

# Boutcher C of E Primary School Subject Stories

## Music



### Intent

The National Curriculum for music aims to ensure that all pupils:

- Perform, listen to, review and evaluate music
- Be taught to sing, create and compose music
- Understand and explore how music is created, produced and communicated.

At Boutcher Primary School the intention is that children gain a firm understanding of what music is through listening, singing, playing, evaluating, analysing, and composing across a wide variety of historical periods, styles, traditions, and musical genres. Our objective at Boutcher Primary School is to develop a curiosity for the subject, as well as an understanding and acceptance of the validity and importance of all types of music, and an unbiased respect for the role that music may wish to be expressed in any person's life. We are committed to ensuring children understand the value and importance of music in the wider community, and are able to use their musical skills, knowledge, and experiences to involve themselves in music, in a variety of different contexts.

### Implementation

The music curriculum ensures students sing, listen, play, perform and evaluate. This is embedded in the classroom activities as well as the weekly singing assemblies, various concerts and performances, the learning of instruments such as the violin in Year 4 and 6, and the joining of one of our musical ensembles such as band in KS2, choir and drumming. The elements of music are taught in lessons so that children are able to use some of the language of music to dissect it, and understand how it is made, played, appreciated and analysed. They also learn how to compose focussing on different dimensions of music, which in turn feeds their understanding when listening, playing, or analysing music. Composing or performing using body percussion and vocal sounds is also part of the curriculum, which develops the understanding of musical elements without the added complexity of an instrument.

Violins: Year 4 and 6 have continued to have violin lessons in 2021 and they are coming to the end of their second year. They are taught each week from Southwark music teachers.

Drumming: KS1 and 2 enjoy weekly drumming sessions from our specialist music teacher who teaches through singing songs from different cultures and learning to play the drums.

Choir: The choir meets each week with our specialist teacher to learn a range of songs which they perform to a wide range of audiences in the wider community.

Band: Children in KS2 started their own band who meet weekly with our drumming teacher.

Singing: Children in KS2 take part in singing lessons with our singing teacher who also supports our weekly services and productions.

Guitar lessons: Children in Year 5 have been selected to start after school guitar lessons with our specialist teacher.

Drum Kit lessons: Children are selected to have extra drum kit lessons who have a keen interest in drumming.

### Impact

Whilst in school, children have access to a varied programme, which allows students to discover areas of strength, as well as areas they might like to improve upon. The integral nature of music and the learner creates an enormously rich palette from which a student may access fundamental abilities such as: achievement, self-confidence, interaction with and awareness of others, and self-reflection. Music will

also develop an understanding of culture and history, both in relation to students individually, as well as ethnicities from across the world. Children are able to enjoy music, in as many ways as they choose—either as listener, creator or performer. They can dissect music and comprehend its parts. They can sing and feel a pulse. They understand how to further develop skills less known to them, should they ever develop an interest in their lives.

*Examples of outstanding learning*



Pictures from our music community afternoon, where children participated in a range of workshops appreciating and composing music from different cultures. They used percussion instruments, guitars and drums.

‘Share All Your Joy’ Project: We took part in a Southwark-wide ‘Share All Your Joy’ music project to mark the 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the birth of Ludwig Van Beethoven. This was created and led by jazz composer, Pete, Letanka. Watch our video through the link below: <https://youtu.be/jimDq3TwCec>

**What voice do pupils have?**

- Children can choose to take part in singing lessons & participate in a range of extra-curricular activities involving music such as choir and band.

**How do children’s skills progress?**

An example of skills progression from Year R – 6

Singing skills						
Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Find their singing voice and use their voices confidently	Sing songs expressively	Begin to sing with control of pitch	Sing with confidence using a wider vocal range	Sing songs and create different vocal effects	Sing in a round in two parts and identify the melodic phrases and how they fit together.	Sing confidently as a class, in small groups and alone, and begin to have an awareness of improvisation with the voice.

**What examples are there of cross-curricular learning?**

- The whole school theme for 2019/20 is places, the children took part in a music community afternoon where they learnt about music from different cultures and had a chance to listen to live and recorded music from a range of cultures and composed their own pieces as a group.
- Links to literacy are made in the curriculum where children have the chance to play music as part of a unit of work such as poetry.
- Music contributes to the wider aims of Primary Education including, literacy, ICT, P.E, Art, P.S.H.E. and citizenship.

- Music can develop skills, attitudes and attributes that can support learning in other subject areas that are needed for life and work skills – e.g. listening skills, concentration, creativity, intuition, aesthetic sensitivity, perseverance, self-confidence and sensitivity towards others.

### **What successes were there in the last academic years?**

- Children have taken part in choir concerts in Tooley Street
- Choir participated in a concert organised by the sick children's trust
- The children participated in a whole school music community afternoon
- The children enjoyed a whole school carnival expressing all our musical talents
- Drumming students and choir participated in Bermondsey festival
- The choir, drumming and violin pupils have been planning for a large concert with other secondary schools in the Borough
- Choir visited the old people's home
- Various singing students performed at family gatherings and services

### **What are the priorities in Music?**

- To ensure music is continued to be embedded across the curriculum, with cross-curricular links maximised
- To refine assessment practice, ensuring that children are aware of their attainment and next steps
- To make further links within our local community