



Music Policy

Date of policy	February 2024
Member of staff responsible	E. Hilder
Review Date	February 2026

Music at Norwich Road Academy

Intent

The Norwich Road Way

Music at Norwich Road Academy is visible through everyday experiences. Children listen to, appraise and learn songs linked to our core values. This occurs in assemblies and in classroom activities. Singing is a terrific way for every child to engage with music, regardless of ability and gain confidence. In depth appraisal occurs during individual classroom music lessons. Children will be taught advanced musical terminology and skills in order to gain a full understanding of the complexity of music and how many different aspects contribute towards a final piece of art. In the classroom, children are given the opportunity to play instruments from different family groups. In doing so, they are able to understand the different principle of each method of creating notes, as well as how to read music notation, becoming increasingly complex as they mature. They also learn how to compose, focusing on different dimensions of music, which in turn feeds their understanding when listening, playing, or analysing music.

All of this will be supported by the Norwich Road values of:

- **Empower-Motivate-Aspire-Transform-Be Proud-Connect**

Purpose of Study

Music is a universal language that has the ability to reach every child regardless of background. It is one of the highest forms of creativity. A high-quality music education should engage and inspire pupils to develop a love of music and their talent as musicians, and so increase their self-confidence, creativity and sense of achievement. As pupils progress, they should develop a critical engagement with music, allowing them to compose, and to listen with consideration to all forms of musical performances.

Aims

The music curriculum at Norwich Road Academy aims for every child to:

- Develop a love of music
- Confidently improvise and compose for a range of purposes

- Play and perform in solo and ensemble contexts confidently
- Develop an understanding of the history of music, knowing about great musicians and their contributions.

Implementation

Each music lesson is to begin with a reminder of previous learning. Key vocabulary is discussed in accordance to our school curriculum mantra in order to embed long term knowledge. A new skill or concept is then introduced to the children with time to practise and explore.

The school is following the national curriculum objectives for Music in Key Stage One and Key Stage Two. Objectives increase in amount and challenge through each year group and builds upon the previous year's teaching.

The school works closely with the Norfolk Music Hub and lesson resources are available to teachers through 'Charanga', which has been adapted to suit all objectives of the Model Music Curriculum. This interactive resource allows teachers to access many useful activities and plans which cover all objectives of the national curriculum such as:

- Becoming familiar with basic elements of music
- Recognise a steady beat, accents
- Discriminate between fast and slow
- Discriminate between differences in pitch: high and low.
- Discriminate between loud and soft;
- Sing unaccompanied, accompanied, and in unison.
- Recognise verse and refrain

Singing

Singing is a fantastic way of engaging all children with music as it is accessible regardless of ability or age. Songs are sung each week in a dedicated singing assembly in accordance with the school's focus value of the half term, led by the school's Music Coordinator. This gives an opportunity to further explore the school's values as well as singing together as a whole school.

A school song was created by the Music coordinator and is practiced regularly during assemblies. It is also performed at special events. The school song helps to establish a sense of community within the academy as well as promote the school's ethos.

Children are given opportunities to sing during various events in the school year such as harvest festival, Christmas celebrations, Spring celebrations and end of the year events.

Choir

The Norwich Road Academy choir is established and renewed each year and every child in Key Stage Two has the opportunity to join. The choir practises during a weekly after-school club. The choir provides the chance for children to practice and perform as an ensemble as well as improve their singing technique. Another of the Norwich Road Academy's purposes is to make connections with the local community. The children visit care homes, garden centres and community centres in Thetford during the Christmas season and regularly receive very positive feedback. The Music coordinator works closely with the Norfolk Music Hub to participate in other performance opportunities such as the Royal Norfolk Show.

Instruments

The school has a good supply of a variety of instruments available for teachers to access and use in lessons. To best understand how musical features are created, children should be given the opportunity to explore instruments from different musical families. Percussion instruments, which are most commonly used, are stored on two trolleys to ease teachers' access. Larger instruments are stored in the cupboard outside of the Year 1 and 2 classrooms which can be used for further demonstrations and explorations. Children become excited to make music with instruments and if behaviour expectations are made clear, it is enjoyable to all. If woodwind or brass instruments are being used, they are to be disinfected before another group uses them.

SEND and Inclusion

At Norwich Road Academy, we endeavour to meet the needs of all children, taking into account gender, ethnicity, culture, religion, language and disability. The provision for children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities is detailed in the SEND Policy. Children with SEND are supported through additional or adapted resources, differentiated learning tasks, targeted adult support and interventions. Some children may need additional time or careful scaffolding to understand or complete a task.

Impact

Assessments of learning are made throughout all music lessons through questioning, observing, listening and quizzing. Prior knowledge is established at the beginning of each lesson and questioning about the lesson's impact is made at the end of each lesson. This feedback is recorded and conveyed back to the music coordinator.

It is not an expectation for written work to be produced in every Music lesson. Children should spend the lessons listening, appraising, practising, performing or composing. Teachers and teaching assistants should use technology to take photographs or videos to evidence the children's learning throughout the lesson. These files should then be uploaded onto a shared folder on the One Drive so that the Music Coordinator can monitor coverage of what has been taught.

Subject Leader

Subject Leaders at Norwich Road Academy will:

- Prepare and review subject policy and curriculum plans
- Promote the study of the subject throughout the academy
- Advise and support staff in the planning, delivery and assessment of design and technology;
- Monitor and evaluate the standards of children's work and the quality of teaching in design and technology throughout the school;
- Attend appropriate CPD and stay informed regarding developments within their subject
- Provide and evaluate learning resources
- Provide training and CPD to staff on the subject curriculum and its delivery, and keep them informed about subject developments nationally
- Assess the impact of the subject curriculum on pupil's learning and development

Monitoring and review

This policy will be reviewed by staff and governors at least every 2 years.