



Policy for Performing Arts

Intent

The overall intent is to ensure that pupils at Southgate are getting their entitlement to a curriculum rich in high-quality arts experiences. All pupils should develop respect, understanding and appreciation of their own and others cultural and linguistic heritage through the celebration of the Arts. We will provide opportunities, both in and out of school to develop self-esteem, confidence and independence through participation in the Arts.

A range of topics helps to engage children in different styles of music and drama from around the world while also exploring past and present. Pupils are encouraged to join in school productions which is a great way of building confidence and working on social skills.

Our performing arts curriculum promotes an overall appreciation of the arts and serves to engage pupils in expressing themselves by stimulating children's imagination and creative minds.

Implementation

Pupils will have termly music sessions where they will work on ideas like rhythm, voice and performance skills. Pupils will also develop social skills including turn taking, communication skills and teamwork. Drama is to be incorporated the English curriculum to be taught in a cross curricular manner as opposed to discrete lessons, to ensure learning has purpose and is meaningful whilst allowing for creativity and imagination. This gives pupils the opportunity to develop skills such as character building, role play and imagination.

Pupils will start their performing arts journey by exploring different performing techniques including sound and movement. They will use their voices and ears to explore different sounds and tunes. They will use their bodies to mimic and create. As they progress through school they will continue to develop their musical skills including simple techniques of presentation and performance. As we move into the formal curriculum, we will broaden skills to improvise with others, communicating clearly to an audience in character.

Finally, pupils will deepen their awareness of the needs of an audience and character in different performances and show growing understanding of different drama techniques. Pupils will also develop the skills needed to select, explore and compose different musical styles and use more complex musical vocabulary.

Over time, pupil confidence in performing arts will grow and become embedded in their everyday life at school.

Impact

The Curriculum Coordinator will use a combination of work monitoring, pupil voice, planning moderation and patterns reflected in learning walk feedback to assess the quality of the curriculum and the progression of pupils. All of these processes will be completed regularly throughout the year and will be overseen and monitored by SLT.



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Additional Opportunities

Pupils are encouraged to join our Sing and Sign Choir which rehearsals take place once a week. We have also made links with external providers across the authority to increase opportunities for our pupils to take part in rehearsals and performances such as the Kirklees SEND choir and the Mrs Sunderland Festival. Pupils will use the skills they have developed within performing arts to showcase their talents through inclusive performances both in and out of school ensuring they have the opportunity to develop their confidence. Whole school performances are coordinated in a variety of ways to ensure that all pupils can participate.

Pupils have the use of a large immersive sensory room and a smaller sensory space where they can interact with light, sounds and textures. There are a number of props and musical instruments available to enhance their creative experience which we are looking to expand further.

Classes have the opportunity to take part in a half termly whole class music session with a professional musician. During these sessions they have access to music, tailored to the learners, regardless of existing musical skill or ability, using a mixture of traditional instruments and music technology. Pupils develop skills such as tempo and timekeeping, pitch and instrument recognition, as well as using their environment and other learning topics to make music in a collaborative way. This gives learners time to explore and experiment with musical instruments, record projects and develop wellbeing through music.

We also have a trained music therapist who runs weekly sessions both on a 1:1 and whole class basis depending on the needs of the children. The sessions are highly engaging and are a fantastic way of developing pupil's music skills as well as upskilling teachers to implement ideas into their own teaching and improve overall music teaching.

Enquiries and questions

The school welcomes enquiries or questions about Performing Arts. In the first instance parents should contact their child's class teacher.