# Intent

Our intentions in the teaching of Music at Upton Westlea are:

* For the children to know and understand how sounds are made and then organised into musical structures;
* To develop pupil’s enjoyment of playing and performing in a group;
* To develop children’s skills in using music notation such as reading chords, recognizing rhythms and notes;
* For children to develop their singing through a range of songs;
* For children to develop their improvising and composing skills and encourage our pupils to find their own creative voices;
* To develop the children’s listening and appraising skills to a wide range of music;
* To develop and support pupils’ understanding of the cultural, social and historical context of music, drawing from a broad and diverse range of musical traditions and cultures.
* To know how music is made through a variety of instruments;
* To know how music is composed and written down;
* To know how music is influenced by the time, place and purpose for which it was written;
* To develop the interrelated skills of performing, composing and appreciating music;
* Encouraging our children’s understanding and enjoyment of music through an active involvement in listening, composing and performing;
* Provide the opportunity for children to develop their individual skills, sharing experience and cooperating with others;
* Help children to develop an awareness of musical traditions and developments from a variety of culture.

Implementation

We aim to make music an enjoyable learning experience. We encourage children to participate in a variety of musical experiences through which we endeavor to build up the confidence of all children. Children are given the opportunity to discover, explore and develop technical skills through practical music lessons. This involves both whole class and small group activities.

We use the programme of Sing up to support the teaching of Music. The programme consists of units of work including:

* Six week units which are based around a song, and the musical learning flows from the features of the piece. Taking an integrated approach, these unites combine singing and playing, listening and appraising as well as improvising and composing.
* Three week units which are grouped to cover a half term which focus more heavily on composing/improvising or on listening/appraising. These units support pupils to find their own creative voices. The listen and appraise units vary, with some focusing on active ways to listen for deeper and more internalised experience through movement, dance or art activity.

Pupils’ understanding of music will be developed through activities which bring together the requirements of performing, composing, listening and appraising. Children are taught to recognise the musical elements of duration, dynamics, pitch, tempo, timbre and texture.

Children are taught to make music together, to understand musical notation, and to compose pieces. They are also taught to sing and play in time controlling the sound and pace. They are taught different ways to represent sounds graphically and symbolically.

We teach them to listen to and appreciate different forms of music from various backgrounds and cultures. Assembly songs are also linked to various annual celebrations and festivals such as Harvest, Christmas. We also have a composer of the term and their music is played at the beginning of the assemblies as the children walk in. Again, this provides children with the opportunity to learn about a variety of musicians through time and their music.

In Year 5, children are provided with the opportunity to participate in a whole class instrumental teaching scheme which is provided by Edenstial. These lessons help the children to further develop their skills in making music together and understanding musical notation.

Impact

* We assess the children’s work in music while observing them working during lessons. Teachers assess the progress made by children against the musical learning statements intended for their lessons.
* Musical learning statements are collated for each year group and organized by Improvising/Composing, Singing/Playing and Listening/Appraising.
* At the end of a unit of work, the acquisition of knowledge, skills and understanding in music will be measure using teacher assessment. Attainment and progress will be measured and recorded against assessment objectives for each year group which has been developed with a whole-school progression. The assessment of all children is recorded on Insights. We pass this information on to the next teacher at the end of each year.
* Children are encouraged to assess and evaluate both their own work and that of other pupils. This helps them to appreciate how they can improve their performance, and what their targets should be for the future.
* Lesson observations, planning and class music book reviews will take place.
* Any developments will be identified, and results will be incorporated into the music action plan shared with staff and school governors.