



THE HERMITAGE and THE OAKTREE SCHOOLS

Inspire, Learn, Achieve

Music Policy

Person Responsible:	Music Subject Leaders
Date Adopted	Summer Term 2023
Date of last review	Summer Term 2023
Date of next review	Summer Term 2026

At The Oaktree and The Hermitage Schools, we recognise that music is a powerful, unique form of communication that can change the way pupils feel, think and act. It brings together intellect and feeling and enables personal expression, reflection and emotional development. As an integral part of culture, past and present, it helps pupils understand themselves and relate to others, forging important links between the home, school and the wider world. The teaching of Music develops pupils' ability to listen and appreciate a wide variety of music and to make judgements about musical quality. It encourages active involvement in different forms of amateur music making, both individual and communal, developing a sense of group identity and togetherness. It also increases self-discipline and creativity, aesthetic sensitivity and fulfilment. Music is also used to learn about different cultures, as music is a universal language that embodies the highest forms of creativity.

Aims

Pupils are taught:

- To develop musical skills and concepts through listening, performing and composing both in an analogue and digital form.
- To develop social skills through co-operation with others in the shared experience of music making
- To develop core instrumental skills through a progressive curriculum
- To develop an understanding of musical traditions and developments in both our own and other cultures
- To enrich and support work in other areas of the curriculum
- To develop links with our local community through shared musical events
- To increase creativity, self-confidence and sense of achievement

Furthermore we provide opportunities:

- To take part in the concerts and performances through participation in Choir, school productions, assemblies the Talent Show and the Carol Concert.
- To learn instruments through peripatetic tuition

Curriculum content

Within their lessons, the pupils will have the opportunity to:

- Play and perform in solo and ensemble contexts using voices, playing music instruments and using digital mediums with increasing accuracy, fluency, control and expression.
- Improvise and compose music for a range of purposes using the inter-related dimensions of music.
- Listen with attention to detail and recall sounds with increasing aural memory.
- Use and understand staff and other musical notations
- Appreciate and understand a wide range of high-quality live and recorded music drawn from different traditions and from great composers and musicians.
- Develop an understanding of the history of music.

We expect every lesson to allow time for pupils to sing as a group, practise aural memory and learn a new skill or develop previously taught skills.

Extra-curricular activities:

We provide opportunities for children to take part in:

- Singing Assemblies
- The School Choir
- Rocksteady Tuition
- 1:1 instrument tuition through Surrey Arts and other agencies
- Concerts and performances such as: the Carol Concert, school productions, Woking Music Festival, the Talent Show and the SWAN summer concert.
- Gifted and talented days

Assessment and recording

At Oaktree School, Music is assessed against National Curriculum standards: singing, performing, listening and appreciation, composing. The focus of assessment is creativity and the beginnings of musicianship.

At the Hermitage School, Music is assessed against National Curriculum standards: singing, performing, listening and appreciation, composing. The focus of assessment is on developing skills, practicing musicianship and developing creative independence.

Both schools follow the New Model Curriculum for Music and assess again these standards.

As a subject focus on aural understanding, Music lessons are recorded via digital means and may be uploaded on parent portals.

Resources

At the Oaktree School, we have:

- A range of percussion instruments
- Glockenspiels
- Ukuleles

- Recorders
- Boomwhackers
- Drums and other multicultural instruments

Use of Charanga to support singing, instrument tuition and music teaching.

At the Hermitage School, we have:

- A range of percussion instruments
- Glockenspiels
- Ukuleles
- Keyboards
- Boom whackers

Use of SingUp to support singing tuition.

Monitoring and review

Subject leaders conduct termly monitoring of lesson content and examples of work. This includes visiting lessons, team-teaching, modelling lessons for other staff, collecting Music portfolios and reviewing assessment data.