



Music assignment



The Education Department is considering increasing the amount of music taught in schools. The class teacher collected opinions from her class on the subject. This is the opinion of Jane Knowles, one of the students.

I do not agree that there should be more music in schools. There is enough time wasted on music at the present. Not everyone enjoys it or even wants to be good at it. In the first place there is plenty of music in schools right now. We have one music lesson a week with the music teacher.

We listen to a bit of music from around the world and then we have recorder practice! Each week we have to practise the recorder at home. Our dog really enjoys that!



Our class teacher gives us singing for a few minutes each morning and there is choir practice for those who want to be in the choir during two lunch hours during the week and after school on Wednesday afternoon—for an hour.

Our school camp each year is a mixture of sport, physical

education activities, safety-first, as well as music and art sessions.

Then there are the special groups for pupils who want to be in bands. Five Year-Six boys have a rock band with Jim Lyons from the Big Beach Boys. He is also trying to get a girls' group going. There are all the students that are having individual after-school piano lessons—and there are some students learning the violin.

Most pupils like some music but do we all like the same music? Even at home we all like different music. Dad likes jazz and Mum prefers something classical. I like country music and my little brother hasn't got past The Wiggles. We have to ask the government what sort of music they expect us to learn and enjoy. I can't imagine everyone wants to sit around listening to the works of the 'great composers'.

The government should consider letting children have more choice—music or sport or more science. Then everyone would be happy. Teachers wouldn't have to push pupils into doing things that are boring and we could improve in the things we really want to do!

Jane Knowles