# Music Skills Progression



### Performing - Singing

	Skills Progression	Vocabulary
EYFS	Enjoy and take part in action songs, such as 'Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star'	Pitch
	Remember and sing entire songs. Sing the pitch of a tone sung by another person ('pitch match')	Melody
	Sing the melodic shape (moving melody, such as up and down, down and up) of familiar songs	Improvise
	Create their own songs or improvise a song around one they know	
	Sing a range of well-known nursery rhymes and songs. Perform songs with others, and when appropriate try to	
	move in time with music	
Year 1	Speak and chant together	Continue with EYFS
	Sing songs showing increasing vocal control (singing more in tune, breathing deeply, singing words clearly)	vocabulary
	Sing songs in different styles conveying different moods (happy, sad, angry etc) and with sense of enjoyment	
	Co-ordinate actions to go with a song	Beat
	Sing in time to a steady beat	
	Perform an action or a sound (clapping, stamping, etc) on the steady beat whilst singing	
	Sing a wide range of call and response songs	
Year 2	Sing songs with increasing vocal control and accuracy of pitch	Continue with Y1
	Sing words clearly and breathing at the end of phrases	vocabulary
	Convey the mood or meaning of the song	
	Sing with a sense of control of dynamics (volume) and tempo (speed)	Dynamics
	Echo sing short melodic phrases	Tempo
	Identify if the pitch is getting higher or lower, or is staying the same and copy with their voices	· .
	Follow a leader (teacher)starting and stopping	

Year 3	Sing a range of unison songs of varying styles and structures	Continue with Y2
	Sing songs in a variety of styles with confidence, singing an increasing number from memory	vocabulary
	Show increasing accuracy of pitch and awareness of the shape of a melody	
	Imitate increasingly longer phrases with accuracy with an awareness of the phrases in a song	Unison
	Understand that posture, breathing and diction are important	Round
	Demonstrate an awareness of character or style in performance	Structure
	Chant or sing a round in two parts	Verse
	Sing songs with a recognised structure (verse and chorus)	Chorus
	Perform actions confidently and in time to a range of actions	
Year 4	Sing a broad range of songs over an octave, pitching the voice accurately and following directions for crescendo and decrescendo	Continue with Y3 vocabulary
	Sing songs in a variety of styles with an increasing awareness of the tone of their voices and the shape of the melody	
	Sing songs showing musical expression (phrasing, changes of tempo, dynamics; reflecting the mood and character of the	Octave
	song and its context)	Crescendo
	Sing confidently as part of a small group or solo being aware of posture and good diction	Decrescendo
	Copy short phrases and be able to sing up and down in step independently	
Year 5	Sing confidently in a wide variety of styles with expression	Continue with Y4
	Communicate the meaning and mood of the song	vocabulary
	Sing a simple second part of a two-part and three-part song with confidence	
	Maintain own part in a round	
	Perform a song from memory with attention to phrasing, dynamics and accuracy of pitch	
Year 6	Sing confidently in a wide variety of styles with expression including songs that involve syncopated rhythms	Continue with Y4
	Communicate the meaning and mood of the song	vocabulary
	Sing a simple second part of a two-part and three-part song with confidence	
	Maintain own part in a three or four-part round	Syncopated
	Perform a song from memory with attention to phrasing, dynamics and accuracy of pitch, for a special occasion	



## $\underline{Performing-Instruments}$

	Skills Progression	Vocabulary
EYFS	Explore a range of soundmakers and instruments and play them in different ways	Dynamics
	Play instruments with increasing control to express their feelings and ideas	Tempo
	Explore and engage in music making performing solo or in groups	Pitch
	Play and perform music with different: • dynamics (loud/quiet) • tempo (fast/slow) • pitch (high/low) •	Rhythms
	rhythms (pattern of sound)	
	Perform songs with others, and when appropriate try to move in time with music	
Year 1	Play instruments by shaking, scraping, rattling, tapping etc	Continue with EYFS vocabulary
	Play in time to a steady beat, using instruments or body sounds	
	Play loudly, quietly, fast, slow	Ostinato
	Perform short copycat rhythm pattern on an instrument	Drone
	Perform a short repeated rhythmic pattem (rhythmic ostinato) to accompany a song	
	Play a single pitched note to accompany a song (drone)	
	Play with help the rhythmic pattern of a spoken sentence, e.g. 'Hungry caterpillar'	
	Follow simple hand signals indicating: loud/quiet and start/stop	
Year 2	Play with control: maintaining steady beat, getting faster or slower (tempo), getting louder or quieter	Continue with Y1 vocabulary
	Perform a repeated two note melodic ostinato to accompany a song	
	Perform a rhythm accompaniment to a song	Graphic score
	Perform a sequence of sounds using a graphic score — dot/stick notation including e.g. crotchets, quavers,	Notation
	crotchet rests	Crotchets
	Create & perform their own chanted rhythm patterns with the same dot/stick notation	Quavers
	Work and perform in smaller groups	Crotchet rests
	Follow a leader (teacher) starting and stopping together	
	Demonstrate some confidence in performing as a group and as an individual	
Year 3	Keep a steady beat on an instrument in a group or individually	Continue with Y2 vocabulary
	Maintain a rhythmic or melodic ostinato simultaneously with a different ostinato and/or steady beat	
	Use tuned percussion with increasing confidence	Stave
	Copy a short melodic phrase by ear on a pitched instrument	Clef
	Play using symbols including graphic and / or simple traditional notation	

