



Sand Hutton and Warthill Federated Church of England (VC) Primary Schools

Music Policy

September 2026

Rationale

At Sand Hutton and Warthill Primary Schools we promote and value Music because it is a powerful and unique form of communication that can change the way pupils feel, think and act. It also increases self-discipline and creativity, aesthetic sensitivity and fulfilment. Music reflects our culture and society and so the teaching and learning of music enables children to better understand the world they live in. Besides being a creative and enjoyable activity, music can be a highly academic and demanding subject. It is also important in helping children feel part of a community.

Aims

To enjoy performing and composing in different situations and for different purposes
To develop confidence and self belief
To know and understand how sounds are made and then organised into musical structures
To know how music is made through a variety of instruments
To know how music is composed and explore with different ways of writing it down including formal written notation
To know how music is influenced by the time, place and purpose for which it was written
To develop the interrelated skills of performing, composing and appreciating music
To enjoy and appreciate a wide variety of musical styles and offer opinions about different aspects of music using appropriate language
To encourage a love of singing
To develop the skills of recognising pulse and pitch
To develop the ability to play instruments with control and sensitivity
To work with others to make music, recognising how individuals combine together to make sounds including performing to others where appropriate
To listen to a variety of types of music and quantify judgements about the quality of music
To have fun and work as a team when making music in a group

Our curriculum is underpinned by the National Curriculum and units from Music Express, Twinkl and Oak Academy are selected on a unit specific quality basis

Teachers will:

- Encourage all children to achieve their full potential.
- Plan music with appropriate adaptations for pupils with SEND

- Ensure a variety of balance of the elements of the National Curriculum will be taught over a year.
- Use IT where appropriate.
- Ensure the use of tuned and untuned percussion in lessons
- Encourage pupils to participate in extra curricular activities (Young Voices) and instrument specific tuition from the Music Service

In-service

Appropriate opportunities for in-service training are found, whenever possible, for the music co-ordinator and members of staff and then shared at staff meetings.

Children will:

- Record their own work so they can review it and suggest improvements.
- Use software programs.
- Have the opportunity to sing and perform throughout their time in school.

Assessment and recording

Teachers assess children's work in music by observing in lessons against objectives. Individual and group recordings may be made to demonstrate. Music books record what children have covered and learned over time.

Recordings using a range of equipment may be used.

Health and Safety

Children are always encouraged to use instruments carefully and safely.

An instrument which is blown should have the mouthpiece cleaned after each child has used it.

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Additional and supporting information:

Adaptations:

We recognise that there are children of widely different musical abilities in all classes, so we provide suitable learning opportunities for all children by matching the challenge of the task to the ability of the child. We achieve this in a variety of ways by:

- Setting common tasks, which are open-ended and can have a variety of responses;
- Setting tasks of increasing difficulty for more able children;
- Grouping children by ability in the room and setting different tasks for each ability group
- Providing resources of different complexity depending on the ability of the child

Foundation stage

Music is taught in reception where the musical aspects of the children's work are related to the objectives set out in the Early Learning Goals.

Additional music teaching

Individual instrument music teaching is organised by North Yorkshire Council. Instruments are available to hire or buy from NYCC. Music lesson fees are paid for on a termly basis. Children can be taught in small groups or individually at break times or during normal lessons. A rota system is used when appropriate so that children do not miss the same class lessons each week.

The contribution of music to teaching in other curriculum areas

English

Music contributes significantly to the teaching of English in our schools. It encourages speaking and listening. Children develop their language skills through singing songs, with attention to diction, meaning, rhythm and rhyme.

Music is used to stimulate discussion, creative writing, poetry and drama.

Through working with others in a musical setting, children develop their ability to communicate ideas effectively.

Mathematics

Music contributes to the teaching of mathematics through observing patterns and processes. Counting songs and tables songs can help children learn key facts. Talent in music can be linked with talent in mathematics, as the rhythm and structure of music is mathematically based.

IT

IT is used in music where appropriate. Children can record their own work so they can review it and suggest improvements. Children can also use software programmes to compose

Science and D and T

Children experiment with different ways of making sounds and making musical instruments

Art

Children respond to pictures with musical compositions. Children also interpret the feelings evoked when listening to music through painting/ drawing pictures.

They can use graphic scores where pictures/ patterns/ symbols are used to illustrate sound effects.

Personal, social and health education

Through the common goal of making music, children learn to work effectively with other people and build up good relationships. Music is the basis of many social activities and has an important role to play in the personal development of many young people. It has an important role to play in building self confidence.

Spiritual, moral, social and cultural development

Children are encouraged to reflect on the important effect that music has on people's moods, senses and quality of life. Children have the opportunity to encounter music from many cultures and, through their growing knowledge and understanding of music, are encouraged to develop more positive attitudes towards other cultures and societies.

Teaching music to children with special educational needs.

We aim to include all children, whatever their ability in accordance with the school curriculum policy of providing a broad and balanced education. Teachers provide learning opportunities matched to the needs of the children.

Singing practice

Listening and appraising

School entertainments and performances

Visiting musicians and live music where possible.