

## Music – Intent, Implementation and Impact

“I often think in music. I live my daydreams in music. I see my life in terms of music.”

–Albert Einstein

### Music - Intent

At Thwaites Primary School, the intent for Music education is to foster a love and appreciation for music, develop musical skills and knowledge, and provide opportunities for self-expression, creativity, and cultural understanding. Our intent is to ensure that music is an integrated and valued part of our curriculum, enabling all pupils to achieve their full potential. Our music curriculum is aligned with the National Curriculum and we focus on developing the skills, knowledge and understanding that children need in order to become confident performers, composers, and listeners. Our curriculum introduces children to music from all around the world and across generations, teaching children to respect and appreciate the music of all traditions and communities. Children will develop the musical skills of singing, playing tuned and untuned instruments, improvising and composing music and listening and responding to recorded and live music. They will develop an understanding of the history and cultural context of the music that they listen to and learn how music can be written down. Through music, our curriculum helps children develop transferable skills such as team-working, leadership, creative thinking, problem-solving, decision-making and presentation and performance skills. These skills are vital to children’s development as learners and have a wider application in their general lives outside and beyond school.

### Music – Implementation

The music curriculum at Thwaites School takes the individual strands of performing, listening, composing, the history of music and the inter-related dimensions of music. These are woven together within cross-curricular topics, which are designed to capture the children’s imagination and encourage them to explore music enthusiastically. Throughout their time at Thwaites School children will be taught to play tuned and untuned instruments accurately and with control. They will learn to recognise and name the interrelated dimensions of music, pitch, duration, tempo, timbre, structure, texture and dynamics, and use these expressively in their own improvisations and compositions. Singing is at the heart of our music provision. We facilitate regular whole school singing assemblies, choirs, and ensemble groups to give pupils the opportunity to develop their vocal skills and experience the joy of singing together. We

also collaborate with external music professionals and local music organizations to provide additional enrichment opportunities, such as workshops, performances, and visits to live concerts. Our music curriculum follows a progression of skills and knowledge, mapped to the National Curriculum, where new skills are taught, building upon previous skills and knowledge, where the children can progress by tackling more complex tasks and doing more simple tasks better. In each lesson children will actively participate in musical activities drawn from a range of styles and traditions, developing their musical skills and their understanding of how music works. Lessons incorporate a range of teaching strategies from independent tasks, paired and group work as well as improvisation and teacher-led performances. Lessons are practical and incorporate movement and dance elements, as well as making cross-curricular links with other areas of learning. We provide regular performance opportunities for pupils to showcase their musical achievements to their peers, parents, and the wider school community. These include annual concerts, talent shows, and participation in local music festivals or events. We also encourage pupils to engage with the local community through music, such as performing in local retirement homes or community centres, fostering a sense of pride, confidence, and community engagement.

### Music - Impact

Children at Thwaites School demonstrate a genuine enthusiasm and passion for music. They actively participate in lessons, showing high levels of engagement, curiosity, and enjoyment. Children's progress is evident through their increasing musical skills, knowledge, and understanding, we are able to track pupil progress over time, making use of the performance elements at the end of each unit to make a summative assessment of the children's learning. Children can achieve high standards in their musical skills, both individually and collaboratively. They develop a secure understanding of musical concepts, techniques, and notation. Children gain the ability to perform confidently and expressively, compose original music, and critically appraise their own and others' work reflecting a depth of musical understanding, they can demonstrate and articulate an enthusiasm for music and are able to identify their own personal musical preferences. Through participating in music, children develop a range of transferable skills that positively impact their overall personal development. These include teamwork, communication, perseverance, self-expression, creativity, and self-discipline. Children become confident performers, effective collaborators, and reflective learners.