Moorsway Federation

Music

At the Moorsway Federation being a Musician means our children are active listeners, creative composers and confident performers. We want to inspire a life-long love of music as a means of self-expression and connecting with others through exposure to diverse musical experiences.

Intent

'Music is a universal language that embodies one of the highest forms of creativity' (The National Curriculum)

The National Curriculum for music aims to ensure that all children:

• perform, listen to, review and evaluate music

• be taught to sing, create and compose music

• understand and explore how music is created, produced and communicated

In the Moorsway Federation, children gain a firm understanding of what music is through listening, singing, playing, evaluating, analysing, and composing across a wide variety of historical periods, styles, traditions, and musical genres. We are committed to developing a curiosity for the subject, as well as an understanding and acceptance of the validity and importance of all types of music, and an unbiased respect for the role that music may wish to be expressed in any person's life. We are committed to ensuring children understand the value and importance of music in the wider community and are able to use their musical skills, knowledge, and experiences to involve themselves in music, in a variety of different contexts.

Implementation

The music curriculum ensures children sing, listen, play, perform and evaluate. This is embedded in the classroom activities as well as assemblies, various concerts and performances, and the learning of instruments. The elements of music are taught in the classroom lessons so that children are able to use some of the language of music to dissect it, and understand how it is made, played, appreciated and analysed. In the classroom, students learn how to play various un-tuned and tuned percussion instruments. In doing so they understand the different principles of creating notes, as well as how to devise and read their own musical scores and basic music notation. They also learn how to compose, focusing on different dimensions of music, which in turn feeds their understanding when listening, playing, or analysing music. Composing or performing using body percussion and vocal sounds is also part of the curriculum, which develops the understanding of musical elements without the added complexity of an instrument. Through the musical program Charanga, teachers are able to

produce inclusive lessons for all children to access the musical curriculum in a fun and engaging way, further promoting a love of learning. Children throughout the federation have opportunities to learn instruments such as the ukulele, recorder, djembe and steel pans through Devon Music Education Hub's Whole Class Ensemble Tuition (WCET) programme.

Impact

Whilst in the Moorsway Federation, children have access to a varied programme, which allows them to discover areas of strength, as well as areas they might like to improve upon. The integral nature of music and the learner creates an enormously rich palette from which a child may access fundamental abilities such as: achievement, self-confidence, interaction with and awareness of others, and self-reflection. Music will also develop an understanding of culture and history, both in relation to children individually, as well as ethnicities from across the world. Children are able to enjoy music in as many ways as they choose – either as listener, creator or performer. They can discuss music and comprehend its parts. They can sing, feel a pulse, add rhythms and create melodies in a group and they can further develop these skills in the future and continue to enjoy and embrace music in their lives.

Music in the Early Years

From an early age, children in the Moorsway Federation are encouraged to explore and play with a wide range of musical instruments, as well as being provided with opportunities and encouragement for sharing their thoughts, ideas and feelings through a variety of activities in music. All children are encouraged to explore music through singing songs, making their own music and experimenting with changing them to create their own melodies.