

Coalway Community Infant School

Music Curriculum Intent



Whole school Vision

School Vision

- We will nurture our children to become happy, independent, confident and valued individuals who will be able to make healthy, happy relationships with a range of people. They will develop positive personal traits, values and attitudes, which will prepare them for later life experiences.

- We will ensure all of our children experience a broad, rich curriculum, tailored to the unique needs of each individual child.

Our children will have developed knowledge, understanding and skills across the curriculum by the time they leave us, ensuring that they have the skills necessary for their future success.

We will focus in particular on supporting the development of our children's early communication and language skills, early reading and early mathematics skills, to accelerate their progress and prepare them for the next stage of their education.

- We will enable our children to believe in themselves and be aspirational, to achieve the highest possible standards and be successful.
- We will help our children develop a love of and enthusiasm for learning, where they are proud of themselves and celebrate everyone's achievement.
- We will care for and support everyone within our 'Coalway family', establish good communication and relationships, and work together to provide the best outcomes for all of our children. We will continue to develop the children's understanding of their belonging within the community and the wider world and strive to develop strong successful partnerships beyond the school.
- We will ensure that all children try new things, perform in a show, learn outdoors, including within our beautiful Forest of Dean setting, have experiences within the local community, visit new places and have the opportunity to learn to swim.

Our children will leave Coalway Infants with positive, happy memories, having had a wealth of experiences and a range of academic, creative, sporting, cultural and spiritual opportunities.

Music vision

At Coalway Infant School our ambition is to enstall children with a love for music and performance. It is our aim to help children to feel that they are musical, to build confidence which then becomes a lifelong attribute. We focus on developing the skills, knowledge and understanding that children need in order to become confident performers, composers and listeners. Our curriculum introduces children to music from all around the world and across generations, teaching children to be respectful and appreciate the music of tradition and communities. We believe it is vital for children to be able to talk about music, not just how it makes them feel but identify instruments within a piece of music, how music changes and for them to be able to explain why. The children develop an understanding of the history and cultural context of the music that they listen to. Through music, our curriculum helps children develop transferrable skills such as team-work, leadership, creative thinking, presentation and performance skills.

How is Music taught?

Music in Early years and Key Stage One

Music at Coalway Infant School is taught weekly through the Kapow scheme of work. Children develop the musical skills of:

- singing
- playing tuned and untuned instruments
- improvising
- composing music
- listening and responding to music.
- Written notation

Our curriculum takes a holistic approach to music, where strands are woven together to create engaging learning experiences. Music lessons are taught through the strands:

- Performing

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- Listening
- Composing
- The history of music
- The inter-related dimensions of music (vocabulary)

Each unit of teaching consists of five lessons which combine these strands within topics designed to capture the children's imagination. The children are encouraged to explore music enthusiastically. The children learn about pitch, duration, tempo, timbre, structure, texture and dynamics and will be able to describe music using this vocabulary. This spiral curriculum helps to embed musical language as the children revisit skills and knowledge again and again and are built upon in each unit.

Early years at Coalway follow the same structure as key stage one. They also have untuned instrument in their outdoor provision area for children to explore further. In their continuous provision areas the children are exposed to nursery rhymes through their listening centre where the music is changed to enhance their listening experience.

Music assembly takes place once a week. At the start of each term a composer, genre of music and instrument of the term are introduced. Children are exposed to different genres of music from within and beyond living memory.

Autumn one: Baroque, Vivaldi, violin

Autumn two: Classical, Beethoven, piano

Spring one: Medieval, recorder

Spring two: Jazz, Louis Armstrong, trumpet

Summer one: Rege, Bob Marley, guitar

Summer two: Rap, vocals

The composers and instruments in Autumn and Spring were chosen to link to the instrumental lessons Year 1 and Year 2 children are learning to play. The children are also introduced to real life instruments in these assemblies. Songs are also learnt based on the value of that term along with vocal warm ups which are important for the children's wellbeing.

Enriching our curriculum

At Coalway Infant School the children perform to an audience throughout the year. Our shows consist of songs, actions and movement.

All children participate in a Harvest festival show and a Christmas carol concert.

Reception children perform a nativity or Christmas show.

Year 1 children perform an Easter show.

Year 2 children perform an end of year leavers show.

Each year group have the opportunity to learn to play an instrument which are taught through Gloucestershire Music. At the end of the ten week program they perform to their parents.

Performers are invited in to perform to the children.

At Coalway we also offer music clubs for Year 2 children.

Teachers are encouraged to explore music with their classes spontaneously through chanting mantras in maths and using songs to teach oceans and continents in Geography.

Why is Music taught in this way?

Music is taught this way to ensure the children leave Coalway Infant School equipped with a range of skills to enable them to succeed in KS2 and their secondary education and be able to appreciate music throughout their lives.

Our curriculum encourages children to be:

- confident performers, composers and listeners and will be able to express themselves musically at and beyond school.
- show appreciation and respect for a wide range of musical styles around the world and how music is influential. understand the ways in which music can be written down to support composing.

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- Demonstrate and articulate an enthusiasm for music and be able to identify their own personal preferences.
- Meet the end of key stage expectations.

How does Music meet our curriculum intent?

Cultural capital - visitors are invited in to support the skills and give the children new musical experiences. For example violin and recorder delivered by experienced musicians and pianists to perform recitals.

Raising self-esteem/self-confidence - as children work, they are encouraged and praised while developing each skill. Examples of children's work can be used to model and share best practise. Children are encouraged to perform their compositions to one and other to support and raise self-confidence and self-esteem.

Developing speech and language - Vocabulary and full sentences are modelled and expected when the children discuss their work. Music, song and rhythm help to support the speech and language for children.

Raise aspirations and set high expectations - A 'can do' attitude is adopted in all sessions and the belief is that everyone can achieve and succeed in Music. Children are encouraged to persevere and continue to develop their skills, recognising that their work is valued.

Develop life skills/social skills - Children are encouraged to talk about their ideas and share them with the class/group, accepting and giving support as required.

Progressive Curriculum - Currently Music is planned to ensure full coverage of the required elements in the EYFS framework and National Curriculum. The children's skills and knowledge are developed through a series of lessons that progressively build on previously taught skills.

Golden threads

- Children have the opportunity to experience live musicians through taught lessons and visitors.
- Children are encouraged to carry on learning an instruments outside of school with suggested groups that Gloucestershire Music provide as well as music club in school.
- A range of significant musicians from history have been chosen. The musicians come from different eras and ethnicities. Children can begin to link music to living memory and beyond living memory.
- Music is very practical, hands on and explorative. Collaborative work is celebrated and opinions encouraged.

Subject Leader drivers 2023-2024:

Raising the profile of music:

- Role out Kapow scheme of work
- Improve assessment in music in KS1
- Monitor childrens learning through floor books
- Arrange peripatetic lessons from Gloucestershire Music