

## Meppershall Music Three I Statement

***Addressing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody to the Lord with your heart***

***Ephesians 5:19***

## Intent

At Meppershall Academy we encourage an awareness, enjoyment and appreciation of Music in all its forms. Our children are able to develop positive attitudes towards music and achieve a sense of success and satisfaction when making their own music. We believe that by providing a range of opportunities to perform, compose, listen and appreciate individual musical skills and creativity can be developed through a collective experience.

## Implementation

Each class has a weekly music lesson which is 30-40 minutes in length. Lessons are primarily arranged as a whole class but within this structure opportunities are given for individual, paired and group work. A choir club runs every Thursday lunch-time for 30 minutes. All children from Year 2 to 4 are welcome to join this club. The school choir perform at most school church services and at other school and community events whenever possible.

All pupils take part in a weekly Hymn Practice where hymns and songs are practised for Acts of Worship the following week and the children are accompanied by piano or CD. This session is led by the subject leader.

Pupils are given the opportunity to listen to a range of music from different times and places and by different composers at the beginning and end of each Act of Worship.

This may sometimes be linked to the value of the month if possible/appropriate. Although listening music is primarily chosen by the subject leader, all members of staff are able to choose music appropriate to their Act of Worship.

Children have the opportunity to learn the violin with a teacher from Inspiring Music who visits the school once a week to provide lessons. Individuals and groups, who are receiving music lessons outside of school are encouraged to perform at regular intervals.

To experience breadth across the subject the children will experience four main types of activity:

**Perform** – children will be taught a range of songs and how to use their voices expressively. They will have the opportunity to play tuned and un-tuned instruments with increasing control and will rehearse and perform as a whole class or in smaller groups.

**Compose** – children will be taught about musical structures and rhythmic patterns when exploring and organising their ideas. As they progress they will begin to learn about how the different musical elements of pitch, duration, pace, dynamics, texture, timbre, form and silence can alter their compositions.

**Listen** – children should be able to listen with increasing concentration and develop the skills to internalise and recall sounds. They will begin to understand that music is created and performed in different ways, often according to time and place and can be described through pictorial or standard notations.

**Appreciate** – pupils will have the opportunity to explore and explain their own ideas and feelings about Music, through movement, dance and discussion. They will be able to formulate an opinion about what they have heard and will begin to make constructive comments about how compositions could be improved.

A scheme of work has been devised by the subject leader, with some use of ideas and musical excerpts from Music Express. This scheme is used as a basis to form lessons but can be adapted by class teachers as appropriate for their termly topic. Lessons have been planned from Year 1 through to Year 4 and regularly re-visit singing and rhythm skills. Year 1 and 2 focus on whole class composition, performance and practise of skills.

In Key Stage 2 the children usually begin with a whole class introduction but then may work in groups of their own choice. Chances are given to plan, rehearse and perform their musical ideas. Groups are encouraged to evaluate each other and themselves explaining if they would change anything to make improvements next time. Music lessons are predominantly practical with the children having the opportunity to play musical instruments in most lessons. However, each half term will involve some listening to a particular extract of music on a deeper level. Early Years foundation children are given musical opportunities through rhythm, pulse and simple singing activities. Some use is made of music lessons from Oak National academy and children are encouraged to respond to music through movement and dance.

Each year children in Key Stage 2 are invited to take part in a larger project at the Young Voices concert in the O2 arena in London. Weekly rehearsals take place in order to prepare for the performance which usually takes place early in the Spring Term.

Musical instruments are stored in two portable trollies. There is a range of pitched and un-pitched percussion and lessons can then take place either in classrooms or in warmer weather outside.

## Impact

The impact of our music teaching throughout the school will result in confident singers, musicians and composers by the time the children reach the end of their lower school journey. Children will be able to enjoy music as listeners, creators and performers and experience enjoyment in music which they can continue to embrace in their lives in the future. Assessment takes place in each lesson by observing pupils working and performing in weekly lessons and is used to inform future learning. Additional assessment is made through choir club, concerts and other performances.