

Music Curriculum

Intent

“Music is the universal language of mankind” (Henry Wadsworth Longfellow). We want all pupils at Crowmarsh to become competent in the language of music and use their musical skill, knowledge and experience to engage in music in a variety of different contexts.

At Crowmarsh, we ensure we deliver a music curriculum that embeds a deep respect and enjoyment for music. We want our children to become confident music critics, performers and composers who are not afraid to take a risk. Through our growth mind-set ethos the children understand their efforts are valued and every child is encouraged to perform at regular musical performance opportunities.

We aim for children to understand how music is linked to history, geography, mathematics, art and culture and other subjects by planning cross-curricular opportunities, developing their musical understanding and skills.

Implementation

At Crowmarsh the music curriculum ensures children sing, play tuned and untuned instruments, perform, compose, and evaluate. The curriculum is embedded through the use of Charanga Music School which is supported by Oxfordshire County Music service and we use the scheme of work which is drawn from the ‘DfE Model Music Curriculum’ (March 2021). This is musical progression is embedded through:

- A combination of weekly music lessons / blocked sessions
- weekly singing Collective Worship
- class and key stage performances
- concerts
- musical clubs
- peripatetic music teachers teaching a range of instruments including strings in year three and clarinets in year five.

The musical features are taught in lessons so that the children develop the language of music enabling them to understand how it is played and then appreciate, reflect and analyse. Learning and applying the features in lessons steadily increases development of musicianship during their time at Crowmarsh.

In each year group the children are introduced to music from differing historical periods, genres, styles and traditions, through live and recorded music. Key events of the music curriculum are taught through cross curricular links. Pupils at Crowmarsh are given regular opportunities to perform in class and to the local community.

Impact

Children develop the confidence to use their voice, tuned and untuned instruments to engage with music as a performer, music creator and an audience member. Children are able to reflect on music and appreciate a variety of genres. As they progress through the school the children use a growing range of musical terms for reflection. The children understand that music is an integral part of our cultural understanding. The children’s knowledge and skills develop progressively as they move through the school, not only to enable them to meet the requirements of the National Curriculum but to prepare them to ‘Think like a Musician’ in future learning.