

Brookside Primary School

Copse Close

Oadby, Leicester.



MUSIC POLICY



At Brookside Primary School, we provide opportunities for all children to create, play, perform and enjoy music, to develop skills and appreciate a wide variety of musical forms. We embrace the National Curriculum purpose of study which states:

“Music is a universal language that embodies 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 pupil’s progress, they should develop a critical engagement with music, allowing them to compose, and to listen with discrimination to the best in the musical canon.”

National Curriculum 2014

The objectives of teaching music at Brookside Primary School are to:

- Encourage our children’s understanding and enjoyment of music through an active involvement in listening, composing and performing;
- Provide the opportunity for children to develop their individual skills, sharing experience and cooperating with others;
- Help children to develop an awareness of musical traditions and developments from a variety of cultures.

Teaching and Learning Music at Brookside Primary School

At Brookside Primary School, we aim to make music an enjoyable learning experience. We encourage children to participate in a variety of musical experiences through which we endeavour to build up the confidence of all children. Children are given the opportunity to discover, explore and develop technical skills through practical music lessons.

We aim to meet, as far as possible, the requirements of the National Curriculum. Pupils’ understanding of music will be

developed through activities which bring together the requirements of performing, composing, listening and appraising.

Children are taught to recognise the musical elements of:

- duration
- dynamics
- pitch
- tempo
- timbre
- texture

Children are taught to make music together, to understand musical notation, and to compose. They are also taught to sing and play in time controlling the sound and pace. They are taught different ways to represent sounds graphically and symbolically.

There are weekly singing assemblies for all children. Our teaching focuses on developing the children's ability to sing expressively, in tune and with other people. Through singing songs, children learn about the structure and organisation of music. We teach them to listen to and appreciate different forms of music from various backgrounds and cultures.

As children get older, they are expected to maintain their concentration for longer, and to listen to more extended pieces of music. Children will be enabled to develop descriptive skills in music lessons when learning about how music can represent feelings and emotions. Children are also taught how to use technology as a tool for creating, manipulating and storing sounds.

To aid the teaching and learning of music at Brookside Primary the following musical resources are available:

- Interactive whiteboards and computers
- Tuned and untuned percussion instruments
- A range of audio musical resources which includes classical, popular and cultural music

- Recorders
- Ukuleles
- Boom Whackers
- Glockenspiels & Xylophones
- Turntables (rented from Leicestershire Music Hub)

The teaching and learning of music at Brookside Primary School also takes place in various extra-curricular activities. This provides further opportunities for children to develop an appreciation and enjoyment of music. Currently, children are able to participate in the following extra-curricular clubs:

- Piano Tuition
- Rock Steady
- Creative Arts Club

These lessons are delivered by peripatetic music teachers and regular teaching staff.

Music Curriculum Planning and Cross Curricular Links

At Brookside Primary School we use the Leicester Schools Music Service (LSMS) scheme of work for music as the basis for our curriculum planning, which builds upon prior learning. While there are opportunities for children of all abilities to develop their skills and knowledge in each teaching unit, the progression planned into the scheme of work means that the children are increasingly challenged as they move through the school. The LSMS scheme links closely to the Early Learning goals in the Early Years Foundation Stage and the objectives in the 2014 National Curriculum. Factors such as classroom organisation, teaching materials, teaching style, differentiation are considered to enable the children to learn more effectively. We also encourage cross-curricular links, ensuring music is taught as a holistic part of the curriculum where possible.

Assessment for learning

Children demonstrate their ability in music in a variety of different ways. Teachers will assess children's work in music by making informal judgements as they observe them during lessons. Video recordings are made of live musical performances for the children to use as self-assessment. Other recording methods are also employed to capture children's performances.

On completion of a piece of work, the teacher will assess the work and give oral or written feedback. Older and more able pupils are encouraged to make judgements about how they can improve their own work. Assessment is used as a tool for helping children to make future progress.

Individual class teachers will keep samples of children's work for their own evidence.

Musical Events at Brookside Primary School

We believe that music enriches the lives of people, and so we endeavour to involve as many children as possible in musical activities. Every year, children are given the opportunity to participate in our Year Group Celebration Assemblies and End of Year Musical Celebrations, which allow them to showcase their musical abilities. These events include whole school singing and performances from instrumentalists. Parents of performing children are invited to these concerts. We also provide opportunities for children to perform during events linked to other local schools and the Oak MAT and through links with LSMS.

We have regular informal performances in singing assemblies to celebrate the achievements of the children.

Music and Inclusion at Brookside Primary School

At Brookside Primary School, we teach music to all children, whatever their ability and individual needs. Music forms part of the school curriculum policy to provide a broad and balanced education. Through our music teaching we will provide learning

opportunities that enable all pupils to make good progress. Children will be provided with equal opportunities for participating and communicating their own musical ideas. We strive hard to meet the needs of those pupils with special educational needs and disabilities, those with special gifts and talents, and those learning English as an additional language, and we take all reasonable steps to achieve this.

Health and Safety

The health and safety of our pupils at Brookside Primary School is of great importance.

Therefore, the following guidelines will be followed in order to ensure our children's safety:

- Instruments will be checked regularly to ensure that they are in good repair and of good quality. All splintered or rusty instruments will be thrown away immediately.
- Heavy instruments will be stored at an easily accessible height which will prevent the need for any climbing.
- The school's pianos will only be moved by an adult member of staff.

At Brookside Primary, we enable pupils to have access to the full range of activities involved in learning and sharing music. Where children are to participate in activities outside the classroom, for example external performances and attending musical events a risk assessment will be carried out prior to the activity, to ensure that the activity is safe and appropriate for all pupils.

The Role of the Music Subject Lead

- The Music Subject Lead will take responsibility for monitoring the standards of children's work and the quality of music teaching in school.
- The Music Subject Lead will support colleagues where needed in their teaching and provide appropriate staff development training

where necessary. The Music Subject Lead will also keep staff updated with examples of musical activities and useful teaching resources.

- The Music Subject Lead will ensure that the Scheme of Work is in use throughout the year groups, and will help with implementing this.
- The Music Subject Lead will keep samples of children's work in a portfolio, which will be used to demonstrate the level of achievement in music in school.
- The Music Subject Lead will keep informed about current developments in Music, through attending various training sessions and accessing a range of resources. This will enable the Music Subject Lead to provide a strategic lead and direction for this subject in the school.
- The Music Subject Lead will take the lead in teaching new songs during assemblies.
- The Music Subject Lead will maintain the music room and instruments.
- The Music Subject Lead will liaise with the Music Service and peripatetic music teachers.
- The Music Subject lead will organise musical assemblies/concerts.
- The Music Subject Lead will ensure that children are exposed to external musical performances.

Updated by Mrs Sarah Hall, Music Subject Leader, June 2026
(Review: June 2029)