

St. Mary's

Church of England Primary School
Kirkby Lonsdale

Music Pupil Voice - April 2024



Music Pupil Voice - May 2024

3 mixed-ability children from each year group (YR-Y6) were selected to participate.

Do you enjoy learning about music?

All responses said that they really enjoyed music although some stated it wasn't their favourite lesson. All children mentioned that they loved singing and playing different instruments. Y6 child said she looked forward to music lessons for some peace and calm. Another child said she loved all the different genres and styles of music that they have learned about.

Do you enjoy creating music and taking part in music lessons?

All responses said they really enjoyed taking part in music lessons. Some said that it didn't feel like learning and they could just enjoy it. Some said they were sad to miss quite a bit of music due to afternoon interventions. Some of the children said they have loved composing their own music on the chromebooks and are excited to write and record our own school song at the recording studio.

Are you confident performing in front of others?

All of the responses were positive. All children said that music lessons and learning instruments/performing in front of the class/school/parents has helped them feel more confident in front of others. KS2 pupils said that they have felt their nerves decrease with each concert they have done; "when I did my first concert I was so nervous but now that I've done recorder, brass, nativity, Y1 and 2 shows and my piano concerts I don't get as nervous and enjoy it more." Y6 pupils said that they weren't nervous about auditioning for the show parts or performing to parents as they were so used to it now and definitely felt musical performances over the years had helped build their confidence.

What activities have you done in music lessons so far?

All of the responses were able to list a range of activities covering the different areas in music, although KS1 children explained they "made our own song" instead of using musical terms e.g. composing. The area that the children mentioned least, especially the younger children, was reviewing and evaluating their compositions.

Do adults support you when you are unsure about your learning?

Everyone stated that they were helped when they needed it. Some added that they could ask their partner or someone on their table for help if they had to wait for their teacher. One Y4 child said it was good having a person teaching them who played the instrument really well so they knew what they were talking about.

Are you a member of any music clubs at school including choir?

Most of the KS2 children had been part of Young Voices so had attended choir. Some of the Y2 and Y3 children mentioned that they loved Music Club (run by GD y5 and 6). A couple of children were excited as we are planning a club to write our own school song to record in the recording studio.

Do you have singing or instrument lessons outside of school?

One of the KS1 children answered yes (drum lessons) but some of the KS2 children mentioned that they were having singing lessons/piano lessons/guitar lessons outside of school, or that a family member was teaching them.

Have you used a range of different instruments in music lessons?

Different instruments were mentioned depending on the year group. Some year groups also had gaps from times when school was shut due to COVID. Instruments that were mentioned were, untuned percussion (drums, shakers, triangles, tambourines etc), bells, glockenspiels, penny whistles, pbuzzes, recorders, cornets/trombones and ukuleles.

Do you learn an instrument at school?

The younger children don't but some of the KS2 children said they have piano/saxophone/violin/guitar lessons in school with our peripatetic teachers.

Are there enough instruments during your lessons?

Everyone said there was enough of each instrument when they were using them in class. Y2 child said "there is not a pbuzz each but there is a mouth piece each and we are good at sharing!"

Do you use any technology in music lesson such as composition software or tablets?

Some of the KS1 children needed further explanation and agreed that technology was used when they went on the musical apps like the listening apps and musical explorer. The KS2 children could confidently tell me about the different programmes that they have been using in class to compose and create their own music e.g. Quick beats, Music Explorer, Percussion Writer.

How often do you have music lessons?

Some children said weekly, some children said every couple of weeks and some children said every other half term. The younger children from YR weren't sure but said they do a lot of singing and playing instruments out of their music box.

How are you challenged in music lessons?

Most children alluded to the progression in notes - they are always being taught new notes to play on the various instruments. When thinking about the other areas of music, they said they were challenged to add more notes/instruments into compositions or to appraise music with more instruments in.

What has been your favourite musical experience in school/outside the classroom?

All the children talked about the shows that we put on eg KS1 and KS2 shows and coronation/talent shows. Some children mentioned carol singing/Christmas carol concert because they love christmas music. Most of the children mentioned all the musical visitors we've had from QES and of course the very popular Playground Proms concert we had in April. All of the KS2 children that had attended Young Voices said how much they enjoyed it and wanted to do it again next year. Year 6 children said how they loved the opportunity to perform to parents and family members in end of term concerts that they had worked hard for.

What do you think could be changed/improved about music in school?

KS1 children said they wanted a singing group/choir but not singing songs about God. They also mentioned about having a drumming group. Some KS2 children also mentioned about wanting to play the drums after seeing a young drummer at Young Voices Concert. Year 6 children asked for more time for music lessons as they don't get as much because of SATs.