



Yeadon Westfield Junior School Music Policy

Written in consultation with staff. Music Leader: Helen Swallow	November 2025
Review date:	November 2027
Ratified Governors' Committee:	TLSP December 2025

We welcome our duties under The Equality Act 2010 to eliminate discrimination, advance equality of opportunity and foster good relations in relation to the protected characteristics of all stakeholders including age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race; religion and belief, sex or sexual orientation.

We recognise the Public Sector Equality Duty to assess the impact of our policies and practices on staff and pupils and take action to remove any obstacles identified across all areas of school life, including Policies.

We believe that every person has a fair and equal opportunity to succeed, regardless of their age, gender, ethnicity, ability or cultural or religious background, sexuality or disability. We embrace all aspects of global citizenship and community cohesion, promoting British Values throughout all aspects of school life, actively tackling prejudice or extreme views.

This school is committed to safeguarding and promoting the well-being of all children and expects our staff and volunteers to share this commitment.

Yeadon Westfield Junior School is required to keep and process certain information about its staff members and pupils in accordance with its legal obligations under the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR). The school may, from time to time, be required to share personal information about its staff or pupils with other organisations, mainly the LA, other schools and educational bodies, and potentially children's services. This policy is written in line with our agreed policy for GDPR.

Rationale

At Yeadon Westfield Junior School, we strive to cultivate a real enjoyment of music and aim to deliver high quality music teaching, supporting and encouraging all children to achieve their full potential.

At Yeadon Westfield Junior School we believe that music is a unique form of communication and is an integral part of our culture. It provides an important medium to help children understand themselves, relate to others and the wider world.

Aims of our Music Curriculum

- *To enjoy listening to a wide range of music from different times and cultures*
- *To enjoy making music based on different times and cultures*
- *To perform with confidence and enjoyment*
- *To sing with confidence and enjoyment*
- *To develop composition and appraising skills*
- *To develop a musical vocabulary with which to evaluate the music listened to*
- *To provide a range of musical opportunities*
- *To encourage awareness, enjoyment and appreciation of Music in all its forms.*
- *To develop imagination and creativity.*
- *To help children of all abilities develop positive attitudes and to experience success and satisfaction in music.*
- *To offer opportunities to perform, compose, listen and appraise.*

Implementation of Policy

- We have used the best research to create a well sequenced and progressive curriculum map containing the key concepts children need to be procedurally fluent and to work and think like professional musicians.

The key concepts in music we plan a progression for are as follows:

- *Performing*
- *Composing*
- *Appraising*

Key Stage Two

At Yeadon Westfield Junior School, during Key Stage 2, children sing songs and play instruments with increasing confidence, skill, expression and awareness of their own contribution to a group or class performance. They improvise, and develop their own musical compositions, in response to a variety of different stimuli with increasing personal involvement, independence and creativity. They explore their thoughts and feelings through responding physically, intellectually and emotionally to a variety of music from different times and cultures.

Performing skills

At Yeadon Westfield Junior School, children will be taught to sing a wide-ranging variety of songs and to use their voices expressively. They should have the opportunity to play tuned and un-tuned instruments with increasing control and should rehearse and perform with others, with an awareness of audience.

Composing skills

At Yeadon Westfield Junior School, children will create musical patterns and will be shown how to explore, select and organise musical ideas, recording these in a variety of ways.

Appraising skills

At Yeadon Westfield Junior School, children will be given the opportunity to explore and explain their own ideas and feelings about music, using music, dance, expressive language and musical vocabulary. They will analyse and compare sounds and will become confident at suggesting improvements for their own work and that of others.

Listening and applying knowledge and understanding

At Yeadon Westfield Junior School, children should be able to listen with concentration and to internalise and recall sounds with increasing aural memory. They will develop a growing awareness of the eight musical elements: pitch, duration, pace, dynamics, texture, timbre, form, silence. They will learn that time and place can influence the way Music is created, performed and heard, that music is produced in different ways and is described through invented and standard notations.

Approach

At Yeadon Westfield Junior School, music should be taught throughout the school, establishing cross curricular links where possible, e.g. literacy, maths, geography, history, physical and creative development. We aim, where possible, to link music with the class termly topic. For example, we study Viking music to follow on from learning about the Vikings in Years 5 and 6. Throughout their four years at YWJS, all children will learn how to play a recorder and ukulele and be taught national curriculum music lessons using the GetSet4Music scheme.

