Aspull Church Primary School

Music Policy

Reviewed March 2026

School Vision

We shine like stars to achieve and make a difference in the world, knowing that with God, all things are possible.



Music Policy

Vision Statement

"We shine like stars to achieve and make a difference in the world, knowing that with God, all things are possible."

Music is valued highly at Aspull Church School. We believe it to be a powerful and unique form of communication that can change the way pupils feel, think and act. It is accessed by all and increases self-discipline and creativity, aesthetic sensitivity and fulfillment.

AIMS

These aims are intended for all pupils in school. How they are implemented will be dependent on the age and ability of the pupils.

- Evoke a creative response to music through experimentation e.g. singing, composition, movement.
- Provide activities that develop musical concepts and skills sequentially.
- Develop awareness of different cultures and traditions through music.
- Broaden understanding of a wide variety of eras and styles.
- Encourage the enjoyment of music and provide the opportunities to express ideas and feeling through music.
- Offer children the opportunity to experience personal satisfaction through making music together and to develop the skills necessary to achieve the highest possible standards in their learning.

TEACHING METHOD
The teaching method employed will vary according to the age, ability and experience of the children and according to the skill being taught.

The systematic and progressive 'Charanga Model Music Curriculum Scheme' and accompanying online teaching resources are used to teach throughout EYFS, KS1 and KS2. Our YR children also take part in the CHIMES project which is delivered by a teacher from the Wigan Music Service.
Year 4 are the exception to this as they access the Wider Opportunities Strings project during their weekly music lesson.

There are further opportunities throughout the year to develop singing skills during lessons and in preparation for performing at a range of school performances and church services.
The children can further develop their performance, composition and improvisation skills whilst exploring music from other cultures, using the 'Bamboo Tamboo' and 'Boomwhacker' resources.

ASSESSMENT AND RECORD KEEPING
Assessment is an on-going process brought about by:

- Observation of children working.
- Discussion with children before and after working.
- Listening to, watching and evaluating children's work.

Recordings of work will be made of children's work at the beginning, throughout and at the end of each unit to enable children to self and peer evaluate progress and attainment.
Children's composition work makes use of both live instruments and Charanga recording software. Compositions saved on Charanga can be accessed by the class teachers and evaluative discussions form an important part of each music unit.
We assess against the National Curriculum descriptors for Music.

CROSS-CURRICULAR CONNECTIONS
In addition to weekly music lessons there are many opportunities to teach music through topic-based learning. Where this is the case, these connections should be shown in teacher's planning for the topic being delivered and shared on Twitter when appropriate.

CELEBRATIONS OF SUCCESS

It is important that children's success in music is acknowledged and celebrated appropriately. Children have the opportunity to perform and showcase their work during Music lessons, to the rest of school and to parents. Some examples of this are:

- Our annual 'Music Makers' concert
- Class assemblies and unit of celebrations
- Christmas, Easter and summer productions
- Termly Wider Opportunities concerts
- Charity concerts and church services
- 'Young Voices' concerts
- GM Music Hub collaborations
- Annual 'Sing Up' day

SEND AND DIFFERENTIATION

Musical activities are particularly effective in the education of children with learning difficulties of any kind, ranging from physical to social to emotional problems. Music is broad and 'open-ended', providing opportunities to solve problems, to work independently, to work as a group and to be responsible for self-regulation. Most musical activities work well as class lessons and are appropriate for all children of any ability. Therefore music helps to focus on what makes children similar and equal – not different.

We make provision in Music for those children in our school with SEND and identify those who are more able or gifted.

MULTICULTURAL THEMES

We live in a multi-cultural society. Learning opportunities in Music, should where possible reflect this. Theme days and weeks are also planned to ensure that our children have opportunities to both listen to and perform in the musical styles of other cultures. We also make effective use of the GM Music Hub to provide musical workshops to further this appreciation and understanding.

RESOURCES

Most musical instruments are kept in the trolley within the music cupboard in KS2. The trolley can then be easily moved to classrooms. We have an excellent range of both tuned and un-tuned percussion instruments, including some from other cultures. Larger instruments such as xylophones, glockenspiels and drums are also kept in the music cupboard.

Staff and children can also access and use the Boomwhackers and Bamboo Tamboo to develop their understanding of rhythm, pitch and pulse.

There is a box of instruments suitable for Early Years and KS1 to use within the areas of Continuous Provision.

Children should be taught from an early age how to use and care for all these instruments and also to check each instrument before returning it to the labelled music trolley. The music co-ordinator needs to be kept informed of any problems so that instruments can be replaced or repaired.

All teachers have access to the valuable 'Sing Up' and 'Sparkyard' resources where songs can be chosen to develop learning in other curriculum areas.

ROLE OF CO-ORDINATOR

The music co-ordinator will:

- Provide advice and assistance to all staff when requested, in order to implement the music policy consistently throughout the school.
- Organise resources to support the school music policy and scheme of work.
- Co-ordinate purchasing, organisation and distribution of resources.
- Communicate with Wigan Music Services and the GM Music Hub to ensure that available opportunities are taken up by school.
- Liaise with outside agencies, other schools and colleges.
- Monitor the impact and success of music in our school, set actions and assess outcomes.

ENRCIHMENT/EXTRA-CURRICULAR MUSIC ACTIVITIES

A high percentage of our KS2 children access music lessons provided by teachers from Wigan Music Services. There is a good rate of uptake and many children choose to continue lessons into Y6 and beyond. These lessons take place in school time for small groups of children who wish to access this. The children are graded termly. Children make good progress and show great aptitude.

Our KS2 choir meet weekly to rehearse and perform to a high standard. They have opportunities to perform to an audience at several points during the year.

Some children who access Wider Opportunities lessons are selected to receive additional lessons at one of our local secondary schools. There are also 'Play days' throughout the year, where our instrumentalists can join children from other schools to practice and perform on their instruments.

All children who have music lessons at school or at home are encouraged to perform at our annual 'Music Makers' concert. This provides an opportunity for all family members, ex-pupils and member of staff to contribute perform alongside the children. They also have opportunities to perform to the rest of school during whole school collective worship.

Children are encouraged to take part in various performances both in and out of school. There are opportunities for the children to listen to various musicians and therefore to extend their musical experiences. These activities are monitored by the music co-ordinator.

Wigan Music Service teachers visit school annually to perform the 'Music Alive' concert. Children also attend the Wigan Music Service Summer Gala and Jazz concerts. In addition to this, we seek opportunities to take our children to listen to live orchestral music by the Halle Orchestra and to professional musical productions.

Parents and members of our local community are encouraged to attend musical performances where applicable.

All these activities provide valuable opportunities to link with the local community, parents and also to liaise with other schools. These opportunities will vary each year and will reinforce the fact to the children that music should be shared and should be seen as an exciting way of communicating and expressing feelings.