



# Catholic School

*“Learning Together, Loving God”*

## Music Policy

September 2022 - to be reviewed September 2023

## **INTENT**

Our mission statement 'Learning together, loving God' encapsulates the balance between learning about ourselves, others and knowledge of our world, with the aim of converting this knowledge into understanding and skills that combine to serve our community as a whole.

Our intention is first and foremost to help children to feel that they are musical, and to develop a life-long love of music. Our curriculum focusses on developing the skills, knowledge and understanding that children need in order to become confident performers, composers, and listeners. Our curriculum introduces children to music from all around the world and across generations, teaching children to respect and appreciate the music of all traditions and communities.

Children will develop the musical skills of singing, playing tuned and untuned instruments, improvising and composing music, and listening and responding to music. They will develop an understanding of the history and cultural context of the music that they listen to and learn how music can be written down. Through music, our curriculum helps children develop transferable skills such as team-working, leadership, creative thinking, problem-solving, decision-making, and presentation and performance skills. These skills are vital to children's development as learners and have a wider application in their general lives outside and beyond school.

Our intent is to cover the breadth of the Bailiwick Curriculum augmented with powerful knowledge carefully selected to build upon our pupils' starting points of cultural capital.

## **IMPLEMENTATION**

Notre Dame du Rosaire use primarily the Kapow music scheme to teach music, complimented by the Guernsey Schools' Music Service and the schools own teaching of hymns and termly performances. Our Music scheme takes a holistic approach to music, in which the individual strands below are woven together to create engaging and enriching learning experiences:

- Performing
- Listening
- Composing
- The history of music
- The inter-related dimensions of music

Each five-lesson unit combines these strands within a cross-curricular topic designed to capture pupils' imagination and encourage them to explore music enthusiastically. These lessons are usually taught on a rolling programme every other week. Over the course of the scheme, children will be taught how to sing fluently and expressively, and play tuned and untuned instruments accurately and with control. They will learn to recognise and name the interrelated dimensions of music - pitch, duration, tempo, timbre, structure, texture and

dynamics - and use these expressively in their own improvisations and compositions.

The scheme follows the spiral curriculum model where previous skills and knowledge are returned to and built upon. Children progress in terms of tackling more complex tasks and doing more simple tasks better, as well as developing understanding and knowledge of the history of music, staff, and other musical notations, as well as the interrelated dimensions of music and more.

In each lesson, pupils will actively participate in musical activities drawn from a range of styles and traditions, developing their musical skills and their understanding of how music works. Lessons incorporate a range of teaching strategies from independent tasks, paired and group work as well as improvisation and teacher-led performances. Lessons are 'hands-on' and incorporate movement and dance elements, as well as making cross curricular links with other areas of learning.

Year 2 receives a block of teaching in percussion by the Schools' Music Service. They are then allowed to apply for individual music lessons taught by specialist teachers from the Schools' Music Service. These instrumental lessons are taught in school to individuals. Year 4 is offered a whole-class instrumental teaching programme taught, again, by the Schools' Music Service. They can then apply for individual music lessons taught by specialist teachers.

The children join weekly in hymn practice, where hymns are carefully selected to reflect the liturgical calendar. These hymns are then celebrated in termly masses and end of term celebrations. Children in EYFS and Key Stage 1 perform a nativity play each Christmas; Key Stage Two children perform in a Christmas Nativity and Year 6 in an end of year production in the Summer. There is a choir available to Key Stage 2 pupils and this will often lead to performances including the Island's' Liberation Tea Dance and Carol Singing at Le Platon

## **IMPACT**

Children should leave Notre Dame du Rosaire equipped with a range of skills to enable them to succeed in their secondary education and to be able to enjoy and appreciate music throughout their lives.

The expected impact of following the Kapow Primary Music scheme of work is that children will:

- ✓ Be confident performers, composers and listeners and will be able to express themselves musically at and beyond school.
- ✓ Show an appreciation and respect for a wide range of musical styles from around the world and will understand how music is influenced by the wider cultural, social, and historical contexts in which it is developed.
- ✓ Understand the ways in which music can be written down to support performing and composing activities.

- ✓ Demonstrate and articulate an enthusiasm for music and be able to identify their own personal musical preferences.
- ✓ Meet the expectations of the Bailiwick Curriculum