KIRKLEES MUSIC SCHOOL

Whole Class Ensemble Teaching at KS2

Kirklees Music School - Lead organisation for the Music Education Hub in Kirklees

www.kirkleesmusicschool.org.uk

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KMS - registered charity 1013838

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Department for Education | ARTS COUNCIL ENGLAND

MUSIC Mark

What is Whole Class Ensemble Teaching (WCET) in Music at Key Stage 2?

Over time, all pupils in primary schools, who wish to, will have the opportunity to learn to play a musical instrument
Secretary of State for Education, 2000

WCET (formerly First Access/Wider Opportunities) gives children the opportunity to learn to play a musical instrument as part of the music curriculum.

It is a national scheme, but tailored locally to meet the needs and aims of individual schools so that every child experiences instrumental music making.

Evaluation and feedback regularly shows how our WCET programmes are giving children benefits far beyond the obvious musical experiences and skills. Children gain self-confidence, self-esteem, develop team working skills and an increased ability to concentrate in an enjoyable environment.

KMS is delivering a wide variety of projects in many primary schools in Kirklees. African drums, steel pans, woodwind, recorder, brass, classical guitar, keyboards, percussion, strings and lots more are being taught to whole classes of Key Stage 2 children.

What does it involve?

- WCET tuition for up to one academic year, delivered by a specialist musician, supported by the class teacher and/or support staff, on a weekly basis, delivered at **no cost** to the pupils
- A complete musical experience including singing, movement and instrumental performing
- A partnership between Kirklees primary and first schools and KMS, integrating with the whole music curriculum, accessible to all, totally inclusive, creative and involving collaborative working
- Instruments provided **free** for use in the school based sessions

We firmly believe that in Kirklees
Every Child's Music Matters!

What Pupils, Teachers, Head Teachers and Parents have said about WCET (formerly First Access)

The First Access [WCET] programme is a great experience for the children and for me as the class teacher. I have been able to learn with them and I have gained the confidence I needed to lead a group performance in assembly. Class Teacher

It's great fun, I look forward to it every week. Pupil

This project has been a revelation, the impact being not only musical but on the children's whole approach to learning. Head Teacher

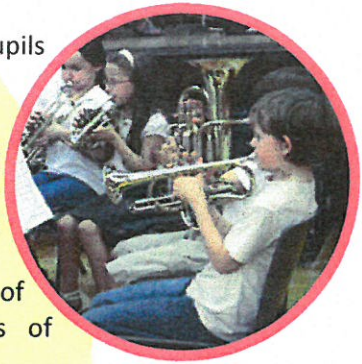
I never thought my son would be able to perform music like this and enjoy it. He has special needs and this is a wonderful way for him to succeed. Parent

How can parents/carers help?

- If instruments are brought home, please support your child by helping them to care for their instrument, encouraging them to practise and reminding them to have the instrument in school for the weekly sessions
- When possible, please support your child if they are giving a performance in or out of school
- You could take your child to see live musical performances and attend a Kirklees Music School (KMS) music centre when they are ready

Please visit our website for more information.

How does a WCET programme link to the National Curriculum?



The Key Stage 2 National Curriculum states that pupils should be taught to:

- Play and perform in solo and ensemble contexts, using their voices and playing musical instruments with increasing accuracy, fluency, control and expression
- Improvise and compose music for a range of purposes using the interrelated dimensions of music
- Listen with attention to detail and recall sounds with increasing aural memory
- Use and understand staff and other musical notations
- Appreciate and understand a wide range of high-quality live and recorded music drawn from different traditions and from great composers and musicians
- Develop an understanding of the history of music

WCET programmes support **all of the above.**

What extra activities can my child access?

- Smaller group or individual lessons with a KMS teacher
- Joining a local KMS music centre band, orchestra or other music group, leading to a Kirklees central ensemble
- Joining a school-based choir, instrumental ensemble or continuation class
- Joining a community band, orchestra or choir

For details about these or any other music making opportunities, please contact:

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