**Buckden CE Primary Academy – MUSIC**

At Buckden CE Primary Academy, 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 pupils 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)

**Intent**

The intent of music teaching at Buckden CE Primary Academy is 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.

**Implementation**

The implementation of Music at Buckden CE Primary Academy is to make music an enjoyable, learning experience. We encourage children to participate in a variety of musical experiences through which we endeavour to build the confidence of all children. Children are given the opportunity to discover, explore and develop technical skills through practical music lessons.

The implementation of Music is through our Global Curriculum – music is integral to this and is taught throughout our Global Learning topics (the Sustainable Development Goals). Lesson frequency and length is variable depending upon the topic and teacher’s discretion. This involves both whole class and small group activities.

Pupils’ understanding of music will be developed through activities which bring together the requirements of performing, composing & listening. 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. One of the main methods employed to help children to access and engage with music in school is singing.

Our teaching focuses on developing the children’s ability to sing expressively, in tune and with other people. This is achieved through weekly singing assemblies. 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.

Assembly songs are also linked to various annual celebrations and festivals, in line with the Christian ethos of the school, whilst also recognising our multi-cultural society.

The implementation of music at Buckden CE Primary Academy is aided by our musical resources:

* Interactive whiteboards and computers.
* Keyboards
* A set of African drums
* Tuned and untuned percussion instruments
* A range of musical resources on CD which includes classical, popular and cultural music
* Recorders
* A steel pan band
* Various music books including ‘Music Express’ resources

**Impact**

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 sound based 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 and evidence is given to subject leaders on a termly basis.

**Extra-Curricular Activities**

Music has a huge part to play across the school to encourage the development of a range of skills, e.g. teamwork, listening, aiming high. There are additional opportunities for the children to take part in music based clubs such as choirs. In the past, there has also been the opportunity to take part in the National Young Voices concerts. We have organised a performed a showcase of music, dance and performance talent at the Performing Arts Centre up at Hingchingbrooke School in 2016 & 2018.

**The Role of the Music Subject Leader**

The Music Subject Leader will take responsibility for monitoring the standards of children’s work and the quality of music teaching in school.

The Music Subject Leader will support colleagues where needed in their teaching and provide appropriate staff development training where necessary. The Music Subject Leader will also keep staff up-dated with examples of musical activities and useful teaching resources.

The Music Subject Leader will ensure that the Whole School Curriculum is in use throughout the year groups, and will help with implementing this. The Music Subject Leader 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 Leader to provide a strategic lead and direction for this subject in the school.

The Music Subject Leader will take the lead in teaching new songs during assemblies and provide the musical accompaniment on piano for most of the songs taught. The Music Subject leader will lead the school choir and organise both internal and external performances for the school’s choir.