

Why is it important to teach Music?

At North Road, we believe that music is a universal language that can inspire and motivate children. It gives an opportunity for personal expression and plays an important part in the personal development of an individual, increasing self-confidence, creativity and a sense of achievement.

What does Music look like at North Road?

Music at North Road is taught using resources from the Sing Up Music scheme, supplemented with units from the BBC Ten Pieces. We foster sensitivity to, and understanding and enjoyment of, music through active involvement in listening, composing and performing building the confidence of all our children.

Singing lies at the heart of good music teaching. Through the Sing Up units, and weekly singing assembly, we develop the children's ability to sing in tune, as well as working collaboratively to make music together ensuring they listen carefully to those around them. Through singing songs, our children also learn about the structure and organisation of music.

Children listen to a variety of music genres, including works of the great composers and musicians, and use the language of music to appreciate and appraise pieces. The elements of music (pitch, tempo, dynamics, timbre, structure, duration and texture) are taught from Reception to Year 6. The children constantly revisit the elements through our scheme which enables them to begin to understand the music they listen to both in and out of school.

Events and learning opportunities

Weekly singing assemblies – children practise and perform a range of songs in unison and parts.

Learning an instrument – there is the opportunity for our children to learn the piano and volunteer to perform to parents at our end of term assemblies. The one-to-one lessons are provided by our qualified peripatetic teacher. There is also the opportunity, in lower Key Stage Two, for children to learn a musical instrument (other than voice) through a whole-class ensemble teaching programme led by the South Gloucestershire Hub for Music.

Children can also learn the recorder as part of a lunchtime club run by one of our parents.

All children have the opportunity to share their love of singing in the wider community. Previous events have included singing at Christmas in Yate town centre for charity and taking part in the town's St. George's Day events. We have also taken part in the 'Big Sing' with our partner schools from the Domino Alliance Hub, led by an independent singing coach.

What our children say....

"I enjoy choir because I love singing with others – it makes me happy."

"I like singing assembly because we learn to be better singers. Singing makes me feel happy."

"I enjoy learning songs and looking at the meaning of lyrics. Playing the keyboard in music lessons made me want to start learning the piano and now I have my own keyboard at home."