

## School Music Development and Progression Plan.

### Partnerships and Publicity

As a school, we work closely with the Nottingham Music Service to offer a range of musical opportunities for our children, especially those in Key Stage 2. These opportunities include listening to performances put on by the Hub's ensembles and taking part in events organised by the Music Service. We regularly share information regarding extra ensembles run by the Music Service to the children who take part in extra-curricular music groups.

### Curriculum

All children will have the opportunity for an hour of music a week, including taking part in a singing assembly every week. For Year's 1-3 and 5-6, the children will follow a scheme from Sing Up, which covers all necessary areas of the National Curriculum and the Model Music Curriculum. This includes singing, building up from simple chants to singing in three-part harmony, and playing tuned and untuned percussion instruments. We have selected units that are engaging for the children and representative of a range of different genres and styles of music. The scheme, which starts from singing in Reception, builds on prior knowledge and understanding of key musical terms and features, ensuring that children make progress throughout their time in school. All children also take part in a weekly singing assembly where they learn to sing a range of songs including using Makaton.

### Whole Class Ensemble

Our Year 4 children take part in Whole Class Ensemble which is led by Nottingham Music Service. These children follow a curriculum that has been planned and developed by the Music Service. Each child will learn either the Trumpet or Cornet by a brass specialist who will teach them how to hold and blow the instruments correctly and play at least 5 notes (C, D, E, F and G.) (For further information about coverage please see the Nottingham Music Service Progression Framework <https://www.nottinghammusichub.org.uk/resources/schools> )

These lessons are inclusive of all needs and adaptations are made should children require them for them achieve their full potential. For example, children who have physical disabilities are eligible for adapted instruments or music stands to hold the instruments and children who have sensory needs are provided with ear defenders to reduce noise. These adaptations are discussed with the Music Hub staff and their partner (OHML.) School staff support Music Hub staff by helping children with placement of values for notes and joining in with the lessons.

Children have the option to continue their instruments in Year 5 and 6 through the Music Hub's Area Band ensemble. Children in Year 5 attend Music Camp, a two-day residential run by the Music Hub, further developing the children's understanding of music. These children then have weekly sessions learning to play a range of music from different genres and cultures. These are performed at venues in Nottingham including St Mary's Church in the Lace Market and The Albert Hall in Nottingham. Currently (2023-2024,) we have 16 children accessing follow on lessons.

Children in Years 4-6 have access to an individual brass instrument. Children in Year 5 and 6 hire these instruments from the Music Service. This is facilitated through school but paid for by the parents. All instruments are kept inside the Music Cupboard which the children can gain access to. Years 5 and 6 are encouraged to take their instruments home to practise for graded examinations. Nearer the time of examinations, children have opportunities to practise at school. Giving children the opportunity to practise at school is something that we need to develop further.

### Ensembles

At Cantrell, we have a successful Choir which is held after school for children in Years 3-6. Averaging 60 children, we work towards Young Voices through the first half the year, with a performance at Sheffield Arena and then a performance at school. For the remainder of the year, we practise and perform a range of songs from different genres including Musical Theatre, Pop, Classics and songs sung in different languages. In Choir, the children are taught to sing in two-part harmonies, sing in rounds and encouraged to sing solos and in small groups.

Our Area Band ensemble, run in conjunction with the Music Service, has become more popular and successful over the years. Averaging between 16-20 children, these children work weekly on developing their musicality and techniques playing the brass instruments. Our Area Band children perform in three concerts a year organised by the Music Service-Christmas in the City, March Area Band Concert and Summer Ensemble concert.

### Progression

In school progression is judged through the Sing Up Progression framework. We regularly look at children who are working above the expected standard and signpost them to ensembles we run in school or to those run by the Music Service. Currently, we have 2 child who attends a Music Service run ensemble and they regularly share how much fun they have. More children have expressed interest in joining ensembles and working with the Music Service, we regularly share information about the ensembles and how to join.

### Performance Opportunities.

All children in school from Nursery to Year 6 perform in Christmas concerts to parents. All year groups are actively encouraged to include singing in their Curriculum presentation assemblies. Year 4 have the opportunity to perform to other year groups, showcasing songs they have learnt in WCE. Area Band and Choir have additional opportunities to perform throughout the Year including performances led by the Music Service.

The children are also exposed to live music through different ways:

- All children have access to recordings of live music through the music curriculum
- Visiting theatre performances

In addition to this:

- Year 1 and 2 have access to working with a musician during Shakespeare Week;
- Year 4 attend the Great Orchestra Experiment performed by the Robin Hood Youth Orchestra;
- Years 5-6 who continue with their instruments perform concerts with and listen to the Robin Hood Youth Orchestra;
- Years 3-6 take part in Young Voices and experience performances by recording artists; the recording of the concert is then shared with the school.

### Updates September 2024

Out of the 15 children who continued with their brass lessons, 10 choose to take an examination.

- 6 were entered for Grade 1, scoring 4 Merits and 2 Distinctions
- 4 were entered for Grade 2, scoring 1 Pass, 2 Merits and 1 Distinction.

Year 1 children took part in the Nottingham Music Service MusiQuest Challenge with both classes finishing in the top 6.