	Introduce the stave, lines and spaces, and clef Follow simple hand directions from a leader Perform with an awareness of others Combine musical sounds with narrative and movement Perform a composed piece to an audience, as a member of a group or class	
Year 4	Maintain two or more different ostinato patterns in a small instrumental group against a steady beat Use tuned percussion instruments with increasing confidence to accompany songs and improvise Play by ear — find known phrases or short melodies using tuned instruments Play music in a metre of two or three time Play and perform melodies following staff notation Follow a leader, stopping / starting, playing faster/ slower and louder / quieter. Perform to an audience with increasing confidence	Continue with Y3 vocabulary
Year 5	Perform on a range of instruments in mixed groups to an audience, with confidence Read and play with confidence from conventional or graphic notation Further understand the differences between semibreves, minims, crotchets, quavers and semiquavers, and their equivalent rests Further develop the skills to read and perform pitch notation within an octave Continue to play by ear on pitched instruments, extending the length of phrases, melodies played Perform with sensitivity to different dynamics, tempi Lead/conduct a group of instrumental performers Maintain a rhythmic or melodic accompaniment to a song Maintain own part on a pitched instrument in a small ensemble Perform own compositions to an audience Use a digital recorder/video recorder to keep a record of work in progress and record performances Know what makes a good performance	Continue with Y4 vocabulary  Semibreves Minims Crotchets Quavers Semiquavers
Year 6	Perform on a range of instruments in mixed groups to an audience, with confidence Read and play with confidence from conventional or graphic notation Further understand the differences between semibreves, minims, crotchets, quavers and semiquavers, and their equivalent rests Further develop the skills to read and perform pitch notation within an octave Continue to play by ear on pitched instruments, extending the length of phrases, melodies played. Perform with sensitivity to different dynamics, tempi Lead/conduct a group of instrumental performers Maintain a rhythmic or melodic accompaniment to a song Maintain own part on a pitched instrument in a small ensemble Perform own compositions to an audience	Continue with Y5 vocabulary

Use a digital recorder/video recorder to keep a record of work in progress and record performances.	
Know what makes a good performance	



## Composing

	Skills Progression	Vocabulary
EYFS	Play and perform music with different: • dynamics (loud/quiet) • tempo (fast/slow) • pitch (high/low) • rhythms (pattern of sound)  Create a sequence of different sounds in response to a given stimulus	Dynamics Tempo Pitch
	Perform songs with others, and when appropriate try to move in time with music	Rhythms
Year 1	Explore: Continue with EYFS	Continue with EYFS
	Pitch shapes (moving up and down) and rhythmic patterns	vocabulary
	Improvise simple vocal chants, using question and answer phrases	
	Add sound effects to a story	
	Choose musical sound effects to follow a story line or match a picture	
	Understand the difference between creating a rhythm pattern and a pitch pattern	
	Explore and invent own symbols	
	Use graphics/symbols to portray the sounds they have made	
	Sequence these symbols to make a simple structure (score)	
	Compose own sequence of sounds without help and perform	
	Use music technology to capture, change and combine sounds	
Year 2	Explore: Ways in which sounds are made (tapped, blown, scraped, shaken), and can be changed	Continue with Y1
	Long and short sounds (rhythm – duration)	vocabulary
	The rhythm patterns of words and sentences	
	Changes in pitch (higher and lower)	Ostinato
	Sequences of sound (structure)	Structure
	Sounds in response to a stimulus (visual or aural)	Notation
	How sounds can be manipulated to convey different effects and moods	
	Compose short melodic phrases and short repeated rhythmic patterns (ostinati)	
	Rhythm patterns from words	

