Spirituality in the Music curriculum

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Spirituality is about seeking a meaningful connection with something bigger than oneself, which can result in positive emotions, such as peace, awe and wonder. Spirituality enables our children to be happy; to flourish, to succeed and to live life in all its fullness.









Planned opportunities	
In music, planned opportunities for spirituality focus on enhancing children's understanding of themselves, their relationships with others, their connection to the world, and their appreciation for the transcendent and universal aspects of music. This holistic approach ensures that music education contributes to intellectual and spiritual growth by exploring the emotional and spiritual dimensions of music and experiencing moments of transcendence through performance and composition. • By allowing pupils to show their delight and curiosity in creating their own sounds. By making links between their learning in literacy (or other curriculum area) with music being played as background. By considering how music makes one feel and can 'move us' deeply. • What style of music 'invites you to explore the mystery that dances within your soul?' (K. Hall) • What styles of music have the opposite effect? • How does music encourage creativity, delight, and curiosity? In conclusion, by integrating spirituality into music education, primary schools can nurture well-rounded individuals who are not only musically skilled but also spiritually aware and connected. This approach prepares children to engage with music thoughtfully and empathetically, appreciating its power to enrich their lives and connect them to the wider world.	
	Music helps children explore and express their emotions, fostering self-awareness and emotional intelligence. Whole class instrumental tuition, such as learning to play the recorder or violin, allows students to experience the joy of mastering an instrument, building confidence and a sense of accomplishment. Composing their own music encourages self-expression and creativity, helping children to connect with their inner selves and articulate their feelings through sound, while singing engages not just voices but hearts and minds.

	Music provides numerous opportunities for collaboration and shared experiences. Singing in parts within a choir or participating in group performances allows and indeed requires students to listen, harmonize, and support each other, promoting empathy and cooperation. For example, preparing for a class assembly helps students understand the importance of working together towards a common goal, fostering a sense of community and mutual respect. Group composition projects encourage children to value each other's ideas and contributions, enhancing their social and emotional development.
	Music connects children to diverse cultures and traditions, broadening their horizons and fostering a sense of global citizenship. Exploring World Music through activities like music appraisal allows students to appreciate the rich variety of musical expressions from different cultures. For instance, studying traditional Japanese drumming or West African folk songs helps children develop an appreciation for cultural diversity and the universal language of music, promoting respect and understanding for different ways of life.
	Music invites students to contemplate the transcendent and universal aspects of human experience. Reflecting on the emotional and spiritual power of music, whether through listening to a symphony or participating in a school assembly performance, encourages deep reflection and a sense of connection to something greater than themselves. Discussing the role of music in various spiritual and religious traditions can stimulate profound reflections on the nature of beauty, harmony, and the human quest for meaning.