As well as music lessons in class, whole school singing sessions take place weekly. Children are given the opportunity to listen to a range of music at the beginning and end of our whole school assemblies, and hymns and school songs are sung throughout the year. The staff lead regular whole school assemblies which include song learning and music appreciation.

At Yeadon Westfield Junior School, we have reviewed our curriculum map to ensure it is well sequenced and progressive. This serves as a base to aid and enhance our teaching of music.

Differentiation

At Yeadon Westfield Junior School, children with a particular interest or aptitude in music can be given the opportunity to extend their education in a variety of ways, for example, individual or group instrumental lessons, choir, instrumental performances in assembly. Peripatetic teachers are used to teach keyboard and guitar lessons in school. Children experiencing difficulties can be given extra encouragement by working in a small group with the teacher or with a more musically able child.

Assessment

At Yeadon Westfield Junior School, assessment will form an integral part of the teaching and learning of Music. This will be done by observing children working and performing, by listening to their responses and by examining work produced in relation to the expectations set out on our curriculum maps.

Teachers assess the children's work in music both by making informal judgements as they observe them during lessons and by completing formal assessments of their work, gauged against specific end points at the end of each half termly unit of work.

Resources

At Yeadon Westfield Junior School, we have a range of music equipment and resources that can easily be moved around the school. There is a large range of un-tuned percussion and tuned instruments, and we have a piano in the hall and keyboards available for use. All children will learn to play a recorder during Year 3 and 4 and a ukulele during Years 5 and 6 and will have their own, individual instrument to play.

Progression, Continuity and Differentiation

At Yeadon Westfield Junior School, we use a range of teaching and learning styles to meet the requirements of the national curriculum. We place an emphasis on active learning by including children in appraising composing and performing activities. We encourage children to take part in a range of practical activities wherever possible.

Cross-curricular links

At Yeadon Westfield Junior School, music is taught as a discrete subject. However, there are opportunities within other subjects to develop musical skills.

- *Science curriculum (topics on sound and listening)*
- *PE curriculum (dancing)*
- *English curriculum (where it can act as a stimulus but also to develop listening skills.)*
- *RE (listening to sacred music)*
- *History (listening to music from the particular time being studied)*

- *Computing (Making sound with computers).*

Inclusion

At Yeadon Westfield Junior School, we are committed to providing effective learning opportunities for all children and apply the three principles for inclusion to planning and teaching. Suitable learning challenges will be set for all children with the aim of maximising achievement for all children at an appropriate level for each individual.

Teachers will respond appropriately to children' diverse learning needs and be aware of the needs of differing genders, special educational needs, disability, as well as different social, cultural and ethnic backgrounds.

At Yeadon Westfield Junior School, teachers will be aware of overcoming the potential barriers to learning and assessment for individuals and groups and respond accordingly by making effective provision and liaising with appropriate staff.

At Yeadon Westfield Junior School, we are committed to the principle of equality of opportunity and this will be reflected in the curriculum offered to children and in the conduct of staff and children.

Pupils registered as Pupil Premium are given the opportunity to have instrumental lessons funded by the school. This includes the cost of hiring an instrument so that they can practice regularly at home.

Role of Governors

At Yeadon Westfield Junior School, governors determine, support, monitor and review the school policies and curriculum map. They support the use of appropriate teaching strategies by allocating resources effectively. They ensure that the building and equipment are safe. They monitor pupil attainment across the school and ensure that staff development and performance management promote good quality teaching.

Role and Responsibilities of Music Subject Leader

At Yeadon Westfield Junior School, the music leader has the responsibility of overseeing music within the school including:

- *Formulating and updating the policy when appropriate.*
- *Ensuring staff are aware of the policy's content and that it matches classroom practice as far as possible.*
- *Ensuring appropriate resources are available and regularly updating them within the limits of the music budget and according to needs.*
- *Disseminating information, as it is received from any external source, to staff and children.*
- *Supporting staff with music-related issues when required.*
- *Organising extra-curricular trips.*

- *Liaising with additional adult helpers who run an extra-curricular music club/help on extracurricular music trips.*
- *Managing the budget.*
- *Attending courses relevant to professional development within their role as subject leader.*
- *Co-ordinating annual, whole-school performances, such as Harvest Festival, Christmas and end of year performances.*

Disability Equality Impact Assessment

This policy has been written with reference to and in consideration of the school's Disability Equality Scheme. Assessment will include consideration of issues identified by the involvement of disabled children, staff and parents and any information the school holds on disabled children, staff and parents.