



Music at Mulbarton Primary School

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.

What does Music at Mulbarton Primary School look like?

Music is taught by class teachers and teaching assistants as both discrete lessons using Music Express as well as through topics to provide opportunities for cross-curricular learning. We also have access to Charanga, a scheme used and supported by the Norfolk Music Hub. Music Express informs the planning of lessons and may be adapted to consider the needs of our students, for example by changing the sequence or duration of units in response to their prior learning or relevant topics.

There is a clear and systematic development of musical skills throughout each year group, shown in our Skills Progression documents. For instance, children would begin their learning journey by making marks to show short and long sounds, progressing to the use of formal rhythm notation to depict different note durations.

We believe that singing plays an important role not only in children's musical learning but in their social and cultural development too. KS1 and KS2 take part in weekly singing assemblies where there is an emphasis on accurate pitch matching, articulation and encouraging good vocal skills. Children sing a range of pieces in both one and two parts. We use the resource Sing Up and Out of the Ark as a tool for singing.

We subscribe to the Norfolk Music Hub package which offers a range of musical opportunities such as virtual music assemblies, live musical performances, and information regarding outside musical agencies.

All children have the opportunity to learn a musical instrument in school. Individual instrumental lessons are provided by peripatetic tutors and include piano, keyboard, woodwind, guitar, and ukulele. Some children also take part in weekly Rocksteady sessions too which focuses on group music making and popular music.

We hold several events throughout the academic year in which we celebrate and share our music learning, including the Christmas and Summer Fayres and Year 6 provide an annual Christmas Carol Concert. We have previously collaborated with CASMA which is organised to support collaboration within music with other local schools.

Children also have opportunities to participate in musical activities outside the classroom, including a choir club. This year, the choir took part in the Young Voices concert at London's O2 Arena. They sang with a choir of over 8000 children and thoroughly enjoyed taking part. Choir club now takes place on a Friday lunchtime and are working towards sharing their singing within the local community.

Children in EYFS begin learning Music as a subject on entry to our school. The children have access to untuned instruments within their classrooms and have a "performance stage" in their outdoor environment. They use songs as part of their daily routines and make musical links within many early learning goals. They also have access to Music Express in readiness for joining KS1.

With the above provision put in place, we believe our children at Mulbarton will become creative individuals who develop a love of Music. With the knowledge they gain, the children can use Music in their future lives and will have gained a passion for a subject.