

Music

Intent

At Avondale Primary School, 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. The teaching of music develops pupils' ability to listen and appreciate a wide variety of music and to make judgements about musical quality.

We are committed to developing a passion for the subject. We recognise that music is a powerful, unique form of communication that can change the way pupils feel, think and act. Music is a part of our lives.

Implementation

At Avondale, the music curriculum ensures children sing, listen, play, perform and evaluate. This is embedded in the classroom activities as well as weekly singing assemblies, various concerts and performances and the learning of instruments. Through the musical program Kapow, teachers are able to produce inclusive lessons for all children to access the musical curriculum in a fun and engaging way, further promoting a love of learning. Teachers deliver music following the Kapow programme, designed specifically for the teaching of music in primary schools. Kapow lessons are planned in sequences to provide children with the opportunities to review, remember, deepen and apply their understanding. The elements of music are taught in classroom 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. In the classroom, children learn how to play the glockenspiel, recorder and a variety of percussion instruments. Year 3 children all learn how to play a range of brass instruments and are taught by a specialist Music teacher from Bolton Music Services. Playing various instruments enables children to use a range of methods to create notes, as well as how to read basic music

notation. They also learn how to compose, focusing 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.

Performances seen during celebratory events and concerts held at Harvest, Christmas, Easter and the Year 6 end of year production, show that music is an important part of school life. It is used effectively during collective worship through a range of songs to promote positive behaviours and an understanding of the world around us. Not only does this develop children's singing skills but also an understanding of how ensembles work.

Impact

Music enables children to develop an understanding of culture and history, both in relation to children 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. Children have the opportunity to discuss and share their own thoughts, opinions and ideas, acknowledging and respecting that these may vary and that this is positive. They can dissect music and comprehend its parts. They can sing and feel a pulse.

At Avondale Primary School, children are provided with opportunities beyond the National Curriculum to further and support their understanding. These include a range of instrument tuition being on offer (drums, guitar, singing) having visitors with a musical talent, visiting concerts and school productions. External interests and talents are also encouraged and showcased in class and assembly, ensuring that everyone is challenged regardless of previous musical experience. Children have an understanding of how to further develop skills less known to them, should they ever develop an interest in their lives.