

## MUSIC EXPRESS

There is no doubt that the primary music scheme of work called Music Express is a very good scheme with lots of ideas and support in the form of planning, video clips and resources. Because it links to the QCA units of work, the books are an ideal path through the many skills needed to progress in music. Many schools have worked through the scheme in the last year and discovered the wealth and challenge of the material can be quite daunting, especially in upper Key Stage 2.

It may be time to review your overview of curriculum music.

The following thoughts are given as an aid to creating a more enriched and manageable curriculum using Music Express as the core SOW.

- You could reduce the content of each unit of work for each term. Choose lessons or activities that you particularly enjoy and want to repeat.
- You could choose one unit from Music Express for two terms, creating a two year cycle. This will allow more time to work through the activities in more depth.
- Both of the above ideas will enable other resources/ideas to be incorporated if desired and incorporate music festivals, concerts and school productions. Many teachers are struggling to find time for all three activities for each lesson. Break up the activities across lessons.
- Don't forget opportunities for ICT. There are many music programmes available. Look at the CD Roms in the resources for the Primary Strategy '**Learning and Teaching using ICT**'. There are examples for teaching music for every year group from Foundation Stage to Year 6.
- Music Express Song books are available from A & C Black . They contain all the songs from the CDs with piano accompaniment and guitar chords. Years 1-2 and Years 3-6 £16.99 each.

If you want to know more about Music Express or would like help reviewing your music curriculum contact Christine Wright at the Music Service 01454 863147