Music

Curriculum Intention

At Harvills Hawthorn, our school vision is for all members of our school “to be the very best we can be”. As part of this vision and in order to meet the national curriculum for music. Our aim is to ensure that all children:

- perform, listen to, review and evaluate music
- be taught to sing, create and compose music
- understand and explore how music is created, produced and communicated.

At Harvills Hawthorn, children gain a firm understanding of what music is through listening, singing, playing, evaluating, analyzing and composing across a wide variety of historical periods, styles, traditions and musical genres. We are committed to developing a curiosity for the subject, as well as understanding and acceptance of the validity and importance of all types of music, and an unbiased respect for the role that music may wish to be expressed in any person’s life. We are committed to ensuring children understand the value and importance of music in the wider community and are able to use their musical skills, knowledge, and experiences to involve themselves in music, in a variety of different contexts.

Curriculum Implementation

At Harvills Hawthorn Primary School, we pride ourselves on the consistent approach to teaching and learning that can be observed across all phases of school. This is achieved through our commitment to cutting edge CPD and quality first teaching on a daily basis. Expectations of staff and pupils are high, resulting in good or outstanding progress in all phases. There is a universal understanding of what outstanding teaching, learning and assessment should entail. These strategies are consistently used throughout school and it is the expectation of leadership that all lessons will include a variety of these to enable learners to reach their full potential. Active learning is essential in all aspects of the lesson. All staff use the same terminology so that learners develop a knowledge and understanding of the different ways they learn.

At Harvills, we believe outstanding teaching, learning and assessment must include the following:

1. Challenge for all
2. Collaborative learning
3. Assessment for learning
4. Questioning
5. Progression within lessons and books
6. Learning behaviours
We are working hard to promote our pupils’ English and ensure that they all achieve to the very best of their ability. Pupils are encouraged to read widely and often. English is fundamental to all subjects. Consequently, we believe that all stakeholders have a role to play in supporting and developing our pupils’ English skills to ensure they can communicate effectively in today’s society. All children are expected to follow our school’s non-negotiables for presentation. This includes a focus on learning to write in the cursive script.

The music curriculum ensures children sing, listen, play, perform and evaluate. This is embedded in the classroom activities as well as the weekly singing assemblies, various concerts and performances, the learning of brass instruments and the opportunity to join our Choir.
A peripatetic music teacher (from SIPS Education) will teach all classes for nine weeks a year. Outside this time, class teachers will use the Charanga Musical School programme to deliver music lessons.
The elements of music are taught in the classroom lessons so that children are able to use some of the language of music to dissect it, and understand how it is made, played, appreciated and analysed. Composing or performing using body percussion and vocal sounds is also part of the curriculum, which develops the understanding of musical elements without the added complexity of an instrument.

**Curriculum Impact**

Whilst in school, children have access to a varied programme, which allows them to discover areas of strength, as well as areas they might like to improve upon. Music helps children to develop skills such as: self-confidence, interaction with and awareness of others, and self-reflection.
Music will also develop an understanding of culture and history, both in relation to children individually, as well as ethnicities from across the world. Children are able to enjoy music in as many ways as they choose – either as listener, creator or performer. The opportunities for children to learn an instrument, participate in clubs and perform will build children’s confidence, self-esteem and teamwork skills.