

St Joseph the Worker Catholic Primary School



Music Policy 2023/2025

St Joseph the Worker Music Policy

At St Joseph the Worker Catholic 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 will 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

At St Joseph the Worker Catholic 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 to all children. Through our music teaching we provide learning opportunities that enable all pupils to make progress.

The objectives of teaching music in our school follow those set out in the National Curriculum and will enable children to:

- perform, listen to, review and evaluate music across a range of historical periods, genres, styles and traditions, including the works of the great composers and other musicians including contemporary musicians
- learn to sing and to use their voices, to create and compose music on their own and with others, have the opportunity to learn a musical instrument, use technology appropriately and have the opportunity to progress to the next level of musical excellence
- use their voices expressively and creatively by singing songs and speaking chants and rhymes
- understand and explore how music is created, produced and communicated, including through the inter-related dimensions: pitch, duration, dynamics, tempo, timbre, texture, structure and appropriate musical notations.

IMPLEMENTATION

At St Joseph the Worker Catholic 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.

- Pupils will learn how to play tuned and untuned instruments musically play and perform in solo and ensemble contexts, using their voices and playing musical instruments with increasing accuracy, fluency, control and expression.
- Pupils will experiment with, create, select and combine sounds using the inter-related dimensions of music. Improvise and compose music for a range of purposes using the inter-related dimensions of music.
- Children will learn how to listen with concentration and understanding to a range of high quality live and recorded music.
- Pupils will learn how to pay attention to detail and recall sounds with increasing aural memory.
- When appropriate they will use and understand staff and other musical notations.
- They will be helped to appreciate and understand a wide range of high quality live and recorded music drawn from different traditions and from great composers and musicians as they develop an understanding of the history of music.

At St Joseph the Worker Catholic Primary School, we enhance our curriculum with the Charanga Resource which is supported by the Knowsley Music Hub. Charanga provides teachers with lesson support for each year group. It provides lesson plans, assessment, clear progression and engaging and exciting whiteboard resources to support every lesson. Charanga supports all the requirements of the new National Curriculum and provides a practical, exploratory and child-led approach to musical learning.

Wider Opportunities

Children in either Year 3/4 are provided with the opportunity to participate in a wider opportunities whole class instrumental teaching project which is provided by Knowsley Music Service. The lessons are 1hr per week for the academic year. They are delivered by a peripatetic music teacher. These lessons help the children to further develop their skills in making music together and understanding musical notation. At the end of the year children undergo an assessment and any children showing good musical ability are invited to join suitable after school music clubs run by Knowsley Music Service.

The Foundation Stage

Children in Reception have access to 'Charanga Music School', but music is also taught in the EYS classes as an integral part of the topic work covered during the year. We relate the musical aspects of the children's work to the objectives set out in the Early Learning Goals (ELGs) which underpin the curriculum planning for children aged three to five. Music contributes to a child's personal and social development. Counting songs foster a child's mathematical ability and songs from different cultures increase a child's knowledge and understanding of the world.

Singing

One of the main methods employed to help children to access and engage with music at St Joseph the Worker Catholic Primary 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 a ½ hr singing session every 2 weeks for KS1 and a ½ hr weekly singing session for Key Stage 2 pupils. Through singing, children learn about the structure and organisation of music. We teach them to listen to and appreciate different forms of music from various genres, backgrounds and cultures. Songs are also linked to various annual celebrations and festivals such as Harvest, Christmas, Easter and other Catholic celebrations throughout the year.

There is an after school choir for KS2 children. The choir participate annually in the Young Voices Concert and perform at other events such as the Knowsley Schools festival and Big Sing events.

Inclusion

At St Joseph the Worker, we believe all pupils regardless of age, race, gender, religion or ability should have equal access to music provision and equal opportunity to develop music capability.

In order to help teachers adapt and differentiate lessons according to the needs of the pupils, Charanga offers differentiated resources for those who have SEND and gives those who are Gifted and Talented the opportunity to follow written music. Care is taken to ensure that any SEND or interventions are timetabled to ensure that children are never routinely or frequently missing any one subject, and that all children have the opportunity to frequently take part in singing.

The Music Subject Lead will liaise closely with the SENDCO (Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Coordinator) to ensure that all our children have appropriate access to music, including provision of appropriate equipment or support where necessary or possible.

By offering children a curriculum which is tailored to their needs, we hope to see that all children have the chance to succeed.

IMPACT

All pupils will benefit from a high quality music education which will engage and inspire pupils to develop a love of music and their talent as musicians. It will increase their self-confidence, creativity and sense of achievement. As pupils progress, they will develop a critical engagement with music, allowing them to listen to and enjoy a wide and rich range of music.