



Music

Key skills and knowledge by unit

Curriculum support

Kapow Primary's curriculum access is being improved to make resources more searchable, user-friendly and sustainable.

Curriculum information pages and curriculum portals bring together content that was previously only available across multiple PDF documents. This allows quicker access to key information and ensures that the most up-to-date guidance is always available.

Curriculum information pages

These pages outline the intent, implementation and impact of the Kapow Primary curriculum, including the rationale behind the approach. They act as a central hub for curriculum guidance, with links to related resources, embedded media and FAQs to support understanding.

Curriculum portals

The curriculum portals provide an online view of each subject's long-term plan and progression. They bring together key unit information, including national curriculum links, British values and SMSC, knowledge and skills, vocabulary and cross-curricular connections, allowing easy navigation between whole-school and unit-level views.

1. Intent

This section outlines the overall curriculum plan, including its structure, sequencing and the specific knowledge and skills students are expected to acquire.

Curriculum aims

The Kapow Primary Music scheme is designed to help pupils recognise themselves as musical and to nurture a lifelong love of music.

Visit the Music curriculum information pages online.

Music

Long-term plan Standard - Current (2025/26)

	Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Spring 1	Spring 2	Summer 1	Summer 2
EYFS	Exploring sound	Celebration music	Music and movement	Musical stories	Transport	Big band
Year 1	Keeping the pulse (Theme: My favourite things)	Tempo (Theme: Snail and mouse)	Dynamics (Theme: Seaside)	Sound patterns (Theme: Fairytale)	Pitch (Theme: Superheroes)	Musical symbols (Theme: Under the sea)
Year 2						
Year 3						
Year 4						
Year 5						
Year 6						

Visit the Music curriculum portal online.

Introduction

This document shows the **skills and knowledge** covered in each year group from EYFS - Year 6 and which units focus on developing those skills. Skills that demonstrate pupils' recognition and application of the **inter-related dimensions** of music are highlighted in pink, illustrating how these elements are woven throughout our scheme.

This document was last updated on 05.03.26. Please click [here](#) to find the most up-to-date version.

♦ NB. Unit appears in the condensed curriculum

Related resources:

If you would like to see an overview of progression through the whole school, then please see our [Music: Progression of skills and knowledge](#).

If you are following our Condensed long-term plan, then please see the accompanying [Progression of skills and knowledge - condensed](#).

If your school is following our [Long-term plan - mixed-age](#) for music, then please see the accompanying [Progression of skills and knowledge - mixed-age](#).

EYFS		✦ <u>Exploring sound</u>	<u>Celebration music</u>	✦ <u>Music and movement</u>	<u>Musical stories</u>	✦ <u>Transport</u>	✦ <u>Big band</u>
Listening appropriately to someone leading a short musical phrase, song or rhyme.	Listening and evaluating	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Exploring spontaneous movement with different parts of their body in response to music.		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Expressing different spontaneous emotional reactions to music, (smiling, movement, body language).		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Identifying and imitating sounds from a variety of music.		✓	✓		✓		✓
Considering whether background music and sound effects can enhance storytelling.					✓	✓	
Listening to music from a wide variety of cultures and historical periods. (<i>*Not covered if following our condensed curriculum</i>)			✓				

EYFS		✦ <u>Exploring sound</u>	<u>Celebration music</u>	✦ <u>Music and movement</u>	<u>Musical stories</u>	✦ <u>Transport</u>	✦ <u>Big band</u>
Singing short, rhythmic rhymes and songs.	Creating sound		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Using both speaking and singing voices.		✓				✓	
Unconsciously beginning to sing to the pulse of a song.		✓				✓	
Exploring vowel sounds through call and response activities.		✓				✓	
Exploring different ways of making sound with everyday objects and instruments. (Groups A, B and C.)		✓	✓		✓		✓
Exploring different ways of holding a range of instruments. (Groups A, B and C.)		✓			✓	✓	✓
Starting to show a preference for a dominant hand when playing instruments. (Groups A, B and C.)		✓			✓	✓	✓
Using instruments expressively to music. (Group B.)			✓		✓		✓
Using instruments to begin to follow a beat, with guidance. (Group A.)			✓				✓
Finding a comfortable static position when playing instruments or singing.		✓			✓	✓	✓

