



The Cornwall Independent School

British Values and SMSC in Music



British Values

At The Cornwall Independent School, fostering mutual respect, understanding and a strong sense of community is central to school life. We recognise that modern Britain is made up of people from a wide range of backgrounds, cultures, beliefs and experiences, and we prepare our pupils to live and contribute positively within this diverse society. British Values support the development of respectful, responsible and tolerant citizens who appreciate the rights, freedoms and viewpoints of others. The Cornwall Independent School is committed to providing a safe and inclusive environment where all pupils feel valued and protected from intimidation, extremism, radicalisation, or any influence that seeks to undermine their wellbeing, personal development or the values of a democratic society.

British Values are embedded throughout Music, where students develop the ability to collaborate, communicate, express themselves and show respect for others. Through performing, composing, improvising and listening, students learn to appreciate different ideas, perspectives and contributions.

By exploring music from a diverse range of cultures, traditions and communities, students develop understanding, tolerance and respect for others. Ensemble work encourages cooperation, responsibility and a strong sense of shared purpose, helping students recognise the importance of working positively with others.

Music also provides opportunities for students to develop their own musical identity, make creative choices and grow in confidence, while considering and supporting the needs of those around them. Through these experiences, students build the confidence, empathy, respect and collaborative skills needed to contribute positively to school life and the wider community.

Democracy	Students have opportunities to make musical choices, contribute ideas and have their voices heard. In ensemble work, students negotiate roles and make decisions together. Students listen to and respond to the ideas of others, understanding that everyone's contribution has value.
The Rule of Law	Students understand and follow agreed expectations for safe, respectful and effective music-making. They learn that rules and routines allow everyone to participate successfully. In ensemble work, students recognise the importance of keeping to agreed musical structures, rhythms and rehearsal routines.
Individual Liberty	Students are encouraged to develop their own musical identity and make independent choices. Opportunities for improvisation, composition, performance and musical interpretation allow students to express themselves creatively. Students are encouraged to take creative risks, experiment and develop confidence within their own musical ideas.
Mutual Respect and Tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs	Music provides opportunities to explore and perform music from different cultures, traditions, faiths and communities. Students learn to listen to and appreciate music that may be unfamiliar to them and develop an understanding of the cultural and historical contexts. Ensemble work encourages students to respect different musical preferences, abilities, backgrounds and viewpoints.

Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural (SMSC) Education

At The Cornwall Independent School, Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural (SMSC) education is at the heart of our values and ethos. We believe in nurturing the whole child and encouraging every pupil to develop respect for themselves, others and the world around them. Through our commitment to kindness, empathy, integrity and responsibility, we foster a supportive and inclusive community where everyone feels valued and empowered to thrive.

We encourage pupils to embrace diversity, demonstrate tolerance, build resilience and reflect on their experiences and actions. By promoting these qualities, we help our young people become confident, compassionate and active citizens who are well prepared for life in modern Britain and able to make positive progress in every aspect of their learning and personal development.

SMSC is naturally embedded within Music, providing students with opportunities to express themselves, develop their identity and understand the experiences of others. Through performing, composing, improvising and listening, students explore emotions, ideas and different perspectives.

Music enables students to develop the emotional, social and cultural understanding needed to become confident and respectful individuals.

Spiritual	Students' spiritual development involves the growth of their sense of self, their unique potential, their understanding of their strengths and weaknesses, and their will to achieve. As their curiosity about themselves and their place in the world increases, they try to answer for themselves some of life's fundamental questions. They develop the knowledge, skills, understanding, qualities and attitudes they need to foster their own inner lives and non-material wellbeing	Music provides opportunities for students to express emotions, explore their identity and develop confidence in their own abilities. Students can reflect on their experiences, feelings and responses to music. Students are encouraged to explore their individual creativity and potential, developing resilience, self-awareness and a sense of achievement. Through Music, students develop their sense of self, creativity and emotional awareness, supporting their personal growth and wellbeing.
Moral	Students' moral development involves students acquiring an understanding of the difference between right and wrong and of moral conflict, a concern for others and the will to do what is right. They are able and willing to reflect on the consequences of their actions and learn how to forgive themselves and others. They develop the knowledge, skills and understanding, qualities and attitudes they need in order to make responsible moral decisions and act on them.	Music develops students' empathy, responsibility and respect through collaboration, performance and reflection. Students learn to consider how their actions affect others, listen to different perspectives, give and receive constructive feedback, and support others. Through Music, students learn to make responsible choices, respect others and reflect on the impact of their actions.

Social	Students' social development involves pupils acquiring an understanding of the responsibilities and rights of being members of families and communities (local, national and global), and an ability to relate to others and to work with others for the common good. They display a sense of belonging and an increasing willingness to participate. They develop the knowledge, skills, understanding, qualities and attitudes they need to make an active contribution to the democratic process in each of their communities.	Music develops students' communication, cooperation and sense of belonging through ensemble work, performance and collaborative composition. Students learn to listen to others, take responsibility for their role and work together towards a shared goal. Performing and participating in musical groups also encourages students to contribute positively to their school and wider community, developing confidence, teamwork and an appreciation of the contribution each individual can make. Through Music, students develop the skills and confidence to work with others, participate actively and contribute towards a shared goal.
Cultural	Students' cultural development involves pupils acquiring an understanding of cultural traditions and an ability to appreciate and respond to a variety of aesthetic experiences. They acquire a respect for their own culture and that of others, an interest in others' ways of doing things and curiosity about differences. They develop the knowledge, skills, understanding, qualities and attitudes they need to understand, appreciate and contribute to culture.	Music provides students with opportunities to explore, appreciate and respect a diverse range of cultures and traditions. Students develop curiosity and an understanding of how music reflects culture and identity. Students are encouraged to value their own musical heritage while appreciating the traditions of others. Through Music, students develop the knowledge, curiosity and respect needed to appreciate and contribute to the rich diversity of culture.

Music plays a vital role in promoting both Fundamental British Values (FBV) and students' Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural (SMSC) development. Through creative expression, collaboration and engagement with a wide range of musical traditions, students develop confidence, respect, empathy and an appreciation of diversity. Music provides meaningful opportunities for students to express their individuality, make informed choices and work positively with others, fostering mutual respect and a sense of community. As an integral part of education, Music helps students become confident, creative and responsible individuals who are well prepared to contribute positively to school life, modern British society and the wider community.