****

**Statement of Intent for Music**

At St Michael’s Infant School, we know that it is fundamentally important for us to instil in the children a love and understanding of music. We feel that nurturing children’s enjoyment of music from an early age will benefit them throughout their whole lives. This love of music could result in the children choosing to learn instruments as they get older or simply turning to pre-recorded music as an outlet for feelings and emotions.

Through our teaching, and the teaching of Hampshire Music Service, we aim to:

* Help children to recognise the benefits of music for wellbeing
* Develop children’s enjoyment and knowledge of music from a range of cultures and musical genres
* Enable children to explore the different elements of music - from dynamics to tempo
* Give children the opportunity to explore the different features of playing music - such as creating their own piece of music based on a stimulus, playing with others led by a conductor or performing to an audience

Music is played in school to encourage a sense of calm during transition times.  In addition, various styles of music may be used as a stimulus for teaching.   The aim is for the children to begin to think about the emotions they feel when listening to different musical genres and how this can help support their wellbeing.

As a part of their learning, the children listen to and explore music from a range of cultures, times and musical traditions. We are using the Model Music Curriculum to help us continue to refine our Listening and Responding curriculum so that it is fully reflective of the diversity within our school community and encourages children to be open-minded in their listening and knowledgeable about the range of musical genres within the world today.

Throughout their time at St Michael’s Infants, the children are encouraged to take an active part in our music lessons and contribute to our discussions. Whilst the themes of the units vary to ensure links with the wider curriculum, we ensure that there is a clear progression of the musical skills, with each new unit focusing on one or two of the musical elements and building upon what the children have already learnt. We use the Hampshire ‘Pathways to Musical Independence’ progression documents to guide our teaching. The children are specifically taught the key vocabulary linked to each Music unit so that they are able to confidently and articulately apply this to their projects.