	A piece of music that has a beginning, middle and end (structure) Create music in response to a non-musical stimulus (e.g. a storm, a car race, or a rocket launch) Music that has long and short sounds, and/or changes in tempo, timbre and dynamics, in small groups Music that conveys different moods Use graphic symbols, dot notation and stick notation, as appropriate, to keep a record of composed pieces Use music technology to capture, change and combine sounds	
Year 3	Explore: Longer — shorter / faster - slower / higher - lower / louder - quieter sounds on tuned and untuned percussion and voices  Pitch notes moving by step (notes adjacent to each other) and by leap (notes with gaps between them)  Symbols to represent sound (graphic scores / traditional notation)  The sounds of different instruments - TIMBRE and how they can represent pictures/ stories/ moods  The different sounds (timbres) that one instrument can make  How the Interrelated Dimensions of Music (Musical Elements) can be combined to compose descriptive music  Compose words and actions to go with songs  A simple rhythmic accompaniment to go with a song, using ostinato patterns  Music that has a recognisable structure; Beginning, Middle and End or verse/chorus  Music that tells a story, paints a picture or creates a mood  Music that uses repetition / echo	Continue with Y2 vocabulary  Repetition Echo Interrelated Dimensions of Music
Year 4	Explore: Sounds to create particular effects (timbre) Rhythm patterns in music from different times and places (duration) The pentatonic scale Pitched notes that move by steps and/ or leaps to make short phrases/melodies Music that describes feelings or moods using 'tense' or 'calm' sounds using dynamics, different tempi, different timbres etc Combining and controlling sounds to achieve a desired effect Music that incorporates effective silences (rests) Different groupings of beats (metre of 2/3)  Compose a simple rhythmic accompaniment to a song using ostinato patterns and drones A simple melody from a selected group of notes (i.e. a pentatonic scale) Capture and record creative ideas using any of graphic symbols, rhythm notation and time signatures, staff	Continue with Y3 vocabulary  Pentatonic scale Drone Staff notation Legato Staccato Tuned Untuned Note values: minim, crotchet, crotchet rest, paired quavers

	Make of musical features including smooth (legato) and detached (staccato)  Music that has a recognisable structure  A piece of music that reflects images and atmosphere, that has a clearly defined plan, making subtle adjustments to achieve the intended effect  Arrange individual notation cards of known note values (i.e. minim, crotchet, crotchet rest and paired quavers) to create sequences of 2-, 3- or 4-beat phrases, arranged into bars  Arrange a song using tuned and untuned accompaniments developed from the song and perform to a friendly audience	
Year 5	Explore: Chords / harmony — concord and discord Scales, such as pentatonic, rag, blues Texture created by layering rhythmic and/or melodic ostinatos Developing ideas, using musical devices such as repetition, question and answer, ostinato. Characteristics of various styles, for example, Blues, Rap, Gospel, Folk, African etc Improvising in a variety of styles  Always consider the Interrelated Dimensions of Music Create own simple songs reflecting the meaning of the words Compose music that reflects given intentions, e.g. descriptive music, a rap, a melody with an ostinato accompaniment Arrange a song for class performance with an appropriate pitched and unpitched accompaniment Improvise over a simple groove, responding to the beat, creating a satisfying melodic shape; experiment with using a wider range of dynamics, including very loud (fortissimo), very quiet (pianissimo), moderately loud (mezzo forte), and moderately quiet (mezzo piano) Refine own compositions after discussion Capture and record creative ideas using any of graphic symbols, rhythm notation and time signatures, staff notation Use ICT (computers/iPads/tablets/digital recorders etc) to record, sample, sequence, loop and manipulate sound to create pieces	Continue with Y4 vocabulary  Chord Harmony Fortissimo Pianissimo Mezzo forte Mezzo piano
Year 6	Explore: Chords / harmony — concord and discord Scales, such as pentatonic, rag, blues Texture created by layering rhythmic and/or melodic ostinatos Developing ideas, using musical devices such as repetition, question and answer, ostinato. Characteristics of various styles, for example, Blues, Rap, Gospel, Folk, African etc Improvising in a variety of styles	Continue with Y5 vocabulary

Always consider the Interrelated Dimensions of Music

Create own simple songs reflecting the meaning of the words

Compose music that reflects given intentions, e.g. descriptive music, a rap, a melody with an ostinato accompaniment

Arrange a song for class performance with an appropriate pitched and unpitched accompaniment Extend improvisation skills through working in small groups to create music with multiple sections that include repetition and contrast

Extend improvised melodies beyond 8 beats over a fixed groove, creating a satisfying melodic shape Use chord changes as part of an improvised sequence

Refine own compositions after discussion

Capture and record creative ideas using any of graphic symbols, rhythm notation and time signatures, staff notation

