

# Music

**Subject Leader: Mrs Arkless**

## **Subject Role**

Music is a universal language that embodies one of the highest forms of creativity. A high-quality music education should engage and inspire pupils to develop a love of music and their talent as musicians, and so increase their self-confidence, creativity and sense of achievement. As pupils progress, they should develop a critical engagement with music, allowing them to compose, and to listen with discrimination to the best in the musical canon.

## **Music at Larkspur**

Music at Larkspur allows pupils to perform, listen to, review and evaluate a range of music from different genres. Pupils learn to sing and to use their voices, to create and compose music on their own and with others. They have the opportunity to learn a musical instrument and understand and explore how music is created, produced and communicated, including through the interrelated dimensions: pitch, duration, dynamics, tempo, timbre, texture, structure and appropriate musical notations

## **Intent**

The intent of our Music curriculum is to ensure that children develop a sound knowledge of how music is constructed and become proficient in playing an instrument. Teaching and learning is progressive and built on previous years' coverage so that their knowledge and understanding is embedded. At Larkspur our curriculum is designed so that the pupils have a good understanding of musical terminology and can use this to describe different genres and styles. We also intend for pupils to have regular opportunities to showcase their skills through performance in assemblies and shows.

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## **Implementation**

Our approach to music is through a practical, skill-based curriculum which allows children to play a musical instrument. Music is taught through the expertise of the Gateshead Music Service.

In EYs and Y1 pupils are taught to sing, perform and compose simple songs, alongside being exposed to basic technical vocabulary. They use percussion instruments to enhance their music lesson.

In Year 2 pupils are taught to play the glockenspiel and read notation at a simple level.

In years 3 and 4 pupils progress to play the ukelele and technical vocabulary and notation is taught alongside these lessons.

In years 5 and 6 pupils progress to play the guitar and read notation, using technical vocabulary.

As well as this KS2 children have weekly singing lessons with a professional singing teacher. In each lesson they learn songs from a variety of genres and work towards a termly performance. They are taught how to breath correctly and explore harmonies and pitch.

For some of our older pupils, who are particularly gifted in music, we have established a Rock Band. Children select the instrument they want to learn and are instructed by the music teacher in each session. At the end of the year, they perform to the whole school.

After School Clubs also provide an opportunity for singing and once again children who are particular talented are given opportunities to showcase this.

## **Impact**

The impact of the approach to Music is that children develop confidence and an awareness of how to perform, evaluate and talk about music. Playing an instrument is very important to them and they enjoy the challenge and also the success it brings. Children are enthusiastic about art lessons and often thrive when interpreting, creating and practising skills. Children take pride in their work and get a sense of satisfaction and achievement as they see their skills progress.