



Packmoor

Ormiston Academy

Music Policy

Next review date: *September 2025*

Packmoor Ormiston Academy

Music Policy

Aim Statement:

At Packmoor Ormiston Academy we believe in providing the highest standards of education for all children, which inspires and challenges so that everyone achieves their full potential. We nurture respect for individual differences, we promote international mindedness and deliver an education that enables children to meet the challenges of our future society. We believe that learning should be fun. We provide a safe, happy and diverse learning environment that provides opportunities for our children to succeed both now and in the next stage of their education and in the wider community.

Revised September 2023

Philosophy and Aims of Music

At Packmoor Ormiston Academy, we offer pupils the opportunity to experience personal satisfaction and gain self-confidence by performing through singing or playing instruments as individuals, in a group and in a whole class or key stage situations. Children will perform to a wider audience through assemblies for other Packmoor pupils, parents, governors and other interested visitors, as well as at external venues.

Children's musical knowledge over time should be characterised by:

- A rapidly widening repertoire, which they use to create original, imaginative, fluent and distinctive composing and performance work.
- A musical understanding underpinned by high levels of aural perception, internalisation and knowledge of music, including high or rapidly developing levels of technical expertise.
- Very good awareness and appreciation of different musical traditions and genres.
- An excellent understanding of how musical provenance - the historical, social and cultural origins of music - contributes to the diversity of musical styles.
- The ability to give precise written and verbal explanations, using musical terminology effectively, accurately and appropriately.
- A passion for and commitment to a diverse range of musical activities.

“inspiring individuals to achieve and excel”

Key Stage 1

Aims

In order for children to experience, appreciate and understand music, we need to provide them with opportunities to:

- Use their voices expressively by singing songs and speaking chants and rhymes.
- Play tuned and untuned instruments musically.
- Listen with concentration and understanding to a range of high-quality live and recorded music.
- Make and combine sounds using the inter-related dimensions of music.

Key Stage 2

Aims

In order for children to further develop their musical experience, appreciation and understanding of music, we need to provide them with opportunities to:

- Play and perform in solo and ensemble contexts, using voice and playing instruments with increasing accuracy, control and expression.
- Improvise and compose music using the inter-related dimensions of music separately and in combination.
- Listen with attention to detail and recall sounds with increasing aural memory.
- Use and understand the basics of the stave and other musical notations.
- Appreciate and understand a wide range of high-quality live and recorded music from different traditions and from great musicians and composers.
- Develop an understanding of the history of music.

To aid in these aims, we:

- Give children the opportunity to participate in a range of musical activities both inside and outside school and derive enjoyment from their experiences.

- Provide music from many cultures and traditions so as to aid the development of understanding and enhance a personal sense of appreciation, enabling each child to appreciate their own and other people's music.
- Provide the opportunity to practise, refine and perform music either individually or in a group with increasing confidence, whilst enhancing their self-esteem and promoting social skills.
- Encourage the development of the skills necessary to achieve their full creative potential.
- Celebrate excellence in music through display, performance and critical appraisal.
- Broaden the child's musical experience by offering opportunities to experience live performances from a variety of music groups, reflecting diverse cultures and styles of music.
- Learn a wide range of songs and rhymes from memory.

Music should also be seen as a vehicle for the building of children's self-esteem, confidence and self-discipline and the enhancement of life skills.

Learning and Teaching

At Packmoor Ormiston Academy, we aim to make music an enjoyable learning experience for all pupils. This is provided through:

- A positive learning environment.
- Use of the National Curriculum along with the Essentials Curriculum to ensure that the elements of music (timbre, texture, rhythm, melody, beat, harmony, structure, tempo, pitch and dynamics) are taught.
- Relating all learning experience to topic-based learning at the time, varying cultures, traditions and learning styles.
- Allowing the children an opportunity to feed back about their own progress through positive and constructive discussion.
- Provide a wide variety of instruments, which are accessible to the children, as well as time for the children to experiment with their ideas.

- Providing all children with the opportunity to learn a musical instrument through whole class teaching provided by the Music Service (djembe drumming).
- Encourage children to evaluate their own work in a critical but positive manner.
- Promote museum and concert visits, both inside and outside school.
- Respond to a variety of musicians.

Teachers need to consider the following:

- A range of songs, rhymes and instruments needs to be provided suitable for each stage of development (from Nursery to Year 6).
- Materials and equipment need to be readily accessible and available for use.
- Children should be taught to handle instruments correctly and play appropriately.
- Children should be given direct teaching with regard to the skills and techniques needed to fulfil the above.
- Children should be given the opportunity to work independently, in small groups and with the whole class.
- Specific language and vocabulary will need to be introduced to help the children discuss and evaluate work.
- Performances should reflect a variety of work and abilities.

Inclusion

In order to allow all children to have equal access, we aim to modify and differentiate work and equipment to respond to the individual needs of pupils with special educational needs. Through our music teaching, we will provide learning opportunities that enable all pupils to make progress.

We use classroom assistants wherever possible to support children with special educational needs to ensure full participation in all activities.

The role of the music lead

- Take the lead in policy development and the production of schemes of work designed to ensure progression and continuity in music throughout the school.
- Support colleagues in long, medium and short term planning and the implementation of the National Curriculum and the corresponding Essentials curriculum. Support is also provided in assessment and record-keeping activities.
- Monitor the progress in music and advise the head teacher on action needed.
- Take responsibility for the purchase and organisation of central resources for music.
- Keep up to date with developments in music education and feed back information to colleagues as appropriate.

Assessment

In Music we are continually making judgements about the children's level of ability. We assess children's knowledge and understanding through questioning, listening and observation of performances in the class as an ongoing process. Recorded performances or videos are an excellent means of keeping evidence within the subject. These assessments are made against the appropriate Milestones in the Essentials Curriculum to ensure children's continual progress. Music questions are also included in the end-of-topic quizzes to assess understanding.

Extra-Curricular Activities

- A choir is run for years 4-6, with a variety of performance opportunities including participation in the Young Voices concert at Birmingham.
- A recorder group is run for KS2 children, which provides the opportunity to perform at the Victoria Hall with other local schools.
- City Music Services are promoted to children, which provide extra-curricular opportunities to develop vocal and instrumental performance.

Updated: September 2023

Janet Maxwell (Music Lead)