

Warwick Nursery School



Parents Leaflet 5: Music

Why is music important?

1. Music helps children to develop their listening skills and to differentiate between sounds, which is also essential for learning to read.
2. Music and singing helps children to develop a sense of rhythm, which also helps them to learn new words and supports memory, an important part of learning.
3. Singing supports clear speech by strengthening lips and tongues.
4. Music makes many situations more enjoyable and learning is more effective when it's fun. Singing makes us happy!
5. Music can help children to recognise and express their emotions.

Follow your child's lead...

**“Music is an
outburst of
the soul.”**
Frederick Delius

**“The world’s
most famous and
popular language
is music.”**
Psy



“Music is about
communication, creativity
and cooperation.”
President Bill Clinton

“Music gives a soul
to the universe,
wings to the mind,
flight to the
imagination, and
life to everything.”
Plato

Your child will develop at their own rate and in their own way.

How can you support your child's musical learning?

1. Sing and dance together whenever you can. Don't worry about your singing voice or your dance moves, your child won't - just be enthusiastic.
2. Listen to music together. Talk about how songs make you feel - happy, sad etc - and why.
3. Practise making sounds together with your mouths and bodies to support your child to hear the differences between sounds.
4. Find opportunities to see live music together - it can just be another child learning a musical instrument.
5. Sing nursery rhymes and action songs together.

6. Make up silly songs and new versions of familiar songs together based on your everyday activities.
7. Dance together in front of a mirror - it's great exercise and children can see themselves and you moving rhythmically.
8. Ask your children to teach you the songs that we sing at Nursery School (song words are available in the folder in the cloakroom).
9. Make music outdoors as well as indoors, so they can experience being really LOUD.
10. Have fun! A love of music is something that children will be able to appreciate throughout their lives and can make them happy. And remember, you don't need to be a 'talented' musician to enjoy music.

Ideas to try at home:

Make musical shakers. Fill empty plastic bottles with rice, pasta etc and make music with them. Play a game where children have to guess which one you're shaking out of sight.

Make a guitar out of a box and elastic bands to enable your child to experiment with making musical sounds in a different way.

Make up your own words to the tune of 'The Wheels on the Bus': e.g. 'The spoon in the pan goes round and round'. What ideas does your child have?

Listen to classical music together and move in the way it makes you feel - e.g. the theme to 'The Apprentice' sounds cross.

Pour different amounts of water into empty jars and experiment with the different sounds they make when they are tapped with a spoon.

Use ribbons etc when you're dancing together to stimulate children's gross motor movements.



Ideas to try out and about:

Make a drum kit in the garden using buckets, old saucepans, flower pots etc. Use old kitchen utensils (e.g. wooden spoons) as beaters. Experiment with playing as loudly as possible.

Have a look in a music shop and wonder together about all the different sounds that the instruments might make.

Stop and listen to the sounds that you can hear about you in the park or garden to encourage children to listen carefully to sounds.

Stop and listen to musicians and singers when you're out and about. Let children see how different musical sounds are made.

Sing together in the car - you can sing as loudly and joyfully together as you like without needing to worry about being overheard!

Tap out a rhythm in the park or garden. Can your child follow it? Can they make that same rhythm in a different way? (e.g. clap it out or tap out the beat on an upturned bucket)



Useful information:

Nursery School planning boards (inside the cloakroom) give ideas for how to support your child's learning at home. Subscribe too to our app and follow us on Facebook for further ideas.

Pick up the words to the songs that we sing at Nursery School from the folder in the cloakroom.

Visit www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/grownups for more ideas and information.

For safety reasons, always supervise your child during their play. Remember, small objects can be choking hazards. Ensure that they thoroughly wash their hands after playing outside or with 'messy' resources inside.

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