EYFS Curriculum Links



What does Music look like in Early Years?

Building up a repertoire of nursery rhymes and familiar songs

Expressive Arts and Design

Real-life experiences

Language rich environment

Sensory play

Outdoor Learning

Purposeful



In EYFS, children are introduced to music through the 'Expressive Arts and Design' area of learning; specifically, the 'Being Imaginative and Expressive' Early Learning Goal. By the end of Reception, children who are at the expected level of development in the area will:

- Invent, adapt and recount narratives and stories with peers and their teacher.
- Sing a range of well-known nursery rhymes and songs.
- Perform songs, rhymes, poems and stories with others, and when appropriate try to move in time with music.

In both Nursery and Reception, children begin to develop their understanding of the musical world. They learn how to sing a range of well-known nursery rhymes and songs and explore how to perform, trying to move in time with music. Our Early Years practitioners support children to build up a repertoire of rhymes/poems through the use of The Poetry Basket. Poetry basket supports children to enjoy listening to/watching poems, memorising words and actions, then adding their own words and actions. Helicopter Stories is also used to help support children's creativity and imaginative play, whilst supporting language development, story telling and emergent literacy.

Children are encouraged to make their own music using a range of tuned/untuned musical instruments. They learn about instrument names, the sounds they create and begin to explore the different musical groups instruments belong to (brass, percussion etc...). Whilst in our EYFS, our children are exposed to the seven threshold concepts of our music curriculum by beginning to understand what we mean by the following terms:

- Pulse
- Rhythm
- Melody
- Active listening and appraising
- Performing
- Singing
- Composing

This enables them to thrive when transitioning into KS1 and beyond.

