Oxley Primary School Singing Strategy

Vision and Ethos

At Oxley Primary, we believe that singing is a key component of musical growth. We aim to create a positive and inclusive singing culture where every child participates, enjoys, and benefits from singing as part of their educational experience. Singing supports our school culture by fostering a sense of belonging, encouraging creativity, and promoting confidence.

- Singing Practice: Singing is integrated into daily school life, from assemblies to curriculum-aligned music lessons and beyond. Every student will participate in singing activities to build a shared experience and enhance emotional well-being.
- Skill Development: We aim to teach vocal techniques like posture, breath control, tone, and articulation to develop confident, quality singers.
- Inclusivity: All children will access varied musical genres and song styles, helping them explore and appreciate different cultures and musical expressions.
- Community Building: We aim to strengthen community ties through collective singing events and performances that engage families and the local community.
- Professional Development: We support staff with regular training on effective singing practices to increase confidence and capability.

Structure and Key Components

- Assemblies and Celebrations: Whole-school singing assemblies are held weekly, focusing on both enjoyment and skill-building. Additionally, singing will be an essential part of special celebrations, including Christmas, Easter, and end-of-year assemblies.
- Classroom Integration: Teachers incorporate singing into various subject areas. For example:
    - In literacy, singing can support phonics and grammar.
    - In maths and science, songs related to themes will reinforce learning and engagement.

  This approach encourages creative learning while helping students to connect more deeply with the curriculum, often through using songs and chants as fun aids to memory.

Singing teaching in school:

- Foundation Stage: Regular singing sessions will support verbal development and emotional expression, including activities like singing simple rhymes and songs, composing simple songs and engaging in creative singing activities.
- Key Stage 1: Students will learn about pitch control and basic vocal dynamics. They will learn to sing as part of an ensemble, helping them to build confidence and vocal skills.
- Key Stage 2: Students will learn a range of different styles of songs such as rounds and will begin to become more confident in singing in a group and as a duet/soloist.

Events and Performance Opportunities

- Annual Events: Students will participate in massed choir events, such as Young Voices, and local performances, including school concerts and seasonal celebrations.
- Community Partnerships: The school will collaborate with local schools for partner concerts and with community hubs for public performances, encouraging wider community engagement.

Resources and Support

- Curriculum Support: We will use resources such as the Leicestershire Music Scheme Singing Toolkit and Out of the Ark singing resources to align with seasonal themes and curricular needs.
- Professional Development: Staff will be provided with opportunities for training on singing techniques and ways to incorporate singing into lessons, provided by Leicestershire Music Service if required.

Evaluation and Development

- Pupil Voice: Regular feedback from students will ensure continuous improvement to our Singing Strategy.
- Monitoring Engagement: Track participation in singing assemblies and clubs to ensure inclusivity.
- Continuous Improvement: Regular reflections on the singing strategy will help adjust practices to meet school goals, based on the evolving needs of students and staff.