Harrietsham Church of England Primary School: Subject Specific Concepts and the reasons for our choices



Subject: Music

Within our Music curriculum (Kapow), we learn about different types of inter-related dimensions of music:

Concept	Why learn about this concept?	Year group studied
	Inter-related dimension of music	
Listening and evaluating	We will expect the children to express musical preferences; explore the impact of musical ideas; and understand how effects are created by combining musical elements. Listening and evaluating encompasses many musical elements including timbre (sound quality), pitch (high or low sounds), texture (how many sounds there are), tempo (speed), duration (long or short) and dynamics (loud or quiet). By listening to the musical elements in a focused way, the children are able to hear the elements in a meaningful context and apply their understanding of these key features. The children will become aware of different musical genres and begin to form a justified preference using their understanding of the key musical elements. By refining their close listening skills, the children will be able to pick out the different features of songs and identify a range of musical instruments that are used, as well as beginning to understand how they are used to create a particular effect.	Year R Year 1 Year 2 Year 3 Year 4 Year 5 Year 6
	Listening and evaluating is a Harrietsham key concept because we believe music stimulates the brain, and with its varied sounds and lyrics, children are exposed to a large amount of vocabulary in a short amount of time. Music brings us joy and allows children to express themselves in a unique way, which motivates their learning and builds on their self-confidence and identity.	
Creating sound	Creating sound is all about the children exploring their vocal skills; developing skills to manipulate sounds on a range of instruments. Creating sound is a Harrietsham key concept because we believe singing is important because it builds self- confidence and self-esteem. It engages children's emotions and enables children from all backgrounds and abilities to come together to create something special together. Singing provides an emotional release for children; it provides a way to express feelings that they might not be able to verbalise and connects children together. Through singing, children are able to build on their musical memory and develop their musical ear.	Year R Year 1 Year 2 Year 3 Year 4 Year 5 Year 6
	Learning to play an instrument stimulates the brain and develops creativity, resilience, concentration and memory skills.	
Notation	Notation is recognising the basics of musical notation; reading simple rhythmic patterns; developing the foundation knowledge of how staff and graphic notations can communicate music.	Year R Year 1 Year 2 Year 3
	Notation is a Harrietsham key concept because we believe in the importance of helping our children to use a series of symbols, pictures and markings to allow them to express how to perform a composition. At our school we use graphic and staff notation.	Year 4 Year 5 Year 6

Improvising and composing	We will expect the children to create and refine their own music through improvisation and notation; experimenting with styles and features; employing musical concepts to add interest.	Year R Year 1 Year 2
	musical concepts to dud interest.	Year 3
	Composing and Improvising is a Harrietsham key concept because we believe that	Year 4
	children should learn to select and organise sounds to successfully communicate an	Year 5
	intention to the audience. Children will have the opportunity to use learnt pieces to scaffold their own creations.	Year 6
Performing	We will expect the children to use their voices expressively, developing instrumental	Year R
	control and expression; and performing as part of a group.	Year 1
		Year 2
	Performing is a Harrietsham key concept because we believe in the importance of	Year 3
	our children learning how to be confident in front of a crowd. They practise how to	Year 4
	hold themselves on stage and how to overcome challenges when things haven't	Year 5
	gone to plan. Through performing, children are able to develop their self-esteem,	Year 6
	teamwork skills and resilience.	