

‘Shine like stars’ Philippians 2:15

All of our curriculum is designed so all children have the opportunity to grow and develop the gifts that God has given to them and to know their value and worth in His world.

Music Vision Statement

Intent

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

At **Lowdham CofE Primary**, 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 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 through the structured music programme *Charanga*, as well as the weekly singing assemblies, choir, and teaching from specialist music teachers. The *Charanga* units are selected carefully to ensure clear progression throughout the school. In some units, the children have the opportunity to learn an instrument – we have a class set of djembe drums, glockenspiels, recorders and ukuleles. The elements of music are taught in the classroom lessons so that children are able to use some of the musical vocabulary of music to analyse it, and understand how it is made and played or sung. They also learn how to compose and improvise, using their voices, body percussion, tuned or un-tuned percussion instruments. Children will learn how to use both graphic and standard notation. All children also have the opportunity to take part in a production each year. Key Stage 1 produce a nativity, Years 3 and 4 produce a musical in the spring, and Years 5 and 6 produce a musical in the summer.

Impact

Children’s knowledge and skills in music develop progressively as they move through the school, enabling them to meet the requirements of the National Curriculum. Children are able to enjoy music in as many ways as they choose without the fear of getting it ‘wrong’ – either as listener, creator or performer. They can dissect music and comprehend its parts. They can sing and feel a pulse. They have an understanding of how to further develop skills less known to them, should they ever develop an interest in their lives.

The productions boost the children’s confidence and communication skills. Many children volunteer for small group parts or solos, even at Year 1. Singing is excellent for children’s mental and physical health. Studies have shown that it releases endorphins which gives a feeling of well-being and happiness.