

Music at Wylde Green

Music is taught throughout the school from Reception to Year 6. In our Music lessons, the interrelated dimensions of music weave through the units to encourage the development of musical skills as the learning progresses through listening and appraising; differing musical activities (including improvisation and composing); and performing.

Key Stage 1 lessons focus on building basic musical skills such as singing, performing, listening and beginning to learn about the different dimensions of music, through exploration. Glockenspiels and percussion instruments are used each half term to help the children understand pitch, timbre and texture of music.

In Key Stage 2, children develop these skills to a higher level, including being able to read and write musical notation, and begin to appraise the music they listen to, learning to appreciate a diverse range of music, across different genres and eras. Glockenspiels and untuned percussion instruments will also be used each half term. In Year 4, all children get the opportunity to learn the ukulele.

Our aim

We aim for every single child to love music and delight in the diverse range of music that exists. To support this, exposure to a wide range of very carefully chosen pieces of music are played at the start and end of assembly three days a week. Children hear classical music, jazz, world music and the occasional pop tune!

Half termly units

Each Unit of Work comprises of the strands of musical learning which correspond with the national curriculum for music:

1. Listening and Appraising – comparing pitch, dynamics, timbre and texture of a variety of different songs focused on the particular genre of the half term.
2. Musical Activities – using pulse and rhythm to follow tempo, beat and structure of a song.
 - a. Warm-up Games – focusing on a variety of skills from keeping to the beat to identifying dynamics, pitch and rhythms.
 - b. Singing – Learning a song that has the structure and features of the year group's half termly genre.
 - c. Playing instruments – Learning how to play along to the focus piece of music.
 - d. Improvisation – Children will have a go at creating their own rhythms and tunes that fit with the themes and genres of the term.
 - e. Composition – Children will compose a piece of music that accompanies the songs and themes of the term.
3. Performing – Children will have the chance to perform their composition or sing the song they have learned.

Performance Opportunities



Children have the chance to perform at special events during the year. All children are encouraged to take advantage of all performance opportunities and perform throughout the year, whether in class assemblies, musical concerts or during singing assemblies on a Tuesday.

Autumn Term	Spring Term	Summer Term
Y5 Harvest Service	Y4 Birmingham Arena Concert (Young Voices)	Y2 Graduation Production
YR Nativity	Y1 Easter performance	Y6 Leavers Assembly
Y3 Christmas Carol Concert		

Yearly Overviews

Reception

In Reception, the children learn to join in with songs and begin to explore how to make sound with both instruments and voices, beginning to look at changes they can make to the sound. They will be given the chance to perform to the school and parents at the end of the Autumn term in their Nativity Production.



Year 1

In Year 1, the children progress in their skills from Reception by learning songs, rhymes and chants and by learning how to warm up their voices. They learn to clap a steady beat and begin to understand what beat and rhythm are. Most importantly, the children are given more opportunities to explore sound and create their own musical sounds using tuned and un-tuned percussion instruments. As well as this, the children will learn to listen to various pieces of music. They will be given the chance to perform to the school and parents at the end of the Spring term in their Easter Production.

Year 2

During their time in Year 2, children develop their singing skills by learning how to sing in two parts. They learn to clap a rhythm over a beat and begin to develop their understanding more deeply of the inter-related dimensions of music: pulse, rhythm and pitch. They will continue to play instruments, using classroom percussion to play accompaniments and tunes that they can perform to the class. As well as this, the children will learn to listen to various pieces of music, beginning to share their opinions on how the music makes them feel. They will be given the chance to perform to the school and parents at the end of the Summer term in their graduation production.



Year 3

Across the course of Year 3, children will continue to sing songs of increasing difficulty and listen to pieces of music from varying eras and traditions, learning to recognise different instruments in a piece of music. It is during this year that the children will start to improvise as well as compose pieces of music. They will use pictorial notation to notate their compositions, in order to perform their pieces to the class. They will build on their knowledge of the inter-related dimensions of music by learning about tempo and dynamics. They will be given the chance to perform to the school and parents at the end of the Autumn term in their Christmas carol concert.



Year 4

In Year 4, the children will continue to learn about a variety of music genres, recognising links, appraising and comparing different pieces of music. They will start to learn the names of different note lengths and be able to recognize repeated patterns of notations.

In 2024, Year 4 performed songs at the Young voices event at the Birmingham Arena in January. We hope to continue to be part of this event in the future.

During the Spring and Summer term, all students in Year 4 will have the opportunity to learn the ukulele, taught by Mr Roberts.

Year 5

During their time in Year 5, children will learn to sing as part of a round and continue to develop control of their voices whilst singing. They will build on their understanding of the inter-related dimensions by beginning to think about a wider range when listening to pieces of music from varying eras, traditions and composers. They will continue to improvise and compose, but develop these skills by using the pentatonic scale, all of which they will musically notate in order to perform to their classmates. They will be



given the chance to perform to the school and parents at the end of the Autumn term in their Harvest production.

Year 6

In Year 6, children will continue to develop their singing skills by learning to harmonise and taking a more pro-active role in leading groups in singing. They will create their own melodies and continue to improvise (as a solo or part of a small group) and compose pieces of music, which will be musically notated. I pads are used to help develop these skills. They will listen to pieces of music from varying eras, traditions, composers and musicians, which they will learn to critique in relation to the inter-related dimensions of music. They will be given the chance to perform to the school and parents at the end of the Summer term during their end of year production.



Things to do at home

Music is extremely important for fostering creativity and allowing children to express themselves artistically. It can help to teach discipline and patience and can really help to build confidence! Below are some suggestions for you to try at home to help encourage your child's love of music!

- Make instruments using household items
- Listen to lots of different genres of music
- Dance, whether this be lessons or just dancing to music at home
- Record your children's songs and compositions
- Access Yumu – an online space where children can go to learn, explore and develop playing and musicianship skills.

Websites

<https://charanga.com/yumu/>

<https://www.gonoodle.com/>

<http://www.dariamusic.com/>

<http://www.creatingmusic.com/>