

Music at CwR

'Music is a moral law. It gives soul to the universe, wings to the mind, and life to everything... Without music, life would be an error.' (Plato)

Singing, listening to and learning music has been proven to strengthen language skills and literacy as the same part of the brain that is used to store and process language is also used to process musical skills. We value musical education highly at Clifton with Rawcliffe and believe that every child should have the opportunity to learn music.

Our Music Curriculum

All children at CwR, regardless of background or musical ability, have the opportunity to learn both a **tuned** and **un-tuned instrument**.

Our **tuned instrument** teaching comprises of the interactive Charanga scheme which is based on the **National Curriculum**. Charanga is taught directly by the children's class teachers in the school, is overseen by our Music Coordinator. The scheme includes units of work based on broad and varied musical material which forms a progressive spiral of learning from Foundation Stage to Year 6. In all units of work, children explore **the interrelated dimensions of music: pulse, rhythm, pitch, tempo, dynamics, timbre, texture and structure**. Three different elements of musicality; **Listening and Context, Composing** and **Performing** are also embedded into each unit of work and the children progressively build upon these three skills as they move up the school. Through the Charanga scheme, children are introduced to **notation** and learn about the history of music including **Great Composers** and the many different genres which have shaped and influenced contemporary music that we hear today.

Our music specialist, Billy Hickling visits our school once a week to teach drumming. Billy was previously a performer and rehearsal director with the international hit show STOMP and now works in musical education to inspire others with his love of music. Over the year, Billy works with all children in the school in five-week blocks of drumming. Billy is also a believer in music being accessible to all which is why he teaches drumming using recyclable and reclaimed objects. Billy's drumming sessions also explore the **interrelated dimensions of music** and use objectives taken from the **National Curriculum** which complement our Charanga scheme.

