

Music at Cotherstone Primary School

Intent

- To develop an understanding of music as a universal language.
- To develop pupils' love of music, confidence and creativity.
- To provide children with a sense of achievement through performances within school and within our wider community.
- To develop pupils' critical engagement with music through analyzing the works of composers over a range of historical periods.
- To understand and explore the composition of music, its creation and production.
- To explore Music from other countries and cultures.

Implementation

At Cotherstone, children engage with musical opportunities within regular class music lessons, assemblies, Whole Key Stage singing practice and performances both within school for parents/carers as well as alongside other primary schools at music concerts at the local secondary school.

Music lessons engage and inspire pupils to develop a love of different styles of music and develop their talent as musicians, and in turn increase their self-confidence, creativity and sense of achievement. As pupils progress in these skills, they will begin to develop composing skills.

Teachers use the National Curriculum document for guidance as a basis and Charanga (Durham Music Online) as a platform to resource and structure lessons. The Charanga scheme of work is used across the school to ensure a wide exposure to different styles of music, with lots of practical activities to explore and develop as musicians and singers. Learning is sequenced to build knowledge, skills and vocabulary.

Charanga lessons are planned in sequences to provide children with the opportunities to review, remember, deepen and apply their understanding.

Charanga provides a classroom-based, participatory and inclusive approach to music learning. Throughout the scheme, children are actively involved in using and developing their singing voices, using body percussion and whole body actions, and learning to handle and play classroom instruments effectively to create and express their own and others' music. Through a range of whole class, group and individual activities, children have opportunities to explore sounds, listen actively, compose and perform.

Children in Years 3 and 4 are taught to play a musical instrument for one hour a week for one term by a specialist teacher from the Durham Music Service. These lessons incorporate teaching musical notation, singing and learning to read music to play an instrument. There is then an opportunity to perform in a whole school assembly to parents as well as a music concert with other schools at the local secondary school.

Impact

Our aims:

- To develop an enthusiasm for music, including composing and performing.
- To develop knowledge and skills in order to make progress against the National Curriculum objectives.

- Children to have access to a range of opportunities to participate in musical performances, both within school and in our wider community.