

Music



Intent

At Mendlesham Primary School, we want our music provision to shape our pupils into being well-rounded, knowledgeable individuals with a lifelong love and appreciation of music. It is a universal language that embodies one of the highest forms of creativity. We ensure that children are engaged and inspired to develop a love of music and their talent as musicians, and so increase their self-confidence, creativity and sense of achievement. With progression, they will develop a critical engagement with the diversity of music, allowing them to compose, and to listen with discrimination, to a wide repertoire, gaining valuable knowledge of the historical, social and cultural origins of music.

Using Kapow scheme, we aim to ensure that all pupils can:

- 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 from a wider cultural background
- learn to sing and to use their voices, to create, improvise 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.

Implementation

We ensure that sufficient time is given to music in order to enable pupils to meet the expectations set out in the National Curriculum programme of study. Music planning follows a spiral approach, with key skills and concepts developed and re-visited, challenging children and building on previous learning. To further enhance musicianship and creativity, children take part in weekly singing assemblies, along with concert experiences, visiting workshops and visits throughout the year. We truly believe, as Education Endowment Foundation indicates, that the impact of arts participation is positive and improved outcomes have been identified in the core subjects - English, Mathematics and Science. Research suggests that arts participation has a greater effect on average for younger learners and in some cases for disadvantaged pupils. Wider benefits include more positive attitudes to learning and increased well-being.

As part of the government's Model Music Curriculum, which states that every child should have the opportunity to learn a musical instrument, the Suffolk Music Service provides music provision to our Year 4 and 5s each year, providing them with the opportunity to learn to play an instrument as well as develop other skills as part of whole class ensemble teaching. Each year, our children have the opportunity to apply their skills and perform in the annual Whole Class Ensemble Teaching music festival event. Children who wish to continue developing their instrument skills can progress to the play on scheme with the Suffolk Music Service.

Impact

We want our music provision to engage and inspire children to become musical and creative. In order to achieve this, our children will show:

- a rapidly widening repertoire, which they use to create original, imaginative, fluent and distinctive composing and performance work.
- a musical understanding underpinned by high levels of aural perception, internalisation and knowledge of music, including high or rapidly developing levels of technical expertise.
- very good awareness and appreciation of different musical traditions and genres.
- an excellent understanding of how musical provenance – the historical, social and cultural origins of music – contributes to the diversity of musical style.
- the ability to give precise written and verbal explanations, using musical terminology effectively, accurately and appropriately.
- a passion for and commitment to a diverse range of musical activities.

We monitor the impact of our music provision through regular whole school pupil and staff perceptions, termly assessments and regular drop-ins to music sessions.

Full details of our curriculum can be found on our [website](#). Progression of knowledge and skills documents are available from the school.