



St. James' Church of England Primary Academy

Music is all around us. It is the soundtrack to our lives. Music connects us through people and places in our ever-changing world. It is creative, collaborative, celebratory and challenging. In our school, music can bring communities together through the shared endeavour of whole-school singing, ensemble playing, experimenting with the creative process and, through the love of listening to friends and fellow pupils, performing. The sheer joy of music making can feed the soul of a school community, enriching each student while strengthening the shared bonds of support and trust which make a great school.

At St James' Church of England Primary Academy, we strive to prepare all our children to successfully aspire to a wealth of opportunities with curiosity and resilience embedded in all they do.

Our teaching focuses on enabling all children and young people to learn to sing, play an instrument and create music together, and have the opportunity to progress their musical interests and talents. The ability to sing in tune and with others, particularly during Collective Worship, choir and termly in church service, develops a sense of pitch, rhythm and ensemble; and through singing songs, children learn about the structure and organisation of music.

We implement progression of skills to build on children's knowledge. We expect children to maintain their concentration while they listen to more extend pieces of music as they get older. Children develop descriptive skills in music lessons when learning about how music can represent feelings and emotions. We teach them the disciplined skills of recognising pulse and pitch. Also, we teach the children how to work with others to compose music and perform for an audience.

Finally, we ensure every child will have the opportunity to learn a range of instruments, throughout their years with us at St James'. Instruments are taught by a music specialist both in class and during club activities where they will learn to read music and play as part of the process.

Our main priority at St James' is that all children have the opportunity to be adventurous through music and ultimately the potential to perform.