

Music at Fairfield's contributes to children's 'Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural' (SMSC) development in a number of ways.

Our music curriculum develops the children's appreciation of music from around the world, as the children listen to works from a wide variety of composers, ensembles, bands and music groups. We play music from Albinoni to Adele, and everything in between!

We play music in our whole-school and class assemblies (as well as our music lessons of course!). All assemblies begin with a piece of music, usually classical. We briefly discuss its period, the composer, performer/s, instrumentation and other aspects of the music.

There are so many ways to describe the music we play to the children, but we will use words such as warm, gentle, harsh, brassy, rich, deep, shrill, solemn, joyous and many more, as well as simply describing the music as loud or soft.

Science has proven that, when we listen to music, our brains release dopamine (a natural mood booster!). Aside from our minds and moods, music also aids in our physical health.

We do like the children to experience live music and so we have taken them to the Royal Albert Hall, The Royal Opera House, The O2 Arena and invited ensembles to play in school. The children regularly attend the Hertfordshire Gala concert at the RAH. We have booked to perform again in 2023 and cannot wait! The performances are always enriching for the children but also fill them with awe, wonder and appreciation for music and all that it can bring in terms of the deep feelings it can stir.

The school choir regularly performs for the local community, for example, in December 2021 we sang carols for the local community in Hoddesdon Town Centre. Not only is a choir a social group in itself, bringing together different year groups, but singing to an audience is a satisfying encounter for everyone concerned. Please listen to part of our performance on our Music Curriculum Page.

Children are able to have instrumental music lessons here at school and these can be subsidised. Learning a musical instrument has been shown to give many significant benefits to the learner. As well as the dedication it takes to learn music, there are many attributes which a musician develops as a result of learning an instrument.

As Plato said: Music gives a soul to the universe, wings to the mind, flight to the imagination and life to everything.