EYFS		✦ <u>Exploring sound</u>	<u>Celebration music</u>	✦ <u>Music and movement</u>	<u>Musical stories</u>	✦ <u>Transport</u>	✦ <u>Big band</u>
Developing an awareness of high and low through pictorial representations of sound.	Notation	✓					
Exploring and imitating sounds from their environment and in response to events in stories.	Improvising and composing	✓			✓	✓	✓
Exploring and imitating sounds.		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Experimenting with creating sound in different ways using instruments, body percussion and voices.		✓			✓	✓	✓
Selecting classroom objects to use as instruments.			✓				✓
Selecting sounds that make them feel a certain way or remind them of something.			✓		✓		✓
Playing sounds at the relevant point in a storytelling. (*Not covered if following our condensed curriculum)					✓		
Beginning to say what they liked about others' performances.	Performing					✓	
Facing the audience when performing.				✓	✓	✓	✓
Spontaneously expressing feelings around performing.				✓	✓	✓	✓
Performing actively as part of a group.				✓	✓	✓	✓
Demonstrating being a good audience member, by looking, listening and maintaining attention.				✓	✓	✓	✓

EYFS	✦ <u>Exploring sound</u>	<u>Celebration music</u>	✦ <u>Music and movement</u>	<u>Musical stories</u>	✦ <u>Transport</u>	✦ <u>Big band</u>
Key knowledge from the unit	To understand how to listen carefully and talk about what I hear.	To know that there are special songs we can sing to celebrate events.	To know that the beat is the steady pulse of a song.	To understand that a piece of music can tell a story with sounds.	To recognise that voices and instruments can imitate sounds from the world around us (eg. vehicles).	To know that an orchestra is a big group of people playing a variety of instruments together.
	To know that sounds can be copied by my voice, body percussion and instruments.	To understand that my voice or an instrument can match an action in a song.	To recognise music that is 'fast' or 'slow.'	To know that different instruments can sound like a particular character.	To know that the beat is the steady pulse of a song.	To know that music often has more than one instrument being played at a time.
	To understand that instruments can be played loudly or softly.	To recognise that different sounds can be long or short.	To understand that we can match our body movements to the speed (tempo) or pulse (beat) of music.	To understand what 'high' and 'low' notes are.	To recognise music that is 'fast' or 'slow.'	To understand that performing means playing a finished piece of music for an audience.

✦ **NB.** Unit appears in the condensed curriculum

Year 1		✦ <u>Keeping the pulse (My favourite things)</u>	<u>Tempo (Snail and mouse)</u>	<u>Dynamics (Seaside)</u>	✦ <u>Sound patterns (Fairytale)</u>	✦ <u>Pitch (Superheroes)</u>	✦ <u>Musical symbols (Under the sea)</u>
Listening with concentration to short pieces of music or excerpts from longer pieces of music.	Listening and evaluating	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Engaging with and responding to longer pieces of music.		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Coordinating the speed of their movements to match the speed of the music (not the beat).			✓	✓		✓	✓
Beginning to move in time with the beat of the music.		✓	✓				✓
Beginning to articulate how a piece of music affects them (e.g it makes them feel sleepy, it makes them want to dance, it makes them happy)			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Identifying some common instruments when listening to music.				✓	✓		✓
Relating sounds in music to real-world experiences. (e.g. it sounds like squelching mud).				✓	✓		✓
Recognising simple patterns and repetition in rhythm. (e.g. where a pattern of beats is repeated).		✓			✓		
Recognising simple patterns and repetition in pitch (e.g. do re mi).		✓				✓	
Talking about the tempo of music using the vocabulary of fast and slow.			✓	✓		✓	✓
Talking about the dynamics of the music, using the vocabulary of loud, quiet and silent.				✓	✓		✓
Talking about the pitch of music, using the vocabulary of high and low.				✓		✓	✓

✦ NB. Unit appears in the condensed curriculum

Year 1		♦ <u>Keeping the pulse (My favourite things)</u>	<u>Tempo (Snail and mouse)</u>	<u>Dynamics (Seaside)</u>	♦ <u>Sound patterns (Fairytale)</u>	♦ <u>Pitch (Superheroes)</u>	♦ <u>Musical symbols (Under the sea)</u>
Stating what they enjoyed about their peers' performances.	Listening and evaluating			✓	✓	✓	✓
Giving positive feedback relating to the tempo of practices and performances using the vocabulary of fast and slow. (*Not covered in Year 1 if following our condensed curriculum)			✓				
Giving positive feedback related to the dynamics of practices and performances, using the vocabulary of loud, quiet and silent. (*Not covered if following our condensed curriculum)				✓			
Appreciating music from a wide variety of cultures and historical periods. (*Not covered if following our condensed curriculum)				✓			
To recognise and name the following instruments: up to three instruments from Group A and B.		✓		✓			✓
To know that sections of music can be described as fast or slow and the meaning of these terms. (*Not covered if following our condensed curriculum)			✓				
To know that sections of music can be described as loud, quiet or silent and the meaning of these terms.				✓	✓		
To know that sounds within music can be described as high or low sounds and the meaning of these terms.						✓	

