

Pedagogical Principles

Purpose

This document outlines the pedagogical principles that should underpin the approaches to planning and delivery of the Mini Musicians Scheme of Learning.

1) Joy

Children will learn best if they are motivated to do so. Resources used and the strategies adopted should be as engaging and enjoyable as possible.

2) Sound First

Children will naturally engage with music without needing to have it explained to them. Participation is key. Concepts and their associated terminology should only be introduced when they are genuinely helpful to promote learning and development.

3) The Child's Experience

Children will come to the sessions having been exposed to thousands of hours of music. They will already have a wide range of auditory skills, acquired implicitly. Tap into children's musical experiences and interests. Value what they bring to sessions.

4) Maximise Value

Music is perceptually very rich; even a simple melody contains intricate patterns of pitch and rhythm. Children develop their musical memory both absolutely and relatively; ensuring consistency of pitch and tempo where possible means pupils won't need to 'unlearn'.

5) Role Model

All adults must actively participate in the musical learning. Tutors should model musical activities using the resources that are available to pupils right from the start; encourage children's natural curiosity about the instruments they see and hear.

November 2023