

Music Curriculum for Dr. Walker's Primary School

All children at Dr. Walker's take part in weekly music lessons delivered by a specialist music teacher. We perform at a number of church services during the year - Harvest, St. Nicholas Day, Carols around the Tree and The Easter Service.

All our children also take part in performances at Christmas/end of summer term - music is an integral part of these performances.

A number of children in the school also learn recorder or the keyboard. All classes have opportunity during the school year to play a range of musical instruments and these feature in our school concert to parents during the Easter term.

Purpose of study

Music is a universal language that embodies one of the highest forms of creativity. A high-quality music education should engage and inspire pupils to develop a love of music and their talent as musicians, and so 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 the best in the musical canon.

Aims

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.

Attainment targets

By the end of each key stage, pupils are expected to know, apply and understand the matters, skills and processes specified in the relevant programme of study.

Subject content

Key stage 1

- 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

Pupils are 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 are 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.