

## **Music at Southover School**

We love Music at Southover: it is at the heart of our celebrations and wider school life bringing vibrancy to our whole lives. The intention of our Music Curriculum is to develop a lifelong enjoyment of Music as a means of expression, relaxation, reflection and spiritual well-being.

### **Intent**

Our intention is for children to enjoy and develop their skills in fun, practical music making and to develop an appreciation of wide range of genres of music from a variety of cultures and historical eras; it is also a means of developing tolerance of the views and preferences of others, of valuing and respecting their endeavours, of working as a team and sharing a collective experience. We intend our children and the families in our school community to leave Southover with lifelong memories of musical enjoyment.

We aim to ensure that all pupils:

- Perform, listen to, review and evaluate music; be taught to sing, create and compose
- Understand and explore how music is created, produced and communicated
- Find enjoyment in a range of different music genres, cultures and eras
- Are confident in expressing their musical ideas
- Have a range of performing experiences and opportunities

At Southover, the intention is that children gain a firm understanding of what music is through listening, singing, playing, evaluating, analysing, and composing across a wide variety of historical periods, styles, traditions, and musical genres. Our objective is to develop a passion and enjoyment of the subject, as well as an understanding and acceptance of the validity and importance of all types of music, and an unbiased respect for the role that music may play in different cultures. We are committed to ensuring children understand the value and importance of music in the wider community.

### **Implementation**

Our Music Curriculum ensures that children have a range of opportunities to sing, listen, perform, compose and evaluate. This is embedded in classroom activities as well as weekly singing assemblies and a variety of performances and community events (eg our own Christmas, Harvest and Year 6 shows and events; the Big Christmas Sing; ad hoc events eg working with local composers, conductors and Sussex University) and visiting musicians (eg Lewes Chamber Orchestra, Beat Goes On). Children also have the opportunity to learn an instrument in school through Create Music (our local hub) or to join one of our music clubs which include (and have included): Choir, Orchestra, Steel Pans Club, Flute Club.

To deliver the Music curriculum, we :

- use a combination of activities from SingUp, BBC 10 Easy Pieces, Music Express or our own planning based on the Skills Progression overview provided by the Music Coordinator.
- use a range of musical instruments and, where appropriate (in older classes – particularly Year 6), encourage children to bring in their own instruments; we currently teach the recorder (and introduce standard notation) in Years 3 and 4 and have recently introduced the ukulele to Years 5 and 6
- begin lessons with warm-ups, games starters (especially with singing)
- adapt lessons to include SEND eg providing an alternative instrument or a simple (eg 1 note) part if needed; provide challenge for more able children (eg accommodate own instruments or opportunities to lead)
- take part in the musical experience with the children, sharing our own enthusiasm for the subject including singing with the children during assemblies and sharing our own musical talents etc
- find opportunities for listening and musical appreciation outside of the class music lesson use music in other subjects eg as stimulus for writing, art, dance and as a source of history (eg learning about the 1980s by comparing Madonna's Material Girl with Elvis Costello's Shipbuilding)
- where appropriate use music to establish a calm and peaceful atmosphere and promote the benefit of music to lift mood and aid concentration – promoting the holistic benefits of music
- involving the community - musical visitors are encouraged to come to the school (from all genres and cultures, professional and amateur) and children are encouraged to share their skills with others eg in assemblies and to their own classes

### Impact

We hope the impact of our Music Curriculum will continue on to Secondary School, into the wider community and throughout our children's lives. We would hope that in addition to successfully mastering the skills in our well-planned curriculum, impact would be evident by:

- the children's enthusiasm and enjoyment of the subject
- their eagerness to discuss their musical preferences and to listen to new material with an open mind respecting the beliefs, values and culture of others
- a desire (and the skills) to take part in music making either formally or informally
- an enjoyment of performing and an appreciation of the sense of community this instils at all levels and the joy it brings to others
- lifelong memories of musical enjoyment