

Curriculum Overview for Music at Bayford

September 2023

Early Years Foundation Stage

In EY musical learning much of the learning and creativity happens subconsciously through simple songs, rhymes, dances and musical games. We focus on singing and use simple percussion instruments to help our children to build their confidence and consolidate their ability to pitch-match, keep a steady beat, sing in their head, understand high and low and tap simple rhythms. EY music is often linked to other topics and is usually part of every school day. Children enjoy more complex songs in our weekly whole-school singing assemblies. Children are encouraged to engage with and respond to recorded music through movement. EY children usually have a music lesson with our specialist music teacher every fortnight.

Class 1

In class 1 the children continue to learn through play and enjoy a range of songs, rhymes, dances and musical games. Through these activities they develop and build upon their musicianship skills (pulse, rhythm, phrase, pitch, dynamics, tempo), explore their own creativity and learn to play a range of untuned percussion instruments. Much of the learning in Class 1 lays strong foundations for the musical literacy learning in classes 2 and 3. Class 1 take part in our weekly whole-school singing assemblies which often include songs in 2 or 3 parts. Children are encouraged to engage with and respond to recorded music through movement and language. The class teacher includes music in most school days and often connects it with other curriculum areas. Additionally, Class 1 have a music lesson with our specialist music teacher every fortnight.

Class 2

In Class 2 the children learn a range of songs and rhymes many of which include dances, games and percussion instruments (tuned and untuned). Through songs and instrumental activities class 2 children will develop the ability and confidence to work successfully in two and three parts. Musicianship skills learnt in KS1 are consolidated and built upon to develop musical literacy in rhythm (simple-time stick notation) and pitch (solfa doh re me and la so me). These skills are then used in improvisation and to notate mini-compositions. Where appropriate, music is used across other curriculum areas. Children are encouraged to engage with and respond to recorded music in a variety of ways, expressing opinions and musical tastes and learning about the musicians and composers. Class 2 often take a leading role in our weekly whole-school singing assemblies and perform as a choir at the Hertford Ware and District Schools Carol Service. Class 2 have a weekly music lesson led by our specialist music teacher with the class teacher who, when appropriate, often includes music across the rest of the week.

Class 3

In Class 3 the children learn a range of songs and rhymes many of which include dances, games and percussion instruments (tuned and untuned). Through songs and instrumental activities class 3 children will consolidate their two and three parts. Musicianship skills learnt in KS1 are consolidated and built upon to develop musical literacy in rhythm (simple-time stick notation) and pitch (solfa doh re me and la so me). Children explore their creativity by contributing to decisions on whole class arrangements of songs, through mini composition projects and regular improvisation within games and activities. Where appropriate, music is used across other curriculum areas. Children are encouraged to engage with and respond to recorded music in a variety of ways, expressing opinions and musical tastes and learning about the musicians and composers. Class 3 often take a leading role in our weekly whole-school singing assemblies and perform as a choir at the Hertford Ware and District Schools Carol Service. Class 3 have a weekly music lesson led by our specialist music teacher with the class teacher who, when appropriate, includes music across the rest of the week.