# Music

**Intent:**

At Bocking, we believe that music is a universal language that embodies one of the highest forms of creativity. We intend for children at our school to develop a critical engagement with music, allowing them to compose, and listen to a broad variety of musical pieces to develop musical knowledge, concepts and skills.

Children at Bocking Primary School are provided with opportunities to enjoy, compose, play and perform music in class and to an audience. Through performances and assemblies, our children share their talents and deepen their understanding of performing with others. Alongside this, our music lessons give children of Bocking Primary School opportunities to develop their musical skills as well as appreciate and appraise a range of music genres.

**Aims:**

We aim to develop children who:

* Have an appreciation of music; being able to make judgements and express their preferences about its quality and style.
* Listen to and evaluate music across a range of historical periods, genres, cultures, styles and traditions, using a range of musical language.
* Can sing, compose music (on their own and with others) and take part in performances with an awareness of audience.

What can you expect to see in our music lessons?

As children at Bocking begin the ‘Stave House’ programme, they learn to read notation, compose short tunes, play instruments, and read from sheet music. Every child will apply this knowledge to learning to play the violin.

Throughout the programme, children participate in creative role play using a variety of games, dance, movement, songs and stories, that involve the use of notation and rhythm characters. Whilst reading notes and rhythm, the children take ownership of the language of academic music from the very outset, using the correct terminology and sight reading from notation immediately.

Children at Bocking, have great fun using this knowledge in puppet shows, performances, singing games, music theatre and action. The songs they use from the ‘Music with Henry’ programme and the ‘Stave House’ programme teach them aural skills to develop an understanding of pitch. This utilises melody and folk song. Therefore, children naturally begin to pitch triads, scales and arpeggios, tuning their musical ear and the natural voice. During music lessons, children at Bocking are encouraged to sing solos, suggest descriptive words and make short tunes for one another - all of which enhances their interaction and self-esteem.

Rhythm is taught using contextual stories which make sense to the children as opposed to sounds, such as “Ta Tey”. The rhythmic stories are based upon movement which means the children embody the feeling of the pulse as they move.

Throughout the programme, children learn performance skills, working towards a concert for their parents/carers. This gives them a sense of achievement and accomplishment and the joy of making music with others.

**By the end of EYFS, children at Bocking:**

* read and place 7 notes of the treble clef
* create simple compositions of up to 5 notes
* read simple pieces from sheet music using standard notation (which they can play on an instrument)
* recognise and demonstrate crotchets minims and semibreves
* use rhythmic values to create longer patterns to play and clap
* begin the initial elements of composition and song writing

**By the end of Key Stage One, children at Bocking:**

* sight-read the whole of the treble clef
* have added dotted minims and quavers to their rhythm resources
* explore improvisation
* discover the ‘one language for all approach’ to music, seeing that the notational skills they posses apply to many instruments

**By the end of Lower Key Stage Two, children at Bocking:**

* read in three clefs -Treble, Bass and Alto, gaining knowledge about different instruments and they will using semiquavers, sharps, flats and naturals in their compositions
* use keys and make scales and chords, playing more extensively from sheet music
* play a variety of styles of music, from the old masters, to modern West End show music. (This usually takes the form of an accompaniment of their chosen instrument to a melody played by the teacher.)
* continue to develop and grow improvisation and composition skills, writing longer compositions

The creative play element, sensory learning materials (as well as sheet music), child-led learning and storytelling will still be a crucial element in the Key Stage Two lessons and children will continue to sing. The Stave House songs and stories will widen children’s musical horizons, as they explore a variety of styles of music.

Most importantly, every child at Bocking will leave with skills that enable them, not only to appreciate music, but to have a deeper understanding of how music works and how to apply their skills to almost any instrument they might wish to play in the future. Our Stave House lessons offer a high standard of music education and experience for every child and all of our children have the opportunity to gain Music awards as they follow the programme.

For a quick overview of the Stave House method watch this short video

lhttps://drive.google.com/file/d/1dzGUOPO-cjq6U27Jb-SNKXQ33WKRssW5/view?usp=sharing