



Picknalls First School

Music Curriculum Statement 2024-2025



Intent

'Music is a practical subject; it is academic, creative, technical, intellectual and challenging. Musical learning is about thinking and acting as a musician.' *Dr Alison Daubney (University of Sussex) and Professor Martin Fautley (Birmingham City University).*

At Picknalls First School we believe Music is very important to a child's life. Children should have opportunities to explore their musicality. Music education brings higher thinking to our children. Children have to be absolutely aware of what every other musician does at every time. It therefore promotes cooperation and teamwork.

We believe that children are having fun while they are making music through the lessons we teach.

On top of that, music develops self-discipline, self-worth and responsibility. Also their organizational skills increase and the child learns what it means to be "good" at something.

Implementation




At Picknalls we teach music through our Connected Curriculum so the children are getting a wide, engaging learning platform. We plan lessons using the National Curriculum objectives (see below) and we use a variety of resources e.g. Sing up, K2M, Music Express and TES. We also offer extra-curricular activities during school and after school. We run a recorder club and choir. We also have close links to the Middle School and will take part in their school productions. We also have lots of other opportunities for music to take place in our school during our weekly assemblies and other music concerts we hold throughout the year. The concerts we run throughout the year are Proms in the Summer, K2M, Recorders, Christmas concerts, parent assemblies and going out to the wider community to perform to other groups. Music is high-profile and can be heard almost all day long in a School day whether it starts a lesson, used as tidy up music, daily mile, singing assemblies or played to create a calming environment.

National Curriculum

Key stage 1




Pupils should be taught to use their voices expressively and creatively by singing songs and speaking chants and rhymes.

Children can:

-  sing with good diction
-  begin to be able to sing in tune songs with a limited range
-  sing in time to a steady beat




Pupils should be taught to play tuned and untuned instruments musically.

Children can:

-  name a variety of instruments
-  perform with a good sense of beat and rhythm
-  perform together in an ensemble; change the tempo or dynamics while playing an instrument

Pupils should be taught to listen with concentration and understanding to a range of high-quality live and recorded music.

Children can:

-  begin to recognise different genres of music
-  begin to recognise instruments being played in a piece of music
-  express their opinion about pieces of music

Pupils should be taught to experiment with, create, select and combine sounds using the inter-related dimensions of music.

Children can:

- compose a simple tune using three or four notes
- create sound effects for a picture or story, thinking about how music can create a mood
- write down their compositions using symbols, pictures or patterns

Key stage 2

Pupils should be taught to play and perform in solo and ensemble contexts, using their voices and playing musical instruments with increasing accuracy, fluency, control and expression.

Children can:

- sing with good diction
- sing in tune songs with a limited range
- sing a song with two or more parts
- perform with expression
- use correct technique to play instruments

Pupils should be taught to listen with attention to detail and recall sounds with increasing aural memory.

Children can:

- find the beat in a piece of music
- explain the tempo, dynamics and duration of a piece of music
- begin to recognise some orchestral instruments in a piece of music

Pupils should be taught to appreciate and understand a wide range of high-quality live and recorded music drawn from different traditions and from great composers and musicians.

Children can:

- recognise a range of music genres
- recognise instruments being played in a piece of music
- express their opinion about pieces of music using appropriate musical vocabulary
- discuss similarities and differences in pieces of music

Pupils should be taught to improvise and compose music for a range of purposes using the inter-related dimensions of music.

Children can:

- compose a tune using eight notes
- compose music that has a recognisable structure (beginning, middle and end)

Pupils should be taught to use and understand staff and other musical notations.

Children can:

- recognise crotchets, quavers, semibreves and crotchet rests
- begin to be able to recognise some notes on a treble clef staff

Pupils should be taught to develop an understanding of the history of music.

Children can:

- name some composers and genres of music from different eras

This is what each group uses to plan their Connected Curriculum Music lessons.

Early Years	Use Sing-up to plan their lessons linked to the early Years Connected Curriculum.
Year 1	Use Sing-up to plan their lessons linked to Connected curriculum using the National Curriculum.
Year 2	Use Sing-up to plan their lessons linked to Connected curriculum using the National Curriculum. Teach glockenspiel.
Year 3	Use Sing-up/Kickstart Music and Twinkl linked to Connected Curriculum. Also teach the Recorder.
Year 4	Steel pan drums

Impact

The variety of music opportunities for children to access at Picknalls promotes happier, confident and stronger individuals. There is inclusion for everyone whether it is singing assemblies or peripatetic lessons or singing in our connected curriculum lessons. Music across the school also promotes teamwork, creativity and confidence ready for the Middle schools. We have wide ranging opportunities including K2M (steel pans), music within the Connected Curriculum, specific music lessons in Woodwind, Brass and strings. A fantastic choir which is ran as an after school club another music group.




Cultural Capital in Music

At Picknalls First School our music curriculum is designed to enrich the cultural capital of our students by exposing them to a diverse range of musical traditions and genres from around the world. We aim to foster an appreciation for the rich tapestry of global musical heritage, enabling students to understand and respect different cultures through their musical expressions. Our curriculum includes learning about the historical and cultural contexts of various musical styles, studying significant composers and musicians, and exploring the roles that music plays in different societies. By providing opportunities for students to engage in practical music-making, including singing, playing instruments, and composing, we aim to develop their creativity, critical thinking, and collaborative skills. Through participation in performances and listening activities, students will experience the joy and discipline of music, building a lifelong appreciation and understanding of its cultural significance.

Music Action Plan 2024 2025

Although very proud of our Music Curriculum, we constantly keep it under review.

Current aspects under review are:

-  To work with MAT colleagues to write a broad, balanced and ambitious music curriculum for children 3-18.
-  To have a choir and another after school music club.
-  To review, update and monitor the music development plan.

Written by Mrs N Jones

Music Leader

