



A message from Miss Salter, our Music lead:

Music is around us within our day-to-day lives and it is something I am extremely passionate about. It provides opportunities to be creative, express ourselves in different ways through songs and playing instruments, and supports emotional well-being.

As part of developing Music, I am always keen to hear from parents / carers who are involved in the industry in any way and would be willing to share their knowledge and expertise with the children.

Design and Purpose

At Darlinghurst, we are active learners and show determination in all activities. We strive to challenge ourselves and become confident individuals; this is evident through our music curriculum where we can produce our own music and show these to our classes. Here at Darlinghurst we use an online platform called Charanga, which offers a broad musical arrangement to provide our children with the opportunity to experience a variety of different music genres as well as having hands on experience playing musical instruments. Charanga is designed to develop and extend children's knowledge and understanding of key musical concepts as they progress through their school journey.

There are 5 key areas of Music, which are covered in lessons from Year 1 to Year 6, these are:

Understanding Music – to develop childrens knowledge on pitch, rhythm, notation and the key structure of a piece of music.

Listen and Respond – to develop childrens understanding on what music is about, what instruments they can identify and to use a range of musical vocabulary

Singing – learning a song as a class or group

Learning a Musical Instrument – using instruments to build upon rhythm

Improvisation/ Composition – playing along to a piece of music, creating rhythms on the spot and designing and creating their own piece of music

During our music lessons, these key areas will be taught and developed using key musical vocabulary through a spiral curriculum. Each year group has the opportunity to use a selection of musical instruments available at the school from percussion boxes to glockenspiels and drums. Music contributes well within other curriculum areas in which reinforces the key aspects of music such as using songs in maths to learn counting and in French to learn vocabulary.

Difference

Our children learn to be effective contributors, working within their class or a small group as part of a team to produce a piece of music. This enables them to develop and extend their prior knowledge of keys aspects within music, making links between new skills learnt during lessons. Our children build upon becoming confident individuals, using what they have learnt within music lessons to perform in front of others.

At Darlinghurst, we are aware our children need to be prepared for the ever-changing world around them. It is vital for our children to learn through experience and here at Darlinghurst we offer additional music centred enrichment opportunities within school and the local community. Within school, Darlinghurst provides additional one to one music lessons with accredited music teachers, providing lessons to learn how to play the drums, guitar, piano, keyboard and ukulele. We also provides additional music clubs for children to build upon their musical knowledge and performance skills. Darlinghurst plays a vital role within the local community, providing children an opportunity to go and perform to local residents during special occasions such as Mother's day and Valentine's day as well as spreading

important message. Not only do we provide local opportunities to our children but also we offer them the chance to take part in some bigger musical events. These opportunities consist of taking part in local musical festivals with other schools in the local area and being part of Young Voices.

'Achieving Excellence Together'

Music reflections

Autumn

This year, Music has started with great enthusiasm! All classes were able to offer a mix of singing within their classrooms, as well as, sharing the use of instruments for the children to accompany their music. Darlington thoroughly enjoyed learning to sign a selection of songs over the last couple of years, so this has been carried on throughout some of our learning of Music.

We started the school year looking at the new Model Music Curriculum with Year 1 'Introducing a Beat' and adding and identifying Rhythm and Pitch within their music lessons. Year 2 had the opportunity to explore simple musical patterns and focus on dynamics and tempo within songs. Year 3 developed their musical knowledge through notational skills and Year 4 looked at time signatures. In Year 5, they used their understanding of music to support their learning on 'Music Tech' and Year 6 developed their musical knowledge through 'Melodic Phrases'.

To finish off the Autumn Term, Darlington took on the challenge to spread some Christmas cheer through learning a variety of songs and participating in the Christmas in Southend event. The children had the opportunity to perform these songs as a choir to the public in Southend high street. In addition, they even took a trip to the Cliffs Pavilion to sing to those enjoying a day out and some lunch in Southend. To spread even more Christmas cheer, the choir had the opportunity to go and sing at the Bluebird Care home Christmas party and Admiral Court in which all who attended had a brilliant time. Within school, the children got the chance to share the Christmas cheer with the parents. In KS1, the children performed a traditional Nativity which included the carols 'We three Kings', 'Little Donkey' and the signing/singing of 'Silent Night'. In KS2, the children learnt a selection of Christmas hits 'Deck the Rooftops' and 'Step into Christmas' and performed them with great enthusiasm to their families.

Spring

In the Spring term, Music has continued to be taught through the use of Charanga, where all year groups had two songs from different genres in which to learn. Year 1 learnt the songs 'In the Groove' as well as 'Round and Round.' Year 2 learnt 'I Want to Play in a Band' and 'Zootime'. Year 3 had the chance to learn 'Three Little Birds' and 'The Dragon Song'. Year 4 learnt 'Stop!' and showed their support to others through the song 'Lean on Me'. Year 5 learnt 'Make Me Feel Your Love' and became rappers when learning 'The Fresh Prince of Bel Air'. They used this learnt knowledge to create their own raps based on Climate change. Year 6 learnt 'A New Year Carol' and 'You've Got a Friend'.

Across the Academy, music has played a vital part in reaching the community. Within KS1, a Year 2 class had the opportunity to show their love of music by taking part in the Infant Music Festival. The class had the chance to learn five songs all based on the importance of the world from 'Save our Water', 'I like to teach the world to sing' and 'I like the flowers', performing these songs with other local schools and providing accompaniment through the use of instruments to one of the songs. The children also got to perform the song 'The Circle of Life' from The Lion King as a class choir to the other children and their families.

In addition, children from across the school had the opportunity to represent the school in a Pupil Summit. Here the children took part in a collaboration with other children from other local primary schools. They explored the idea that learning and cooperation are not hindered but enhanced through difference and explored the idea of using music to collaborate and perform together.



Summer

In the Summer term, all year groups started with learning a final song before consolidating their learnt knowledge throughout the year with a Reflect, Rewind and Replay. In Year 1 they had the chance to learn the song, 'Your Imagination'. Year 2 learnt the importance of friends in 'The Friendship' song. Year 3 learnt the song 'Bring us Together'. Year 4 learnt about birds through the song 'Blackbird'. Year 5 had the opportunity to learn the song 'Dancing in the Street'. Year 6 had the chance to become rappers learning the song 'Music and Me', which focuses on inspirational women working in music. Within their lessons, they were able to use their creative skills to become a rapper themselves, writing and composing their own raps. All year groups, not only learnt their song, but also had the opportunity to use a selection of instruments to accompany them such as percussion instruments, glockenspiels and ukuleles.



The KS2 choir had the opportunity to participate in the Junior Music Festival. For this event, the children had the chance to join other schools from the local area to sing a variety of songs from the musicals from 'When I grow up' to 'We will rock you'. They took part in a local rehearsal, at another school, to go through the songs and learn the actions with the organisers of the event. For their performance, the children joined nine other schools and orchestras at the Cliffs Pavilion to perform to their families. Everyone had a fantastic evening and enjoyed seeing the children show great enthusiasm for music and performing.



Useful websites

www.singup.org

www.charanga.com

www.musiconseaco.uk

Music Gallery

