

Music Policy

New End Primary School

Date Completed: Autumn Term 2023

Review Date: Autumn Term 2024

Rationale

Music plays a very important role at New End. We believe that music brings great benefit to children's learning and to their overall well being. The role of music within our school is greatly supported by the head teacher, the staff, governors and our parent body. This support is given through financial support and through a school ethos which encourages a high level of musical activity. We recognise the value music brings to young children and aim to ensure that music is at the heart of the *Every Child Matters* agenda.

Aims

Through music at New End pupils are taught

- to develop as performers through development of vocal and instrumental skills
- to develop skills in composing
- to develop as listeners through opportunities to respond to music
- to express their ideas and feelings
- to value a wide range of music from a variety of cultures and traditions
- to develop social skills and confidence through performance opportunities
- to find enjoyment through engagement in musical activities
- to work both independently and collaboratively in musical activities

Governor and Staff Responsibility

Role of the Music Leader of Teaching and Learning

The Music Leader will:

- take a lead in policy and schemes of work development through consultation with other specialist music teachers and Camden music advisors
- monitor music activity and discuss with the Head Teacher any action needed
- co-ordinate fully with other staff with regard to extra curricular music activities, music lessons, wider opportunities projects and music for school performances.
- take responsibility to purchase and organise resources needed.
- organise events outside with the local community

Role of the Class Teacher/Non Teaching Staff

The class teacher will work alongside the specialist music teacher to discuss and plan any cross curricular links required to support class teaching and class performances. Non Teaching staff will accompany children in music lessons (Foundation and key stage 1 only)

Governor and Staff Responsibility for extra curricular music

- All children are encouraged to take up peripatetic instrumental lessons from Camden Music service, if they have parental support for this
- All children who learn an instrument in school will eventually be encouraged join the School Orchestra when their instrumental teacher assesses them to be of a suitable standard. Lessons take place in lesson time.
- Other clubs are organised, according to pupil demand and availability of staff, and will be open to any interested pupils. Current clubs include:
Choir (key stage 2)
Orchestra (key stage 2)

Organisation

Music is a National Curriculum foundation subject. Knowledge, skills and understanding for music are categorised into four main sections. These are:

- Controlling sounds through singing and playing (performing skills)
- Creating and developing musical ideas (composing skills)
- Responding and reviewing (appraising skills)
- Listening and applying knowledge and understanding

At New End:

- All classes receive a weekly music lesson in the Music Room taught by our Specialist Music Teacher. These lessons last between 45 minutes and 1 hour. This time usually provides teachers with their PPA time.
- Some additional cross-curricular musical activities take place in the classroom led by the class teacher.
- Year 4 participate in the Wider Opportunities programme, where children learn an instrument alongside their class teacher in class lessons. The lessons provided by a peripatetic tutor and our school music teacher. This involves whole class warm-up activities and differentiated ensemble playing. The children learn recorder for one hour and have this instrument on loan for use both in class and at home.
- The Scheme of Work for music in Key Stages 1 & 2 is delivered in half-termly units throughout the year. Lessons are supplemented with additional material to improve musicianship.
- The Foundation Stage curriculum is supplemented by songs and activities linked to the class themes.

Performance opportunities and community links

- All children have annual performances in their year and class assemblies.
- Extra curricular groups perform at some assemblies and to concerts for parents.
- Opportunities are taken whenever possible to perform with other schools, and to draw on the expertise of other musicians, through initiatives run by Camden Music.
- Children are taken to concerts, and performers are invited into school as much as funding permits. Bright Sparks concert London Philharmonic orchestra visits for Years 2 and 3 and upper Key Stage 2.
- Children perform in annual fundraising events

Future aims are for:

- every year group to have more opportunity to participate in a musical event outside school, or to work in school with outside performers, at least once a year.
- Establish more links with the community and create more performance opportunities eg Choir perform Christmas carols for Hampstead

Resources

The music room contains a wide variety of instruments. Children are taught how to handle and care for musical instruments appropriately.

Future aims are for:

- Updating the instruments – repairing tuned percussion instruments, replacing damaged and well-used equipment.

ICT and Music

Through links with Camden we aim to provide our wider ops Year 4 children with greater opportunities to learn a musical instrument.

Year 5 and 6 use music technology during planned composition activities during the year.

Equal Opportunities

Equal Opportunities is an integral part of the school curriculum. Strategies are adopted to ensure that all children have the opportunity to succeed in music regardless of ability, gender, race and class. Our specialist music teacher is aware of these issues in planning for music. Class teachers should also raise the level of consciousness on these issues with children, when planning music across curriculum areas. See EO Policy for full details.

Pupils with Special Educational Needs

All teachers will have in their class some children whose progress warrants special consideration. Their difficulties may have physical, sensory, behavioural, emotional or neurological causes, or may stem from a legacy of poor learning that inhibits their current learning. The aim is to include all these pupils fully in music lessons.

Gifted and Talented Pupils

Children demonstrating a particular ability in music should continue to be supported in achieving higher standards. This involves differentiation in complexity of parts and notation given in lessons and through provision of extra curricular activities. School should also aim to ensure that children with particular aptitudes have access to outside opportunities. We provide opportunities for gifted musicians to work closely alongside visiting musicians and orchestras. We also provide informal auditions with Camden Music Service so that talented musicians can be identified and offered appropriate, extended provision within the service.

Pupils with English as an Additional Language

At New End we have a large number of children who have English as an Additional Language. These children must all be encouraged and assisted to reach their potential in music.

Monitoring and Evaluating Policy and Practice

Assessment is made in accordance with the Attainment Target for music, in conjunction with the end of unit expectations. We take into account the practical nature of music, the lack of written evidence and the collaborative nature of many musical activities. Assessment takes place through observation during lessons. Teaching Assistants may be asked to participate in the assessment process using criteria given by the Music Subject Leader.