



Thorndown Primary School



Music

How do we promote spiritual, moral, social and cultural education through music here at Thorndown?

Spiritual

At Thorndown, we encourage this aspect of the curriculum through the experience and the emotion of listening and responding to music, composition and performance. We encourage our pupils to express their feelings verbally when responding to a piece of music. Where pupils are sensitive about expressing their feelings, we support them appropriately so that they have the confidence to do so. Spiritual skills are further developed by encouraging children to be inspired and creative.

Moral

We encourage our children at Thorndown to engage in critical discussions of musical performances both from other students and visiting artists. Where there is a specific cultural or social reference that is explicit in a piece of music, we encourage our children to reflect upon this. Where children have presented their own work, we ensure fair and objective assessment and evaluation of their composition. Improving on their performances requires self-discipline, resilience and commitment which we foster here in school.

Social

Children engage in group tasks to encourage a sense of unity and collaboration, enabling them to be aware of their own individual abilities and strengths. We also encourage the skills of independence and resilience. Where they are required to express their feelings, students are encouraged to do this sensitively with an awareness of the needs of others. Our choir, recorder group and the drumming group all require our children to work together as part of a team. We have participated in large social events such as 'Young Voices' at the O2 in London and the 'Big Sing' streamed live from the Abby Road Studios in London.

Cultural

By listening to a wide range of styles and genres in music, we encourage respect and a deep appreciation of cultures around the world. We encourage children to create their own music, incorporating different musical influences in their own compositions, such as in Year 3 where they study Indian music and Year 6 where they study African melodies. We use instruments from around the world including African drums.