Use ICT (computers/iPads/tablets/digital recorders etc) to record, sample, sequence, loop and manipulate sound to create pieces



# Listening & Appraising

	Skills Progression	Vocabulary
EYFS	Listen with increased attention to sounds	Louder
	Respond to what they have heard, expressing their thoughts and feelings	Quieter
	Begin to use musical terms (louder/quieter, faster/slower)	Faster
	Listen attentively, move to and talk about music, expressing their feelings and responses	Slower
	Perform songs with others, and when appropriate try to move in time with music	
Year 1	Listen to a piece of music & move in time to its steady beats	Continue with EYFS
	Recognise & respond through movement/dance to different musical characteristics & moods of music	vocabulary
	Recognise the sounds of the percussion instruments used in the classroom & identify & name them	, and the second
	Begin to use musical terms ((louder/quieter, faster/slower)	Speed
	Begin to articulate how changes in speed, pitch & dynamics effect the mood	Pitch
		Dynamics
Year 2	Listen with increased concentration	Continue with Y1
	Recognise the sounds of the percussion instruments used, their names, how they are played and which ones can make high and low sounds	vocabulary
	Recognise how sounds are made — tapping, rattling, scraping, blowing etc	Timbre
	Identify different qualities of sound such as smooth, scratchy, clicking, ringing (timbre)	Tempo
	Recognise and respond to different changes of speed (tempo)/volume (dynamics) and pitch	'
	Respond through movement/dance to different musical characteristics and moods (angrily, sadly, cheerfully,	
	daintily etc)	
	Recognise and respond to the mood of a piece of music. Begin to use music terminology when describing how	
	the mood is created (i.e. the mood is sad because the music is played very slowly and quietly)	
Year 3	Listen with concentration to longer pieces / extracts of music	Continue with Y2
	Listen to live/recorded extracts of different kinds of music and identify where appropriate	vocabulary
	- a steady beat / no steady beat	
	- a specific rhythm pattern or event	Melody
	- the speed (tempo) of the music	
	- the volume (dynamics)	

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	- the melody	
	using appropriate musical terms/language	
	Identify common characteristics	
	Recognise some familiar instrumental sounds in recorded music (piano, violin, guitar drums etc)	
	Identify repetition in music i.e. a song with a chorus	
	Recognise aurally wooden, metal, skin percussion instruments and begin to know their names	
	Listen to their own compositions and use musical language to describe what happens in them	
Year 4	Recognise aurally the range of percussion (tuned and untuned) used in school and some individual orchestral	Continue with Y3
	instruments taught in school	vocabulary
	Recognise and talk about some contrasting styles of music in broad terms, using appropriate musical language	
	(the tempo, dynamics, metre, texture, timbre)	Tuned
	Recognise music from different times and countries indentifying key elements that give it its unique sound	Untuned
	Identify repeated rhythmic or melodic phrases in live or recorded music	Metre
	Identify whether a song has a verse/chorus or call and response structure	Verse
	Identify the use of metre in 2 or 3 in a piece of recorded or live music	Chorus
	Recognise the combined effect of layers of sound by listening to their own arrangements, compositions and	Structure
	recordings	
Year 5	Distinguish differences in timbre and texture between a wide variety of instruments and instrumentation	Continue with Y4
	Identify and discuss 'what happens when' within simple musical structures	vocabulary
	Recognise and identify features of expression (phrasing, melody, harmony, different dynamics, metre and	]
	tempi) in an extract of live or recorded music	Phrasing
	Compare two pieces of instrumental music from different countries/ times and discuss the similarities and	Harmony
	differences	Thursday
	Use musical vocabulary and knowledge to talk about and discuss music from a variety of sources, traditions	
	and cultures, including performances of their own and others' compositions	
	Use musical vocabulary and knowledge to help identify areas for development or refinement when composing	
Year 6	Distinguish differences in timbre and texture between a wide variety of instruments and instrumentation	Continue with Y5
icai o	Identify and discuss 'what happens when' within simple musical structures	vocabulary
	Recognise and identify features of expression (phrasing, melody, harmony, different dynamics, metre and	1 5 5 4 5 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4
	tempi) in an extract of live or recorded music	
	Compare two pieces of instrumental music from different countries/ times and discuss the similarities and	
	differences	
	Use musical vocabulary and knowledge to talk about and discuss music from a variety of sources, traditions	
	and cultures, including performances of their own and others' compositions	
	Use musical vocabulary and knowledge to help identify areas for development or refinement when composing	
	Tose musical vocabalary and knowledge to neip laently areas for development or refinement when composing	