

Butlers Hill Infant & Nursery School
Music Policy

1. Aims and Objectives

At Butlers Hill Infant School we believe that music education has a very important part to play in the development of the individual. We aim to ensure that children gain enjoyment and excitement from listening to and taking part in music and that they become aware that music is all around us and often plays an important role in our lives.

2. Aims in Music

Music should be part of our everyday lives to enhance the quality of everything we do. Music should not be a specialist subject for a few people; all of us have the potential to enjoy making and listening to music. Our philosophy of music education is based on the principle that it should be fun and engaging for all concerned, and that every child is a born musician. We believe that music is like magic and that it has a role to play in every aspect of all of our lives, wherever and whoever we are.

3. ROLES & RESPONSIBILITIES

The Subject Leader will lead the development of Music within the whole school curriculum in partnership with the pianist. They will ensure full coverage of the subject and develop and maintain the resources to support the teaching and learning of the subject.

4. Context of the School

Butlers Hill Infant and Nursery School takes children from 3 to 7 years encompassing the Foundation Stage and Key Stage One. A significant number of pupils enter Nursery with poor language skills i.e. they have some difficulty listening and responding to verbal actions and their spoken language is limited. These difficulties may be as a result of the limitations of their environment, physiological dysfunction or the combined effects of both. Children exhibiting difficulties make up a large proportion of our school population (see school Self Evaluation report for current statistics). We aim to identify these children as early as possible when they enter the Foundation Stage.

5. Content – Schemes of Work and Planning

Each class has a taught music session each week where all the children in the school have the opportunity to sing, play percussion instruments and begin learning simple musical notation and terminology. The class teacher plans the musical experiences each half term to meet the objectives set for the class.

The music curriculum seeks to develop the child's knowledge and understanding of music, listening skills and the interrelated skills of performing, composing and appraising. Children have the opportunity to sing, explore sounds and dance or move to music. They are able to develop an

understanding of how sounds are made and changed and the patterns and moods that different sounds create. They will experience a wide range of music reflecting the many different cultural traditions of the world. The school also provides extra experiences through outside providers throughout the school year. Children also listen to music during their PE and dance sessions and during lessons. In addition, music is played as children come into assembly. This changes each half term and is planned by the music coordinator to ensure that children are introduced to a variety of famous composers; both modern and classical. Information about the composer and the piece of music is displayed for the children to learn about.

Planning in the Foundation Stage

Music planning uses the Charanga music scheme. The planning aims to emphasise making music fun by singing action songs, playing musical games, responding to music and extending skills in the understanding of musical concepts. These skills are consolidated and extended during time in class and outdoors with the constant provision of musical instruments for the children to work with. ICT is often linked with music with the provision of magic microphones, CD and tape players, keyboards and interactive toys.

Planning in Key Stage One

Music planning is based on the National Curriculum for Key Stage One and teachers use Charanga Music Scheme.

Children learn to sing and perform simple songs. In F2 and Year 1 children learn to use glockenspiels to make music. In Year 2 children learn to play the recorder.

ALSO:

- Year 1 takes part in a Christmas performance
- F2 takes part in an Easter performance
- F1 and Year Two produce a performance at the end of the year. Graduation ceremony (F1) Leavers Service (Yr 2)
- A recorder club meets weekly for Year 2 children, with opportunities to perform to parents and other year groups

6. Resources

All instruments are stored in the main hall and the Nursery and Reception classes have their own small set of instruments.

7. ASSESSMENT

Pupils in F1 & 2 are assessed against the Ages and Stages and Foundation Stage Profile for Understanding of the World.. Pupils in Years 1 and 2 are assessed against the National Curriculum

level descriptions for Music. In addition Charanga Music scheme provides an assessment document for each unit taught and teachers assess each unit against this criteria as they are taught. Verbal feedback is given to children in each session. Pupils are also given regular opportunities to record and watch their music performance within each unit. They are then encouraged to evaluate their performance and suggest improvements.

8. Equal Opportunities

Every child has the opportunity to take part in a full range of musical activities regardless of race, gender or disability.

*E.Cunnington
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