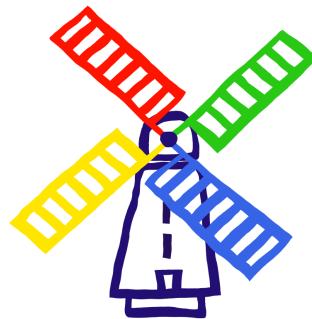


Music Policy

Unity
Trust
Courage
Curiosity
Respect
Kindness



A community for learning. Raising expectations. Fulfilling high standards.

Policy Revised: **September 2024**
Policy Review Date: **September 2025**
Headteacher: **Mrs Gemma Hillier**



We aim to deliver a consistently high quality music curriculum which is exciting, challenging, enjoyable, and provides varied learning opportunities such as:

- Developing knowledge, skills and understanding across a broad range of musical activities.
- Participating in collaborative musical events, activities and performances.
- To use music to build pupils self-confidence, self-esteem and maintain well-being.
- To encourage involvement in extracurricular music activities and develop community links.
- Increase participation in music both in and out of school.
- To develop staff competence and confidence in the delivery of high quality music lessons.

All children are taught by Widmer End school teaching staff for the majority of their music lessons. Children from Reception to Year 6 have weekly 45 minute lessons during curriculum time each week. Once a year, for one half term, one of these weekly lessons are replaced by Forest School sessions. The music curriculum at Widmer End covers the National Curriculum objectives for music. The school uses a published scheme of work 'Get Set 4 Music' to ensure year on year progression in skills, knowledge and understanding.

Participation in music

We aim for full participation in every music lesson and aim to do this by:

- Using a wide range of resources and teaching strategies to actively engage pupils in participating in lessons.
- Taking into consideration the range of pupil needs to ensure continuity and progression in learning is provided and music lessons are suitably differentiated in order to support and challenge pupils.
- Staff ensure that pupils of all abilities are able to access the music curriculum by providing alternative or different resources to develop new skills and ensure a positive relationship with music from an early age.



Music outside of the curriculum

In addition to music lessons, there are a range of opportunities throughout the school day. Music is played throughout the school during the school day featuring a range of styles and genres of music. In addition, clubs such as choir are available to pupils and complement the curriculum, supporting the interests of pupils. Regular singing assemblies support our wish for all the children to develop a life-long love for music and singing.

To increase opportunities and inspire children, we work with some outside providers to deliver peripatetic music lessons which would not normally be covered in curriculum time. These include guitar, piano, singing and drums. Children also get the opportunity to play in a band in a club called 'Rocksteady'.

Equal opportunities and inclusion

We comply with the Equality Act 2010 and are proactive in ensuring that all pupils, including those with SEND or other children in vulnerable groups are provided with a comprehensive programme of music. We will endeavour to adapt activities to suit specific individual needs, where possible. Where appropriate, this may mean providing specialised equipment, differentiating activities, offering a parallel or separate activity with a support assistant, or setting a challenge appropriate to their skill level.

Mental health and well being

At Widmer End, we involve children regularly in discussions about mental health and well being to equip them to make good decisions about themselves. We teach pupils to understand that enjoyment of music and musical activities can impact positively on their mental wellbeing. Many classes regularly play music in lessons to support their children's focus and behaviour for learning, too.



Widmer End Community Combined School & Pre-School

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Pupil Premium Funding

Children who are in receipt of Pupil Premium funding are offered access to music clubs such as 'Rocksteady' at a subsidised rate or, in some cases, free of charge.

A breakdown of the funding allocation (which is subject to change) can be viewed on the school website.

Resources, Trips and Visitors

The school has a range of musical instruments and resources to support the teaching of music which are stored in the music room cupboard. An inventory of musical instruments is made available to all staff for reference. The school now has a dedicated Music room, whereby children can be taught music in a quiet space without the worry of disturbing others with a special acoustic ceiling installed!

The children enjoy attending local trips, including Christmas Carol singing, and children in the school choir have annual performances booked at locations such as the Royal Albert Hall and Wembley Arena. Risk Assessments are in place for all school trips, along with the requirement to record and submit all intended visits on the Evolve school visits system. All school trips and visits must have first been submitted to Evolve and Head Teacher for approval before a visit can go ahead.

Assessment

Children's work in music is assessed during the lesson in the form of feedback given on their performances. This feedback is then used in the planning of future lessons to ensure that key knowledge and skills are covered. Assessment, using learning objectives broken down and available on the Get Set 4 Music website, is carried out by the teachers and is based on teacher judgement and pupil voice. Pupils at the end of each term are marked at either working towards, working at or working at greater depth standard and this data is recorded on Arbor.



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Monitoring Arrangements

The subject leader will monitor the way music is taught throughout the school in a number of ways:

1. Monitoring the teaching and learning of music and to ensure that children are progressing in their understanding of the subject during their journey through the school.
2. Reviewing and adapting the school's music coverage.
3. Maintaining and developing a rich and varied range of resources (update the Budget Bid annually).
4. Identifying and attending INSET/ courses including regular updating on subject knowledge and providing staff with appropriate feedback.
5. Providing guidance and support to all members of staff, and generally promoting music within the school.
6. Enable staff to provide enriching learning experiences for pupils such as visits and school trips.
7. Writing, implementing, monitoring and evaluation of the annual music subject action plan.

This ensures that coverage within units is complete and also that assessment arrangements across the school are consistent.

Roles and Responsibilities

The Subject Leader

- It is the role of the music subject leader to ensure that there is a continual drive to raise standards in the teaching and learning of music.

The Staff

- Other staff will ensure that the school curriculum is implemented in accordance with this policy.

The Headteacher

- The headteacher is responsible for ensuring that this policy is adhered to.

The Governors

- The governing board will monitor the effectiveness of this policy and hold the headteacher to account for its implementation.

See also the [Music Development Plan](#) for further detail about the music provision in our school.