

Years 3-6 are taught in class groups. This enables support, challenge and high aspirations.

Musical skills are taught progressively through a combination of creative music lessons, and discrete weekly singing lessons.

Music teaching aims to increase children's confidence in their musical ability with opportunities to play and perform; improvise and compose; use musical notation and listen to and appreciate a variety of musical genres, leading to an understanding of the history of music. It offers an integrated, practical, exploratory and child-led approach to musical learning, which extends beyond the classroom. Children can become members of our keyboard or recorder clubs, or our school choir: we have a history of choral performance.

Music contributes greatly to the general ethos of Uplands and is an integral part of the school day. From assemblies to mindfulness; hymn practice to cross-curricular links - as a school community, music unites both staff and children. It provides opportunities to promote the children's spiritual, moral, social and cultural development, as well as our respect for all ethos.

Years 3, 5 and 6 use Charanga Musical School to teach the knowledge, skills and understanding of Music as outlined in the programmes of study in the National Curriculum. A Whole Class Instrumental Teaching (WCIT) approach has been adopted for the Year 4 children, which enhances musical learning through the study of two instruments from the same instrumental family.

Every opportunity is taken to provide a wide variety of musical experiences: visiting musicians and artists; live music; music workshops and participation in international events (Peace Day; Sing Up Day). These foster our core values, reinforce our Art of Brilliance principles - resilience, kindness and personal responsibility, and help the children to understand their place in the world as global citizens.

Pupil progress is assessed using informal judgements during lessons. Video recordings allow for pupil self-assessment and initiate a dialogue between staff and children: future learning is then revised accordingly. Pupils are assessed at the end of each term, and the end of each year against key learning objectives and skills.



Music at Uplands

What does it look like?



We actively promote and foster a musical culture at Uplands with a curriculum that aims to stimulate, engage and inspire every child to develop a love of music, whilst increasing the confidence they have in their talents as musicians. It is a curriculum that is continually evolving, in order to embrace and reflect changes in musical culture. For this reason, the children's ideas and input are actively encouraged, in order that they are engaged in helping to create, adapt and shape a curriculum that is exciting, current and relevant to them.

We invite children to share with their peers, the musical talents that they are developing outside the classroom, whilst also helping them to explore their goals and aspirations. This promotes respect and enables pupils to enjoy [UNCRC Articles: article 12 \(respect for the views of the child\); article 23 \(children with disability\); article 28 \(right to education\) and article 29 \(goals of education\).](#)

The children have the opportunity to learn to play a musical instrument. Our peripatetic music staff provide small-group woodwind, brass and string instrumental tuition. The children work towards music accreditation and are encouraged to develop and apply their skills by becoming members of the Uplands school orchestra. 'Flying Fives' also offers small group teaching for Year 5 children who wish to continue learning an instrument as a result of the WCIT.

In connection with our Art of Brilliance project, we have explored the link between singing, music and wellbeing, recognising its positive impact. As a result, mindfulness music opportunities are incorporated into the school day. We have also taken singing beyond the classroom and have become a Singing Playgrounds school: our song leaders are helping to build an inclusive, child-led singing culture at Uplands, encouraging children to have fun with sharing and adapting singing games during playtimes and lunchtimes.

Musical opportunities and successes are valued and celebrated with a variety of planned performance opportunities for showcasing musical skills, talents and achievements: class assemblies; Christmas and Leavers' productions; celebration days; performances within the local community and also on a large scale where possible, allowing each child to demonstrate their abilities as a musician.