

All About Charanga

At Duxford primary School, we follow the Charanga Musical School scheme of work. Charanga works seamlessly with the National Curriculum ensuring that learners revisit the interrelated dimensions of music: pulse, voice, pitch and rhythm-building upon previous learning and skills. The learning within this scheme is based on: listening and appraising, musical activities, creating and exploring, and singing and performing.

Music is taught as a separate subject, but links may be made to other learning such as the children's topic work for that term. All learners from EYFS to Y6 receive a weekly music lesson supported by Charanga. All classes are taught music for approximately 30 minutes per week.

The Charanga music scheme allows children to experience a new topic and style of music every half-term. The lessons provide children with the opportunity to listen and respond to different styles of music, use their voices and instruments to listen and sing back and have a go at composing their own piece of music. The lessons are planned so that each year children follow on from the learning they completed the previous year and clear progression is evident across the school.

The spiral structure of the curriculum enables children to understand musical concepts through a repetition-based approach to learning. Learning about the same musical concept through different musical activities enables a more secure, deeper learning and mastery of musical skills. Musical teaching and learning is not neat or linear. The strands of musical learning, presented within the lesson plans and the on-screen resources, are part of the learning spiral. Over time, children can both develop new musical skills and concepts, and re-visit established musical skills and concepts. Repeating a musical skill doesn't necessarily mean their progress is slowing down or their development is moving backwards, rather shifting within the spiral. This allows children to develop a deeper understanding of musical skills and concepts and learning something new.