



Music Intent

Our intent is to expand and deepen children's knowledge, understanding and interest in Music within a rich and relatable sequence of learning.

At Canonbury, our music curriculum aims to inspire **imagination, concentration, communication**, and a **wonder** our world and the cultural richness within it. We believe that music is an essential part of all children's education, stimulating the brain and supporting children's **physical, emotional, social, intellectual and spiritual** development. Music brings a unique richness to our lives and we ensure that it plays a key role in the lives of all children at Canonbury.

All children have regular opportunities to **make music** with others, to learn to **sing** and to play a **musical instrument**. In years 3 and 4, all children learn to play the **recorder** and in Years 5 and 6 they choose either the **cornet or tenor horn**. Lessons are taught by specialist music teachers. We want our children to **enjoy** music, learn new skills and gain a broad musical **repertoire**. We also provide regular opportunities for children to **listen and respond** to music and sound.

As children progress through the school, they **perform**, listen to, review and evaluate music across a range of historical periods, genres, styles and traditions, including the works of the great composers and musicians. They will have opportunities to **create and compose** music on their own and with others, understand and explore how music is created, produced and communicated, including through the inter-related dimensions of pitch, duration, dynamics, tempo, timbre, texture, structure and musical notation.

Music at Canonbury makes valuable cross curricular links to a range of other subject areas such as history, geography, foreign languages, maths, PSHE, storytelling. Children experience music drawn from different traditions and great composers and musicians.

An important part of our provision is the range of extra-curricular **ensembles** that take place within the school day: **KS1 Choir, KS2 Choir, Brass Band, Jazz Ensemble, Recorder Ensemble**. We have strong links with Music Education Islington and many of our pupils attend their after-school Music Centre. Parents can opt to pay for **extra 1:1 instrumental tuition** in piano, violin or flute at school. Places for pupil premium eligible pupils are supported through pupil premium and the school's charitable foundation.

At Canonbury we value the children's music making from the youngest to the oldest children and offer many opportunities to for performance including our two **annual concerts** at the Union Chapel. Where possible we participate in projects with outside providers such as the **London Symphony Orchestra** and **Apollo Music Projects**. We aim for all KS1 and KS2 children to attend at least one orchestral concert a year.

Early Years

Music in the Early Years at Canonbury uses singing as the principal means of developing skills and understanding in music. Singing is the most direct way of making a musical sound and encourages both musical and personal communication.

Through songs and rhymes, children learn about pulse and rhythm and how to tell the difference between them, faster/slower, louder/softer and how to differentiate between higher and lower pitches. They will begin to read rhythmical notation as their first step in reading music.

We recognise the link between music and the development of language e.g. the distinguishing of different sounds that will feed into the blending and segmenting of sounds in reading and writing.

We want our children to be excited about music and to develop the confidence to perform and express themselves musically from an early age.

In line with the early year's framework (2021), our aim is that children will:

- sing a range of well-known nursery rhymes and songs
- perform songs, rhymes, poems and stories with others
- practice moving in time with music.

Key Stage One

In KS1 we build on the learning in the Early Years through a practical and exploratory approach in which children deepen their understanding of musical concepts.

Children will listen to and appraise music, sing, play instruments (tuned and un-tuned percussion), improvise, compose and perform.

In our weekly KS1 singing assembly, children further develop their singing skills and repertoire through songs from different cultures and time periods. They develop the confidence to perform with live accompaniment in front of large audiences at our annual Christmas and Summer concerts at the Union Chapel.

Children in KS1 can also choose to join the KS1 Choir, a smaller ensemble in which their singing, listening and performing skills are developed yet further through more challenging repertoire and the learning of concepts such as part-singing and harmony.

Key Stage Two

Children will build on musical learning in KS1 by transferring their skills to a woodwind instrument (recorder) in years 3 and 4. Throughout the two-year period, children will learn fingering for the range of just over an octave, learn to identify basic musical notation (note names, note lengths) and read the notation in order to play. They will develop their understanding of rhythm and pulse, their listening and ensemble skills as well as engaging in the performance of different styles of music e.g. world, jazz.

In Years 5 and 6, all children receive weekly small group brass lessons (cornet or tenor horn). In these lessons children grow their knowledge of musical instruments (in addition to those taught in the lesson), styles of playing, repertoire. They also develop their skills of warming up carefully, forming an embouchure (mouth position), tonguing, basic sound production, moving from lower to higher note ranges and reading notation.