



Music

Music is a unique way of communicating that can inspire and motivate children. It is a vehicle for personal expression and it can play an important part in the personal development of people. Music reflects the culture and society we live in, and so the teaching and learning of music enables children to better understand the world they live in. At Holmer Green Junior School, we provide opportunities for all children to create, play, perform and enjoy music, to develop their skills, to appreciate a wide variety of musical forms, and to begin to make judgements about the quality of music.

The aims of our curriculum are to:

- perform, listen to, review and evaluate music across a range of historical periods, genres, styles and traditions
- learn to sing and to use their voices, to create and compose music
- have the opportunity to learn a musical instrument, use technology appropriately and have the opportunity to progress to the next level of musical excellence
- understand and explore how music is created, produced and communicated, including through the inter-related dimensions: pitch, duration, dynamics, tempo, timbre, texture, structure and appropriate musical notations.

We strive to make music an enjoyable learning experience for pupils and we encourage pupils to participate in a variety of musical experiences through which we aim to build up the confidence of all pupils. Pupils learn about the structure and organisation of music and are taught to listen and appreciate different forms of music. Pupils develop descriptive skills in music lessons when learning about how music can represent feelings and emotions. We teach them the disciplined skills of recognising pulse and pitch as well as how to work with others to make music. We begin to teach them musical notation through learning three different instruments across Key Stage 2; recorders, guitars, a brass instrument and drums.

We teach music to all pupils, whatever their ability, in accordance with the school curriculum policy of providing a broad and balanced education to all pupils. Teachers provide learning opportunities matched to the needs of pupils with learning difficulties, as well as accommodating for gifted and talented pupils. Our work in music considers the targets set for all individual pupils.

Our Music curriculum links to other subject areas including English, Maths, Computing PSHCE and RE. These cross curricular links provide children with the ability to apply their knowledge across the entire curriculum. Examples of this are: learning about rhythm and rhyme, observing patterns and processes, the use of Garage Band, participation in musical performances and encountering music from many cultures.

We believe that music enriches the lives of people, and so we wish to involve as many pupils as possible in musical activities. We have a sufficient number of pupils learning a musical instrument to enable us to organise school concerts where pupils can learn to enjoy playing music in an ensemble. We also currently run a large and vibrant school choir who perform at a range of events throughout the school year.

Occasionally there are opportunities for small chamber ensembles if pupils so request, as well as pupils having the opportunity to perform in local and county events when they present.