



Jenny de Sausmarez

Specialist Leader for Music

Background

I love my subject area and passionately believe children benefit in countless ways as a result of developing their musicianship. Additionally, I believe children's musical development can have an impact across the curriculum with the disciplines and skills needed to learn music. As a music specialist and a mentor, I value working with my colleagues and feel strongly that we need to nurture and support all our teachers, so they continue to deepen their own knowledge, skills and understanding of the complexity of teaching.

Having been a KS2 leader, in addition to Music, ICT, RE and Literacy, I understand the importance of strong subject leadership and the ability to support and communicate the discrete needs of individual subjects, especially to members of staff developing their own pedagogy for music, where many feel low in confidence to teach. I have supported various groups of staff for music within the school environment and beyond, including University students, PGCE groups and NQTs. A significant motivation is to share good practice within a subject I love, inspire others to work with proven strategies and enable successful music teaching for our pupils.

With music, my main concern is sustainability and giving staff a skill set that they could adapt to different year groups, as it is likely they will move around the school to teach. Music and composition is particularly challenging to a number of teachers and I believe personal qualities of trust, professional respect and encouragement to take a risk and try something out, are fundamental when working with individuals. During my INSET sessions, staff experience lively and interactive music making to build up their own experiences and resources, as I aim to identify and take away those barriers stopping teachers from delivering good or better lessons.

Support I can offer:

- Support with a staff skills audit to help identify training needs.
- Support developing curriculum initiatives to ensure coverage.
- Deliver significant staff training, unique to individual schools e.g. composition strategies for use in the classroom; use of tuned percussion and use of the pentatonic scale.
- Support to develop recording strategies for soundscapes including graphic scores and notation.
- Instrumental skills - learning the recorder or ukulele.
- Developing band music and use of MuseScore software.