

Music at Killigrew Primary and Nursery School

At Killigrew, we follow the National Curriculum Programme of Study for Music. To support us in the teaching of the ambitious objectives within the programme, we use the Kapow scheme. We chose this scheme because our intention is to help children feel that they are musical, and to develop a life-long love of music. Kapow supports us to teach the skills and knowledge that our children need to become confident performers, listeners and composers. In line with our whole school curriculum driver, our children listen to a diverse range of music from all around the world and across generations. This encourages our children to consider and appreciate music of all traditions.



Our curriculum is based on five key strands linked to the National Curriculum objectives:

- Performing
- Listening
- Composing
- The History of Music
- The Inter-Related Dimensions of Music

These themes complement the curriculum taught by our specialist music teacher from Dragon of the North Creative Arts Company. Each five-lesson unit is designed to fully engage our children and encourage them to explore music enthusiastically. Our pupils are taught how to sing fluently and expressively, play tuned and untuned instruments accurately and with control, recognise and name the inter-related dimensions of music, and use these confidently and competently in their own improvisation and compositions. In addition to their Music lessons, children in Year 4 develop their expertise in using an instrument during lessons delivered across a term by the Hertfordshire Music Service.

By implementing a spiral curriculum, our children return to and build upon previous skills and knowledge. They make excellent progress as they can enhance their competency in more familiar tasks and confidently tackle more complex tasks. Our children are supported through a range of teaching strategies. This includes independent activities, paired and group work, and teacher-led performances. We deliver high-quality, 'hands-on' lessons in order to allow our children to develop their skills and knowledge and become confident musicians.

We welcome a wide range of peripatetic music teachers into school. We believe that learning to play an instrument is not only fun, but also instils a sense of discipline and resilience. We offer a selection of peripatetic lessons including the piano, recorder, guitar, saxophone, clarinet, flute and cornet.



We also encourage our pupils to engage in music as part of the wider community so that they share the experience with other children and perform in a group in front of large audiences. With this in mind, we take part in musical events with other local primary schools. These include the St Albans Cathedral Carol Service, SAPSMA concert and M-Fest. These events enrich the lives of our children as well as give them an opportunity to develop their confidence and showcase their abilities. In addition to the KS2 school choir, our specialist music teacher also leads and rehearses with the school band.

Once a week, music assemblies in KS1 and KS2 bring staff and children together to enjoy singing as a large group, accompanied by the school band or piano. This allows our school community to embrace the enjoyment of performing together.

We engage parents in our music curriculum through a termly concert which provides pupils with the opportunity to share their learning in music.

We are also proud that many of our children have successfully applied to a local selective school on a music scholarship. Parent and pupil feedback on the quality of music teaching and provision is always overwhelmingly positive, underpinned by lesson observation outcomes.