



St. Andrew's C of E (VA) Primary School

## Music Statement

*“I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full. John 10:10”*

### **Our vision for music at St Andrew’s**

At St Andrew’s we know that music has the power to unite our school community. Whether singing favourite hymns in collective worship, celebrating musical talents in school productions, entertaining local residents or performing for the Lord Mayor, we all share the unique emotions and joy that music can bring. It is a wonderful vehicle for self expression; a creative and engaging activity which also provides opportunity for reflection and spiritual development. We delight in sharing a child’s musical progress, from their first faltering squeaks on a clarinet or nervous performance in a talent show to becoming confident and competent young musicians. We have often seen how the musical foundations a pupil develops at St Andrew’s can promote a life-long love of music, inspiring them to join youth orchestras and bands in their teenage years.

We believe that a rich music curriculum can increase self-confidence, creativity and imagination and give pupils a sense of personal achievement. Research by the Education Endowment Fund indicates that the impact of arts participation is positive and improved outcomes have been identified in the core subjects – English, Mathematics, and Science. Wider benefits include more positive attitudes to learning and increased well-being. Music enables children to better understand the world they live in and develop curiosity for different cultures and ideas. It can also be a highly academic and demanding subject, requiring patience and resilience as pupils learn to play a musical instrument or read musical notation.

### **Music Intent:**

At St Andrew’s we want children to participate in a wide range of activities to develop their talents in all aspects of music and to feel confident to perform and share their musical skills.

*Through the teaching of Music, St Andrew’s CE Primary School intends pupils to:*

- Enjoy and have an appreciation for music.
- Listen to, review and evaluate music across a range of historical periods, genres, styles and traditions, including the works of the great composers and musicians.
- Learn to sing and use their voices to create different effects.
- Have the opportunity to learn to play a musical instrument.
- Use technology appropriately.
- Understand and explore the structure and inter-related dimensions of music.
- Create and compose music on their own and with others.
- Take part in performances with an awareness of audience.

When pupils move on from St Andrew’s, we hope that they will use their musical skills, knowledge, and experiences to involve themselves in music, in a variety of different contexts.

### **Music Implementation:**

Music teaching at St Andrew's CE Primary School follows the specifications of the 2014 National Curriculum; providing a broad, balanced and differentiated curriculum and ensuring the progressive development of musical concepts, knowledge and skills.

Music plays an important part in our wider curriculum. It is sometimes integrated into topics, and sometimes taught discretely to ensure the coverage of skills and knowledge. Our provision is varied and may be taught by both specialist and non specialist teachers, guided by the year group expectations on our Music Progression Map. Non-specialist teachers use the Music Express scheme of work for their year group or plan their own themed units using other resources. Please see the music curriculum map for details.

Within the EYFS setting, music is an integral part of children's learning journey. The 2021 Early Years Foundation Stage Curriculum encompasses all areas of creative development, particularly in the area of Expressive Arts and Design and Understanding the World. Children learn a wide range of songs and rhymes and develop skills for performing together. They explore rhythm and the sounds made by different instruments. Singing and music making opportunities are used frequently to embed learning, develop musical awareness and to demonstrate how music can be used to express feelings.

Children in Year 2, Year 3 and Year 4 benefit from whole class instrumental lessons delivered by Miss Smith, a specialist teacher from Plymouth Youth Music Service (PYMS) as a part of our Wider Opportunities sessions. These lessons give children the opportunity to learn to play both the ukulele (Year 2 & 3) and the Eb clarinet (Year 4) and perform individually or as part of an ensemble. Throughout the sessions the interrelated elements of music are developed. The Music Service use elements of Charanga in their sessions.

Music teaching at St Andrew's is inclusive and we aim to challenge children of all abilities. Opportunities will be provided for pupils with Special Educational Needs through differentiation in planning and staff ensure that learning activities are accessible. The needs of pupils with physical disabilities are also taken into consideration when planning work. Pupils will be supported where necessary by the class teacher or classroom assistant.

Performance is at the heart of music teaching and learning at St Andrew's and pupils participate in a range of performances during their school life. These range from termly class assemblies, celebrations of religious festivals at the Minster Church of St Andrew, musical tea parties and concerts, as well as a variety of community events, such as carol singing at Wesley Court or a WW2 sing along performance. We also participate in other events when they present themselves, for example, performing at Armed Forces Day or the Lord Mayor's Carol Service. Parents are invited and welcomed to watch many of these performances whether at school or outside of school.

Alongside our curriculum provision for music, we can also offer small group keyboard lessons and Bb clarinet lessons at a small cost to parents. The school also has a popular choir, currently run by Miss Smith as an after school club.

Whenever possible, we endeavour to give the pupils an opportunity to experience high quality live music from visiting musicians or attending orchestral concerts funded by the charity Plymouth Music Accord.

## **Impact**

Throughout their time at St Andrew's, children will have access to a varied programme of music, allowing them to discover areas of strength, as well as areas they might like to improve upon.

Feedback to pupils about their progress in music aims to help them learn by being positive and constructive. Feedback is always given whilst a task is being carried out through discussion between child and teacher.

Formative assessment is also used to guide the progress of individual pupils. It involves identifying each child's progress in each aspect of the subject, determining what each child has learned and what therefore should be the next stage in his/her learning. Formative assessment is mostly carried out informally by teachers in the course of their teaching. Suitable tasks for assessment include:

- Small group discussions in the context of a practical task.
- Specific tasks for individual pupils.
- Individual discussions in which children are encouraged to appraise their own work and progress.
- Peer and Self-assessment.

Records of progress in music are recorded through video and photographs which are stored on the school drive, showing evidence and progress of the children's learning. The music progression map is used to help teachers identify appropriate expectations and curriculum coverage. Assessments are reported annually to parents.

The impact of our music curriculum is also measured in the uptake of our music after school clubs and uptake of additional small group instrumental teaching.