

ST MARGARET CLITHEROW CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

MUSIC

Learning for life,
Loving God, Ourselves and others
Valuing all of his Creation
Enabling us to do our best

Intent

What is the intent of the Art curriculum?

At St Margaret Clitherow Catholic Primary School, we believe that music is an essential part of every child's education and a powerful, universal language that fosters creativity, expression and connection. Our intent is to engage, motivate and inspire all pupils to develop a lifelong love of music and to nurture their potential as confident, reflective musicians who ***"...sing and make music from your heart to the Lord" (Ephesians 5:19)***

We are committed to delivering a broad, balanced and inclusive music curriculum that follows the National Curriculum for Music. Through high-quality, engaging and creative lessons, pupils experience singing, composing and listening to a diverse range of music from different times, cultures and traditions. As they progress, children develop a critical understanding of music, enabling them to thoughtfully express their own musical ideas with confidence.

Implementation

How does the curriculum allow all children to achieve?

Music is taught discreetly, but also woven throughout the life of our school, enriching experiences and bringing our community together.

We ensure that all children, including those with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) and those in receipt of pupil premium funding, are fully supported and able to access and succeed in music through appropriately adapted provision.

Through music, pupils develop key transferable skills such as teamwork, leadership, creative thinking, resilience, decision-making and performance. These skills enhance learning across the curriculum and beyond, helping every child to grow in confidence, self-expression and a sense of achievement.

How is prior knowledge revisited?

Prior musical knowledge is regularly revisited and reinforced throughout the year, ensuring that key skills and concepts are embedded and retained over time. Each year group follows a consistent structure of musical focus, allowing pupils to build progressively on prior learning and deepen their understanding as they move through the school.

How is assessment used effectively?

As music is a practical subject, it is assessed continuously through small-group focus within lessons, where teachers provide live, in-the-moment feedback to develop pupils' skills and understanding. Assessment is further supported through recordings of final performances, tracking of knowledge and skill progression including monitoring of pupils' engagement and participation in lessons, musical clubs and enrichment opportunities.

How is cultural capital developed through the curriculum?

At St Margaret Clitherow Catholic Primary School, we are committed to ensuring that every child experiences the joy and transformative power of music. Through high-quality music provision, pupils encounter a wide range of instruments—including string, woodwind, brass and percussion—alongside opportunities to perform in ensembles such as our school band and Rock Steady groups, developing both technical skill and an understanding of collaborative music-making.

We place strong emphasis on exposing children to meaningful live musical experiences. Our Junior Choir perform annually at the Tonbridge Lions School Concert and take part in the Young Voices choir at the O2 arena. These experiences allow children to engage with music on a professional stage, raising aspirations and deepening their appreciation of performance.

In addition, our participation in the English National Opera's composition programme immerses pupils in the creative process and introduces them to the world of professional music-making. Attending ENO-hosted celebration events gives children invaluable access to live performances by accomplished musicians, enriching their understanding of musical traditions and enabling them to see themselves as active participants in the cultural life of their community and beyond.

Impact

We measure the impact of our curriculum through the following methods:

- They will be able to develop a lifelong love and appreciation of music through rich and varied musical experiences.
- They will be able to explore curiosity, creativity, and personal expression through performing, composing, and engaging critically with music.
- They will be able to build confidence and cultural awareness through active participation in music-making opportunities.
- They will be able to make meaningful connections between music and other areas of the curriculum, strengthening their understanding of the world around them.

- They will be able to develop the skills, knowledge, and understanding needed to become well-rounded individuals.