



Music Curriculum Rationale

At Belvedere Infant and Junior Schools, we aim to develop the musical skills and appreciation of every child by the time they leave our school in Year 6. Weekly music lessons will endeavour to realise and encourage each child's confidence in and enjoyment of their own musicianship, and are structured in related sections to cover the fundamentals of music as per the national curriculum: they will enrich the children's knowledge of music theory and of cultural and creative arts.

Throughout Belvedere Infant and Junior Schools, music is taught by teachers using the scheme '**Charanga**':

Structure of the Charanga scheme

Each unit of work comprises the strands of musical learning which correspond with the elements from the national curriculum for music:

- Listening and Appraising,
- Musical Activities: Singing; Playing instruments; Improvisation; Composition
- Performing

Listening sessions will focus on a range of quality live and recorded pieces of music, set in a historical and cultural context with the help of timelines and world maps, to encourage discussion and thinking about where, why, and when certain music was written; using musical vocabulary, the children will be encouraged to share their thoughts on a catalogue of music pieces and styles from the past thousand years.

Singing sessions include a warm-up and stretching, thinking about effective breathing and vocal health, making the best musical sound with your voice. They will explore a range of community songs, well-known contemporary cultural songs, and children's songs and rounds with actions and dance moves.

Music theory sessions will teach the basic methods for reading the grand stave (with more focus on treble clef), and accompanying educational worksheets will allow students to practise writing their own music on the stave.

Composition: each student will be given the opportunity to compose their own music, using basic rhythms and pitches, and learning to write this on the stave following practise on worksheets, and using online music software.

Performing sessions will include demonstrations of good playing technique and the opportunity to create music on a range of musical instruments, culminating in the group work production, creative decision making, and performance and evaluation of a class piece.