

ALDER COPPICE PRIMARY SCHOOL

Achievement through Commitment

Music Rationale

Rationale

At Alder Coppice our music lessons offer enjoyable learning experiences which are accessible to all our children. We aim to make the music lessons fun and inspiring, engaging the children with songs, lyrics and movement in order to build up their confidence. Music teaching at Alder Coppice follows the requirements of the Early Learning Goals, National Curriculum for Music and the new model music curriculum; providing a broad and balanced curriculum; ensuring the progressive development of musical concepts, knowledge and skills. The Sing Up scheme we use aims for every child to have access to high-quality, practical, and engaging musical experiences ensuring pupils revisit key musical skills throughout each Unit of work and therefore enables progression in key areas of music development. We want all children to develop the self-confidence, skills, knowledge, and understanding to develop a lifelong love of music, whilst also providing a secure foundation that enables them to take music further should they wish to. The children therefore, gain a firm understanding of what music is through listening, appraising, singing, playing, composing and performing.

Intent

Sing Up Music is designed and written by subject specialists. It sets out the skills, knowledge, and understanding to be gained by all pupils at each stage of learning, including the Early Years Foundation Stage. Together, the Units (for EYFS to Year 6) provide complete and progressive Units that meet the requirements of the National Curriculum for Music, the suggested approaches of the Model Music Curriculum, as well as the Statutory Framework for Early Years Foundation Stage and Music Development Matters.

Early Learning Goals:

Being Imaginative and Expressive Children at the expected level of development will:

- Sing a range of well-known nursery rhymes and songs;
- Perform songs, rhymes..., with others, and – when appropriate – try to move in time with music.

Music Development Matters:

The aims cover the following aspects of musical learning and development:

- Hearing and Listening
- Vocalising and Singing
- Moving and Dancing
- Exploring and Playing

Key Stage 1 & 2

The national curriculum for music aims to ensure that all pupils:

- Perform, listen to, review and evaluate music across a range of historical periods, genres, styles and traditions, including the works of the great composers and musicians.
- Learn to sing and to use their voices, to create and compose music on their own and with others, have the opportunity to learn a musical instrument, use technology appropriately and have the opportunity to progress to the next level of musical excellence.
- Understand and explore how music is created, produced and communicated, including through the inter-related dimensions: pitch, duration, dynamics, tempo, timbre, texture, structure and appropriate musical notations.

Key Stage 1 National Curriculum Attainment:

Pupils should be able to:

- Use their voices expressively and creatively by singing songs and speaking chants and rhymes.
- Play tuned and untuned instruments musically.
- Listen with concentration and understanding to a range of high-quality live and recorded music.
- Experiment with, create, select and combine sounds using the inter-related dimensions of music.

Key stage 2 National Curriculum attainment:

Pupils should be able to:

- Pupils should be taught to sing and play musically with increasing confidence and control. They should develop an understanding of musical composition, organising and manipulating ideas within musical structures and reproducing sounds from aural memory.
- Pupils should be taught to:
- play and perform in solo and ensemble contexts, using their voices and playing musical instruments with increasing accuracy, fluency, control and expression
- improvise and compose music for a range of purposes using the inter-related dimensions of music
- listen with attention to detail and recall sounds with increasing aural memory
- use and understand staff and other musical notations
- appreciate and understand a wide range of high-quality live and recorded music drawn from different traditions and from great composers and musicians
- develop an understanding of the history of music.

Implementation

At Alder Coppice we include a range of teaching strategies and techniques aimed at enhancing long term retention of substantive knowledge, including regular retrieval practice. The full

details of these can be found in our *Curriculum Policy*. We plan to ensure pupils revisit key themes and concepts and retrieve key knowledge to support long term memory, which will drive student progress and raise standards across the curriculum.

Throughout EYFS and both Key Stages in Music lessons, our pupils will learn that music is a universal language that embodies one of the highest forms of creativity. Music lessons will engage and inspire pupils to develop a love of music and develop their talent as musicians, and in turn increase their self-confidence, creativity and sense of achievement. As pupils progress, they should develop a critical engagement with music, allowing them to compose, and to listen with discrimination to a wide range of music.

The Sing Up scheme of work provides excellent learning sequences and access to a range of songs, scores and audio tracks to support implementation of a quality music curriculum.

Each unit of work has an on-going musical learning focus to enable previous musical skills to be embedded. Music lessons are built around progression in the areas of *Improvising and Composing, Singing and Playing, Listening and Appraising*, which enables revisiting these key areas in all Units of learning. The collecting of evidence to demonstrate pupil progress is also written into each year group's units of work – a 'Progression snapshot activity' - as part of a Unit at three points during the year – September, February, and June.

Please refer to our Long Term Plan for an overview of the Units taught.

Performance is at the heart of music teaching and learning at Alder Coppice and all pupils participate in performances throughout the year, including a special themed Harvest celebration. Each Christmas sees Foundation Stage put on a Nativity production while Key Stage 1 also perform in school. Pupils from Year 3 to Year 6 perform at our annual carol concert held at a local Church. Every two years, pupils are also encouraged to perform at the annual Young Voices Concert at Birmingham's LG Arena. Parents are invited and welcomed to watch all of these performances whether at school or outside of school.

Music is also embedded at Alder Coppice with the opportunity for children to learn a range of individual instruments, including violin, guitar, flute and keyboard. These lessons are arranged by Dudley Performing Arts and delivered by visiting Peripatetic staff. Pupils that learn a musical instrument have the opportunity to sit examinations and perform at our carol concert and assemblies. Staff willingly provide a range of extra-curricular musical activities including Singing Club, Recorder Club and Musical Theatre Club free of charge.

Impact

The Music Curriculum at Alder Coppice is high quality, and is planned to demonstrate progression, building on and embedding current skills in the different musical components as set out in the Sing Up progression documents on the Sing Up website (Singup.org).

Pupils develop their knowledge, skills and understanding of the inter-related dimensions of music as well as their composition, listening and appraising skills. Throughout all of this the child's enjoyment of music is a key element, running alongside the 'taught' musical skills and objectives.

The integral nature of music and the learner creates an enormously rich palette from which a student may access fundamental abilities such as: achievement, self-confidence, interaction with and awareness of others, and self-reflection. Music will also develop an understanding of culture and history, both in relation to students individually, as well as ethnicities from across the world. Children are able to enjoy music, in as many ways as they choose - either as listener, creator or performer. Music has also been seen to have a positive impact on well-being and consequently Music can support our pupils' mental health.

Through the child's journey at Alder Coppice, our pupils will be equipped with musical skills and knowledge that will enable them to be ready for the curriculum at Key Stage 3 and for life as an adult in the wider world, where they can further develop their skills and continue to enjoy and embrace music in their lives.