



Music at Danbury Park Community Primary School

At Danbury Park Community Primary School we teach Music as part of the Early Years Foundation Stage Framework and the National Curriculum.

Music is taught to all pupil from the Early Years Foundation Stage though to Year 6. Each class has a weekly timetabled lesson. At Danbury Park School we believe that children are entitled to high quality teaching of Music and so the lessons are prepared and delivered by a specialist teacher who is an experienced musician and instrumental teacher.

Music in Early Years Foundation Stage

We start teaching Music when children first join the school so that they are able to develop an early enjoyment of music. We do this through songs and experimenting with different instruments to find out how sounds are made. We listen to music by a variety of composers and create our own with the instruments. We have a Singing Assembly as a Key Stage each week in the first half of each term and also take part in the Harvest celebration and Christmas production, learning songs with actions for both performances.

Music in Key Stage 1

In Key Stage 1 we begin to make patterns in rhythm and pitch with the tuned and untuned percussion, working in small groups to create music that links to our topics. We begin to discover the instruments of the orchestra, continue to listen to different composers as we have a Composer of the Month to study, and we start to record in our music books the work that we do in class. The children in Year 2 take part in the Infant Music Festival, alongside other local schools learning songs to perform and instruments to play. We then adapt the production so that we can perform it for our families. All children in Key Stage 1 take part in Singing Assembly as a Key Stage each week in the first half of each term, learning songs to perform for the Harvest celebration and the Christmas production.

Music in Key Stage 2

In Key Stage 2 we continue to develop our work on rhythm and pitch to create more complex compositions. These are based on our topics for the most part, and the children learn different ways to notate the music they write. We continue to study the Composer of the Month, delving further into the techniques of composition and performance to gain a deeper understanding of how music works. We have a Singing Assembly as a Key Stage each week in the second half of each term and also take part in the Christmas production and Spring celebration, learning songs for both performances. In Year 4 we also have a term of learning an instrument as a whole class. We have offered the recorder and ukulele in different years.

Additional Opportunities for Music

At Danbury Park Community Primary School the children in Key Stage 2 have access to two inclusive lunchtime clubs: Orchestra and Choir, run by the specialist teacher. We encourage the children to share their talents and we give them the opportunity to work as part of a larger group and to perform for an audience.



In Orchestra the children are encouraged to play instruments that they learn both in and outside school. They are also able to try instruments, which are not part of their lessons, such as the chime bars and xylophone, and there is no minimum ability level.

All Key Stage 2 children are welcome to participate in the Choir, where we learn songs that are often in parts, and we focus on dynamics and technique. We participate in a choir competition with local school and each year the children from Years 5 and 6 are invited to participate in a large-scale singing event such as *Barnardos* and *Young Voices*. For these events we learn a selection of songs which we perform alongside many other schools at a special venue such as the Albert Hall and the O2 Arena in London.

Each year we perform a Christmas concert for the senior citizens in our community at their annual Christmas lunch. The children audition and those selected either take part in the concert or perform at our own Christmas productions.

Musicians and the choir also perform at our class assemblies as well as our half-termly *Celebration Assemblies*.

Peripatetic Teaching

Instrumental lessons are available to children in all years, and we currently offer the piano, recorder and guitar. All lessons are given by specialist teachers and there is a charge to parents. The lessons are 15 or 30 minutes long and take place either in the piano room or the DT room each week. The teachers offer a rolling timetable so the children are not always missing the same activity when they leave the classroom for their instrumental lessons.