"Music education can help spark a child's imagination or ignite a lifetime of passion. When you provide a child with new worlds to explore and challenges to tackle, the possibilities are endless. Music education should not be a privilege for a lucky few, it should be a part of every child's world of possibility." Hilary Clinton

What do we love about our subject?

At Fairfield, we aim to develop enjoyment and curiosity for music, as well as an understanding of the importance of all types of music, and a respect for the role that music can be play in life.

We are committed to ensuring children understand the value and importance of music in the wider community, in different cultures and across the ages. Children develop fundamental abilities such as achievement, self-confidence, interaction with others, creativity and self-reflection.

Children are able to enjoy music in as many ways as they choose, as listener, creator and performer. Children at Fairfield love finding alternative ways of making music, such as body percussion, and enjoy ensemble teaching with specialist teachers.

How do we want pupils to talk about our subject?

We want our pupils to speak enthusiastically and passionately about Music and to identify the impact that music can have on their daily lives.

Through our Music education, we want children to identify the links between Music, History, English, Computing and PSHE. Music can both energise and calm the body and mind, is an excellent tool for emotional wellbeing, and it is important to us that children are passionate about the impact it can have on them. Children will discover that music is enjoyable and relaxing, and can help to reduce stress.

We want our children to talk about their compositions and performances with a sense of achievement.

What are some of the big ideas in our subject?

The National Curriculum for Music aims to ensure that all pupils:

- perform, listen to, review and evaluate music.
- are taught to sing, create and compose music.
- understand and explore how music is created, produced and communicated.

The heart of our subject lies in composition and performance; our children get a great sense of achievement in performing their own and others' music to their peers and family.

How is our subject taught and organised so learning is retained in the long-term memory?

Music is predominantly taught discretely on a weekly basis. However, when there are opportunities for cross-curricular links, especially with Topic themes, these are seized upon in order to cement cultural and contextual understanding.

Our lessons are based on the Leicestershire Schools Music Service scheme of work which ensures progression from Foundation Stage to Year 6 for each unit of work.

How do we enrich our subject?

Children across the school have opportunities to perform to their families in Harvest, Christmas and end-of-year productions. Children who have been receiving ensemble teaching from specialist teachers also perform to the whole-school which brings a great sense of pride in having learned how to read music and play an instrument.

We also support transition from Key Stage 2 to the local high school by collaborating on inter-school performances.

What do we want pupils to leave Fairfield being able to do?

Our aim is that children will leave Fairfield having fostered a love for music and the benefits it can bring. They will be able to compose and perform music, and analyse it using technical vocabulary. We want our pupils to carry a love of music into their next setting and continue to pursue ways to create music in a variety of forms.