**“*Encourage one another and build each other up”***

***1 Thessalonians 5:11***

***Why is singing important to every learner?***

***Singing improves learning outcomes***

*Singing and music helps pupils to become confident learners, able to apply critical thinking. Musicians make great problem solvers with creative minds. Academic research consistently reports increased confidence and improved learning outcomes as a direct result of singing regularly. Other benefits include improved self-esteem, increased enjoyment in school life, deeper engagement in class and enhanced social skills*

***Singing is really good for you.***

*Singing works the respiratory system, so good for your hearts and lungs. It triggers feel good chemicals in the brain, lifting our spirits. As well as this, some research has shown it can boost their immune system. What’s more, something special happens when we sing in a group. Singing together regulates breathing and causes your heart rate to synchronise with everyone else in the choir.*

***Singing creates strong communities***

*Successful singing schools have a strong, cohesive culture with enthusiasm for learning.*

*Singing well together has a deep impact on the school community, helping to strengthen the identity of the school and make pupils feel proud to be part of it. Pupils, teachers, governors and parents alike enjoy the sense of community that singing brings to school life. Quality songs and resources help schools reach their goals*

*Sing Up Website*

**OUR VISION**

At St Margaret’s we believe that ALL children should have access to good quality singing opportunities every week and most days. We believe that singing is a truly inclusive musical activity that transcends all economic and academic boundaries and that it has a huge benefit on the wellbeing of our children. We believe that singing should be fun and joyous and that all children can sing.

**Our aims:**

* Singing in our worship everyday so that the children get to sing regularly as a whole school/key stage community setting.
* All staff to join in the singing.
* All staff to be able to lead singing in our worship and in music lessons.
* To include singing elements in all music lessons.
* Singing and songs will be encouraged to help explore subject content in all areas of the curriculum.
* To ensure singing sessions focus the children on high quality singing with reference being made to breathing/phrasing, articulation, projection, tone, dynamics etc…( not just a sing song!)
* KS2 pupils to be encouraged to sing in harmony at least once a week to build in an element of challenge and enhanced enjoyment and musical appreciation of singing in an ensemble. (this maybe for a school choir)
* KS2 pupils to sing in harmony within choir rehearsals
* All pupils to be given the opportunity to sing songs in a variety of genres: Hymns, musicals, pop, jazz and in a variety of styles: upbeat, slow, lyrical, powerful etc..
* All staff will plan to include singing in their lessons at least once a week.
* Staff will share singing strategies regularly during meetings.
* There will be opportunities for children to join lunchtime or after school choirs if they wish to engage further in singing.
* The school will aim to showcase their singing through participating in school concerts, Church services, Cathedral Projects Hub large scale events, National Events eg Young Voices, and cluster events with other local primary schools.

**Resources Used**

* Out the Ark published books
* Young Voiceworks
* Charanga Subscription
* Choir Resources from Church

**Extra -curricular Groups In school**

 School Choir

 Church choir

**Events**

**Autumn term** – Harvest Services with each class singing own songs/Diwali/Christmas Productions/Christmas Carol Service at St Margaret’s Church/ Remembrance Service

**Spring term** – Easter Service at St Margaret’s Church, Mothers Day Events

**Summer term** – Summer Productions/Leavers Celebrations/ Lichfield Cathedral Event for Y6/Hub Summer Festival/ School Musical Celebration

**Acknowledge challenges and plans for development**

* To engage more boys in upper key stage
* Staff training in the technical terms within teaching singing
* Provide more extra- curricular opportunities for singing but this is a challenge as we do not have a lead who is musical
* To attend more singing events