

Music Curriculum Design

All children at Alexandra Park will be engaged in a music curriculum that is inspiring and creative which reflects our core values of Care, Aspire, Achieve. We will teach a logical musical curriculum that builds on children’s musical knowledge and skills where they will become independent, resilient and co-operative learners. As children progress they will begin to develop a greater depth of knowledge, allowing them to listen with deeper understanding, compose with greater creativity and perform with increased confidence.

Care	Aspire	Achieve
<p>Music has the potential to make a significant contribution to children’s development: increasing confidence and self-esteem, developing leadership, team working, concentration and problem-solving skills, and developing identity and improving social cohesion within the school and wider community. Children will also develop an understanding of the relationship between music and the arts through history, culture, the wider world and how they and others fit into the world in which they live.</p>	<p>Studying music enables children to explore ideas, work collaboratively, question, record experiences and produce a range of creative outcomes allowing them to become better musicians and develop a real love of learning. All children will have opportunities to express themselves so they can achieve their potential where they feel valued as individuals transferring these skills into other areas of learning. Through enrichment opportunities and learning to play a range of instruments children will have the opportunity to experience ‘hands on’ experiences and make connections.</p>	<p>Our music curriculum ensures that children achieve a balance of knowledge and skills in each unit of study which is built upon in each lesson. As children learn they will develop an appreciation of music whilst increasing their self-confidence, sense of achievement and enjoyment in every lesson. Teachers will ensure that children are supported through scaffolding and challenge so that all pupils can achieve in every lesson.</p>

Intent	<p>At Alexandra Park, we believe that music inspires children's curiosity and fascination where they will have the opportunity to learn to play a range of musical instruments, develop an awareness of different genres of music, to be taught by a specialist music teacher and have the opportunities to engage in performances which will remain with them for the rest of their lives. Children are encouraged to develop their knowledge about musical diversity through the curriculum at Alexandra Park enabling children to develop knowledge and skills that are transferable to other subjects. The curriculum is designed to ensure that as pupils progress through school, their growing knowledge about music helps to deepen their understanding. The Progression of Key Skills Document and long term plans are designed to ensure that learning is sequential and developed over time and allows children to build on prior knowledge to ensure that children know more and remember more.</p> <p>Children will follow Charanga , an online musical school, to support their learning and deepen their understanding of the music curriculum across school along with learning to play a range of tuned and untuned instruments, learning about World Music and African drumming techniques by Bangdrum and enrichment activities provided by Rocksteady.</p>
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Implementation	<p>At Alexandra Park, we implement a music curriculum that is designed to be both progressive and cumulative, allowing children to not only revisit skills taught previously as they progress through the school, but also to improve upon them and feel a sense of achievement as they do so. As the children move through the school, their lessons change and adapt to reflect their growth. Skills based work extends into exploration, which in turn develops their ear for melody and rhythm, thereby giving them confidence to begin analysing music they hear using the correct musical vocabulary. This approach allows children to feel a sense of success, and the differentiation built into the lessons ensures all can take part. A variety of teaching approaches are used and lessons are planned to include opportunities for children to work as pairs, in groups and to work independently.</p> <p>Music is taught weekly, focusing on the knowledge and skills stated in the National Curriculum and Key Progression Document ensuring that knowledge builds progressively and that children develop skills systematically. Connections between subjects are made to reinforce learning where appropriate. Music teaching focuses on enabling children to think as musicians.</p> <p>Within our music teaching we include ‘The Seven Steps’ to support children to develop key knowledge and vocabulary. (Movement, Games, Creativity, Ownership, Challenge, Meaning, Celebration). New information and knowledge is introduced in small steps, differentiated when appropriate.</p>
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	<p>Effective questioning is a crucial component of all our lessons. Key questions are planned to encourage children to think about their learning, to reflect upon previous learning and to make connections between new and existing learning. We encourage children to build upon their peers' learning. We encourage adults and children to use both rich language and precise vocabulary linked to the subject area that they are learning so that they can understand it and can then use it to reason, articulate and make generalisations.</p>
Impact	<p>Evidence will be gained through pupil voice, lesson observations and performing showing that children can articulate and demonstrate their musical knowledge, skills and understanding using the correct vocabulary. Children will be able to make connections through what they hear, learning to play instruments and enrichment opportunities therefore becoming confident in recognising the inter-related dimensions of music (pulse, pitch, rhythm, dynamics, timbre) through listening, appraising, composing and performance opportunities.</p>