

Portway Junior School - Music - Intent, Implementation and Impact Statement

“Music is a universal language that embodies one of the highest forms of creativity. 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.” (The National Curriculum)

The music curriculum at Portway Junior School intends to provide a high-quality music education that engages, inspires and challenges pupils. Our objective is to ensure that all children have the opportunity to develop a love for music and to deepen their understanding of music across different cultures, genres and styles. We aim to foster a sense of confidence and self-expression through music-making, building a strong foundation for future musical exploration and enjoyment.

Alongside the Music Express Scheme and the aims of the National Curriculum, our music teaching offers children a well-rounded and enriching educational experience that not only nurtures their musical talents but also fosters creativity, critical thinking, and teamwork.

At Portway Junior School, music is implemented through a well-designed and sequenced curriculum that is tailored to meet the needs of individual learners in our school community. Our lessons are taught as a discrete lesson following units from the Music Express scheme of work for each year group but also across the curriculum through making use of cross curricular opportunities, where relevant, to listen and respond to music. Areas of learning, such as times tables in maths, vocabulary in languages and English and movement in dance, to name a few, can all incorporate different elements of music.

Our music curriculum ensures children sing, listen, play, perform and evaluate effectively. This can be seen in the classroom through the structured music programme as well as weekly singing assemblies, various concerts and performances, musical clubs and teaching from specialist music teachers. All children acquire the skills of composition, emphasising various aspects of music, enriching their comprehension when they engage in listening, performing, or analysing music.

Inclusivity is at the heart of our approach, and pupils of all abilities are supported and encouraged to participate fully in music-making. Pupils are encouraged to work collaboratively in making music, developing their ability to perform as part of a team. As well as this, we organise regular musical performances, including assemblies, concerts, and musical productions, providing opportunities for pupils to showcase their talents and build confidence in their musical abilities.

The impact of our music education provision at Portway Junior School is evolutionary. Our pupils, and staff, will be confident and self-expressive in their music-making, demonstrating a love for music that is lifelong. Children develop into capable musicians who appreciate and can accurately describe different music genres and styles, both traditional and contemporary. As well as this, our children 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. Our project-based activities where music is at the forefront, such as school plays or musicals, as well as the creation of Glee, bring together children within the school or from other schools in a mutually beneficial, fun and creative experience.

Incorporating the Music Express music scheme into our curriculum has not only enriched our students' musical education but has also contributed to a more dynamic and culturally enriched learning environment at Portway Junior School. We believe that this program will continue to inspire our students for years to come, nurturing a lifelong love for music and fostering well-rounded individuals. Our pupils leave school with an informed understanding of the value of music in everyday life, cultural heritage and community events, and many have pursued music to grow their talents beyond school.