

Too few schools are hitting the high notes in music

Date: 04 Feb 2009

School music lessons have the potential to improve pupils' development, personally as well as musically, yet all too often this powerful tool isn't properly harnessed according to a new report published by Ofsted.

Making more of music found that provision was good or outstanding in around half the schools visited. The subject had a positive impact on pupils' personal development in about three quarters of the schools visited. The report welcomes government funding for music but finds that it needs to be better targeted to have even more impact.

In the schools where provision was outstanding, pupils developed personally as well as musically. These schools had a clear sense of why music was important. As a result, they were able to engage pupils, increasing their self-esteem and maximising their progress across all their learning, not just music.