

MUSIC CURRICULUM

'Music gives soul to the universe, wings to the mind and life to everything.'

Plato

Music: Intent

At our school, we believe that music is an integral part of a child's development, and we are committed to providing all our pupils with a high quality music curriculum.

We understand that involvement in music increases engagement in learning, improves self-esteem and gives pupils a sense of achievement. It also has powerful social benefits, providing a way to connect with others, changing the way we think, feel and act.

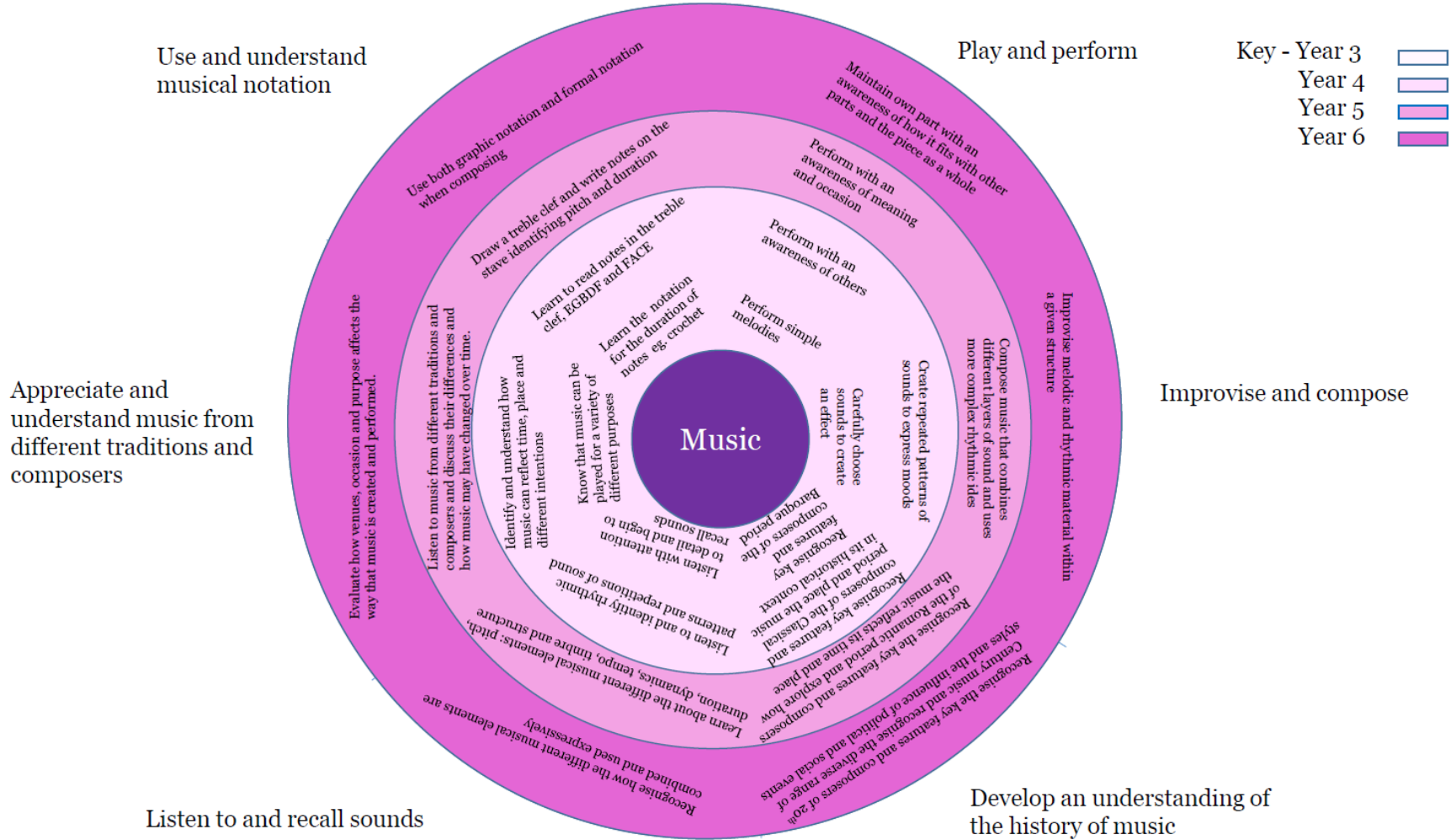
Alongside our music lessons, all our pupils have the opportunity to extend their musical skills and interests through extra-curricular activities, such as choir and orchestra. We also ensure that they have regular exposure to live music performed by professional musicians at prestigious venues.

We want every child to leave Nascot Wood Junior School with a lifelong enjoyment of music and to be inspired to continue to engage with music throughout their education and beyond.

What do we want the children to know?

	Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Spring 1	Spring 2	Summer 1	Summer 2
Year 3	Develop and understanding of the Baroque Period. (Vivaldi 'The Four Seasons' Handel 'Zadok the Priest')	Study music linked to celebrations around the world	Music notation – learn notation for duration of notes e.g. Crochet, minim, quaver	Learn key skills of composition to write a short piece based on the topic of Egypt	Develop the ability to learn and performing songs for the Year 3 production	Develop the key skills of composition to compose a jingle, and use basic notation to record these
Year 4	Learn how to play the recorder, including learning basic notation for G, A and B.	Learn and perform songs for the Year 4 play, building on performance skills learnt in year 3	Continue with learning the recorder, including basic notation for C and D	Write a composition based on the topic of Brazil. (Year 4 Samba drumming workshops)	Study the Classical Period of music history. (Beethoven 'Symphony no. 5' Mozart 'Horn Concerto')	Recap on recorder and revise notation.
Year 5	Write compositions based on rhythmic patterns using computer programme 'Audacity'	Learn how to sing in parts and rounds	Study the Romantic Period of music history. (Bizet 'Carmen' Tchaikovsky 'The Nutcracker')	Learn and perform more complex songs, based on Year 5 play	Music notation – recap on notation for duration and pitch from years 3 and 4. Begin to look at graphic notation	Further compositions using 'Audacity' programme.
Year 6	Study of John William's film music. Learning linked to Harry Potter studios visit	Compositions based on the Harry Potter score, using formal notation to record	Study of 20 th Century music. (Bernstein 'West Side Story' John Adams 'Short ride')	Learning how to use graphic notation to record sounds	Build on prior learning to perform songs for Year 6 production	Build on prior learning to perform songs for Year 6 production

What are the skills we teach?



Implementation



Music is an important part of our school culture, and its value is widely recognised.

The music curriculum helps children develop their listening skills, through their aural perception and their understanding of what it means to critically listen to a piece.

Children also taught to understand the importance of the history of music and its development.

Annual attendance at the school's carol service teaches the children about taking part in a religious service, which links to the work that we do in promoting British Values and the children's understanding of context.

We have a high percentage of children who have instrumental lessons taught by a specialist, and delivered in school by the Hertfordshire Music Service.

A number of children also have instrumental lessons out of school. The children benefit from these lessons by developing an understanding of the importance of practise, developing their coordination and performance skills.

We benefit from having a specialist music coordinator who is a music graduate, and provides high quality CPD to our Class Teachers. Music is taught discreetly in class and differentiated so that all children, including those with SEND, can access and benefit from it.

Enrichment experiences linked to the year group curriculum

Here are some of the musical experiences that we have arranged across the key stage, which are designed to be relevant to and enhance the children's experience in the classroom.

Event:	Young Voices		Event:	Hertfordshire Schools Gala
Venue:	02 Arena		Venue:	Royal Albert Hall
Frequency:	Annually		Frequency:	Every 2 years
Children involved:	Upper school choir		Children involved:	Year 6 choir
Event:	Schools matinee performance of 'Carmen' & 'Madam Butterfly'		Event:	Primary Proms
Venue:	Royal Opera House		Venue:	Royal Albert Hall
Frequency:	2017 & 2018		Frequency:	2018
Children involved:	Orchestra and Upper School Choir		Children involved:	All year 3
Event:	BBC 10 Pieces Concert		Event:	Joint Orchestra Concert with Cassiobury School
Venue:	Watford Colosseum		Venue:	The Clarendon Muse, WBGS
Frequency:	2018	Frequency:	Annually	
Children involved:	All year 5	Children involved:	Orchestra	

Event:	Music & Maths Workshop		Event:	Carol Service
Venue:	Royal Albert Hall		Venue:	St Andrews Church, Watford
Frequency:	2016 & 2018		Frequency:	Annually
Children involved:	All year 6		Children involved:	Whole School
Event:	A Christmas Fantasy Concert with the London Film Music Orchestra		Event:	Singer of the Year competition
Venue:	Watford Colosseum		Venue:	School
Frequency:	2019		Frequency:	Annually
Children involved:	Year 4 Choir		Children involved:	Whole School
Event:	Samba Drumming Workshop		Event:	Summer Concert
Venue:	School		Venue:	School
Frequency:	2019		Frequency:	Annually
Children involved:	Years 4 and 5		Children involved:	Orchestra and Choir

Event:	Joint Orchestra Concert with Cassiobury School		Event:	Carol singing
Venue:	The Clarendon Muse, WBGS		Venue:	Residential home for the elderly
Frequency:	Annually		Frequency:	Annually
Children involved:	Orchestra		Children involved:	Upper school Choir
Event:	Solo instrumental performance		Event:	Film Orchestra performance
Venue:	School-Achievement Assembly		Venue:	Watford Collesium
Frequency:	Weekly		Frequency:	By invitation
Children involved:	On request		Children involved:	Year 5

Impact

- Our children are confident and have the ability to perform to an audience
- Our children are respectful of other people's talent and have highly developed or developing listening skills
- KS2 results are consistently above national and Hertfordshire measures
- The school is consistently graded as outstanding by our Hertfordshire Improvement Partner
- Anecdotal evidence suggests that our past pupils do well at GCSE and A level, and are highly valued by secondary colleagues
- There is a large percentage of children each year who gain places at high performing secondary schools, both in the state and private sector

We evaluate the impact of what we teach by...

- Carefully monitoring and reporting on the progress and attainment of individual children and groups of children, and ensuring that staff have access to this information to inform their planning
- Identifying gaps between disadvantaged children and other children, and ways to address gaps if they occur
- Regularly consulting with children
- Working in partnership with parents

This process of evaluation results in a continuous and relentless striving for marginal gains improvement.