**St Joseph’s Catholic Primary School Music Curriculum**

In addition to singing practices for Masses throughout the year and performances in Class Assemblies, Class Prayer Services, Christmas and Easter Productions and Year 6 Productions, pupils at St Joseph’s are taught Music in weekly Music lessons.

Weekly lessons follow the National Curriculum for Music (2013) which states that pupils should be taught to do the following in each Key Stage:

**Key stage 1**

 use their voices expressively and creatively by singing songs and speaking chants and rhymes

 play tuned and untuned instruments musically

 listen with concentration and understanding to a range of high-quality live and recorded music

 experiment with, create, select and combine sounds using the inter-related dimensions of music.

**Key stage 2**

Sing and play musically with increasing confidence and control. They should develop an understanding of musical composition, organising and manipulating ideas within musical structures and reproducing sounds from aural memory.

 play and perform in solo and ensemble contexts, using their voices and playing musical instruments with increasing accuracy, fluency, control and expression

 improvise and compose music for a range of purposes using the inter-related dimensions of music

 listen with attention to detail and recall sounds with increasing aural memory

 use and understand staff and other musical notations

 appreciate and understand a wide range of high-quality live and recorded music drawn from different traditions and from great composers and musicians

 develop an understanding of the history of music.

At St Joseph’s pupils are taught Music at Key Stage 1 by class teachers using published schemes such as Music Express and Charanga.

At Key Stage 2 Pupils are taught Music by a Music specialist, through the medium of a particular instrument. (See the table below).

Each Key Stage 2 Year group receives a year’s tuition on a particular instrument.

At the end of each year pupils perform together in concert for other year groups and their parents.

There is also an opportunity for solo performances from those pupils who are able.

For some instruments, such as violin, differentiated activities are provided for those pupils who may already have some prior knowledge and experience of learning that instrument.

All tuition is provided by fully trained tutors from Artsfirst, a company set up by the Local Authority Music Advisors. There is no charge to parents as this is viewed by the school as the pupils’ access to the taught Music Curriculum.

Key Stage 2 Music:

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| --- | --- |
| **Year Group** | **Instrument** |
| Year 3 | Descant Recorder |
| Year 4 | Violin |
| Year 5 | Clarinet |
| Year 6 | Ukulele /Music Theory |

In addition to the taught curriculum, there are also a number of other opportunities for pupils to perform together and for audiences:

After School Choir Club

After School Orchestra Club

After School Ukulele Club

Pupils from the school also perform annually as part of the borough’s Pure Voices Concert, at Union Chapel, Islington, and at the Recorder Rebels Concert, Union Chapel, Islington.

The school choir is invited to perform each Christmas at The Whittington Hospital, St Joseph’s Parish Church Bazaar and at Highgate Village’s Fair in the Square.

From time to time the choir also performs at The Albert Hall and The Barbican, as part of primary school concerts.