture pupils' understanding through questioning, class discussions and recorded responses, supporting a broader view of progress beyond written work.

Through regular assessment, pupil voice and opportunities to revisit and apply learning, we ensure that all children — including those with additional needs — make sustained progress. By the time they leave Ormiston Cliff Park Primary Academy, pupils are equipped with the musical knowledge, skills and mindset to thrive in the next stage of their education. They are also able to take the transferable skills they have learnt into their lives at secondary school and the wider world.