

Music

Ashgate has always been a school that loves to sing, as anyone who has attended our concerts and productions would agree. Our pupils derive much pleasure from joining together to sing and it is apparent that it supports their good mental health, especially during Monday morning singing assemblies.

Music is a universal language that is so important to the understanding and development of many of our children. We aim to provide every child with a high-quality music education that inspires children to develop a love and understanding of a range of music genres which they will have with them for the rest of their lives. Here at Ashgate Primary School, children listen to and appraise music, create and perform a variety of music and most importantly increase their confidence in their learning. As the children progress, they should develop a critical engagement with music, allowing them to compose, listen and appraise music to a high standard making links with prior knowledge.

Unlike in other subjects, the musical knowledge we want our pupils to acquire cannot be taught discretely in half terms. We have identified six areas of learning: composition, instruments, improvisation, singing, notation and listening and appraising. Using our school scheme – Charanga – these will be taught continuously, using a different song each half term as a basis. Consequently, the knowledge shown below is not split up by half term but is separated into the six areas.

Many of our topics link to the *your world* DNA strand. The *your self* strand is also prominent in this subject as children are encouraged to share their musical influences and interests. We also strongly promote the use of musical mindfulness for a healthy mind.

Music is also used in assemblies, Christmas and end of year productions, and as part of many other subjects such as French, PE and art. We offer individual and small group drum and piano lessons delivered by external teachers.