



Newnham St Peter's C of E Primary School Music Curriculum



School Vision

Cherish Everyone ~ Flourish Together ~ Serve Others

Newnham St Peter's School Intent Statement

We aim to work in partnership with parents, governors, the Church and the community to provide a broad and balanced curriculum that enables all our children to develop into well rounded individuals and life-long learners. As a church school our curriculum is built upon a strong Christian foundation, with our core values of hope, perseverance, respect, friendship, forgiveness and thankfulness at the heart of all we do.

Curiosity underpins lifelong learning, from pre-school up our curriculum is based upon asking questions and exploring. Reading is the gateway to sustainable learning. We have a structured approach to reading to ensure children develop skills that are applied across the curriculum. Vocabulary is a key focus and our curriculum is designed to ensure children develop both rich creative and subject specific vocabulary.

To ensure knowledge is retained and learning 'sticks', our curriculum is carefully mapped out across all phases, providing continuity, supporting transition and revisiting / building on key concepts.

Our curriculum takes inspiration from our Forest of Dean setting next to the River Severn whilst also ensuring that pupils are outward looking with planned opportunities to gain experience of the wider world.

We aim for children to leave our school not only achieving their full academic potential, but with the skills to keep themselves physically, mentally and spiritually fit. The confidence to push themselves outside of their comfort zone and the moral compass and drive to be active global citizens.

Intent – What we want for the children

Our music curriculum fulfils the requirements of the national curriculum. It is designed first and foremost to help children feel that they are musical and to encourage them to develop a life-long love of music. It focuses on the skills and knowledge children need in order to become confident performers, composers and listeners. Our music curriculum introduces children to music from all around the world and across generations, teaching children to respect and appreciate the music of different traditions and communities.

Units of work are interwoven to ensure children develop the musical skills of singing, playing tuned and untuned instruments, improvising and composing music and listening and responding to music. They learn to recognise and name the interrelated dimensions of music – pitch, duration, tempo, timbre, structure texture and dynamics through a spiral curriculum. All units are supported by Knowledge Organisers that ensure children's knowledge is underpinned by technical vocabulary required of a musician.

Across the curriculum, children develop an understanding of the history and cultural context of the music that they listen to, including how music can tell stories. They learn how music can be written down.

Children learn how to play the glockenspiel and this is regularly revisited throughout the curriculum. In Years 3 and 4 they learn how to play the Gambang, working with Gloucestershire Music academy.

In Years 5 and 6 they transfer the skills learn from both instruments to learn about campanology and play the hand chimes in a joint project with the Church. Children in Year 6 have the opportunity to join the Church bell ringers.

Through music children develop transferable skills of team-work, leadership, creative thinking, problem-solving, decision-making and presentation and performance skills. At times this pushes them out of their comfort zone.

An appreciation of music supports wellbeing and enhances our children's spiritual awareness.

We link with the Forest of Dean Orchestra to provide accessible opportunities for children to hear live music. We offer peripatetic lessons in viola, violin, cornet and trumpet with bursary funding for families that need financial support.

See also: Newnham St Peter's Curriculum overview

Newnham St Peter's Progression of skills

Implementation – How it will be delivered

In EYFS (pre-school and reception) children have daily opportunities to experience music. From Year One music is delivered in 5 lesson units. Each unit is supported by a knowledge organiser.

For Years 1 – 4 lessons are delivered in blocks. In the final two years of school lessons move to weekly, preparing children for the transition to secondary school timetables.

Gloucestershire Music Academy deliver 10 music lessons to Year 3 and 4 over 10 weeks, the first and final lessons being delivered at Cheltenham and including an end of unit performance.

The school follows the Kapow music scheme. This provides structured, differentiated lesson plans and CPD for non-specialists.

The school has a selection of percussion instruments alongside a class set of glockenspiels and access to the Church's hand chimes.

Impact- What we want the outcomes to be

Our children will:

- 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 from around the world and understand how music is influenced by the wider cultural, social and historical contexts in which it's developed
- Understand the ways in which music can be written down to support performing and composing activities.
- Demonstrate and articulate an enthusiasm for music and be able to identify their own personal musical preferences.
- Meet end of key stage expectations outlined in the National Curriculum for music.

Impact is measured through formative assessment and through summative end of unit assessment, primarily based on performance.