♦ NB. Unit appears in the condensed curriculum

Year 1		♦ <u>Keeping the pulse (My favourite things)</u>	<u>Tempo (Snail and mouse)</u>	<u>Dynamics (Seaside)</u>	♦ <u>Sound patterns (Fairytale)</u>	♦ <u>Pitch (Superheroes)</u>	♦ <u>Musical symbols (Under the sea)</u>
Singing simple songs, chants and rhymes from memory.	Creating sound	✓	✓				
Practising singing songs with a wider pitch range (e.g. pentatonic melodies) which is gradually getting higher or lower.		✓					
Competently singing songs with a very small pitch range (two notes that are different but close together).		✓	✓				
Breathing at appropriate times when singing.		✓	✓				
Exploring changing their singing voice in different ways.		✓	✓				
Singing a range of call and response songs, attempting to match the pitch and tempo they hear. (*Not covered if following our condensed curriculum)			✓				
Developing an awareness of how sound is affected by the way an instrument is held. (Groups A, B and C.) (*Not covered in Year 1 if following our condensed curriculum)			✓	✓			
Developing an awareness of how dynamics are affected by the force with which an instrument is played. (Groups A, B and C.)					✓		✓
Learning to use instruments to follow the beat by first observing and then mimicking the teacher's modelling. (Group A.)		✓	✓				
Using instruments imaginatively to create soundscapes which convey a sense of place. (Group B.)				✓	✓	✓	✓
Using bilateral and hand-eye co-ordination to play/hold instruments using both hands. (Group A.)			✓	✓	✓	✓	
Starting to understand how to produce different sounds on pitched instruments. (Group C.)					✓		✓
Maintaining a comfortable position when sitting or standing to sing and play instruments.		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓

Year 1		♦ <u>Keeping the pulse (My favourite things)</u>	<u>Tempo (Snail and mouse)</u>	<u>Dynamics (Seaside)</u>	♦ <u>Sound patterns (Fairytale)</u>	♦ <u>Pitch (Superheroes)</u>	♦ <u>Musical symbols (Under the sea)</u>
Reading different types of notation by moving eyes from left to right as sound occurs.	Notation	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓
Recognising pitch patterns using dots.						✓	
Using pictorial representations to stay in time with the pulse when singing or playing.		✓	✓				
Confidently reading simple rhythmic patterns comprising of one beat sounds (crotchets) and one beat rests (crotchet rests).		✓					
To know that notation is read from left to right.		✓	✓	✓	✓		✓
To know that in all pictorial representations of music, representations further up the page are higher sounds and those further down are lower sounds.						✓	
To know that pictorial representations of rhythm show sounds and rests. (*Not covered in Year 1 if following our condensed curriculum)			✓				

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Year 1		♦ <u>Keeping the pulse (My favourite things)</u>	<u>Tempo (Snail and mouse)</u>	<u>Dynamics (Seaside)</u>	♦ <u>Sound patterns (Fairytale)</u>	♦ <u>Pitch (Superheroes)</u>	♦ <u>Musical symbols (Under the sea)</u>
Creating sound responses to a variety of physical stimuli such as, nature, artwork and stories.	Improvising and composing		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Improvising simple question and answer phrases, using untuned percussion or voices.		✓					
Experimenting with creating different sounds using a single instrument.				✓		✓	✓
Experimenting with creating loud, soft, high and low sounds.				✓		✓	✓
Selecting objects and instruments to create sounds to represent a given idea or character.				✓	✓	✓	✓
Playing and combining sounds under the direction of a leader (the teacher).					✓	✓	✓

♦ NB. Unit appears in the condensed curriculum

Year 1		♦ <u>Keeping the pulse (My favourite things)</u>	<u>Tempo (Snail and mouse)</u>	<u>Dynamics (Seaside)</u>	♦ <u>Sound patterns (Fairytale)</u>	♦ <u>Pitch (Superheroes)</u>	♦ <u>Musical symbols (Under the sea)</u>
Offering positive feedback on others' performances.	Performing		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Starting to maintain a steady beat throughout short singing performances.		✓	✓				
Keeping head raised when singing. (*Not covered if following our condensed curriculum)			✓				
Keeping instruments still until their part in the performance.		✓	✓		✓	✓	✓
Performing actively as part of a group; keeping in time with the beat.		✓	✓				
Showing awareness of leader particularly when starting or ending a piece.		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓

♦ NB. Unit appears in the condensed curriculum

Year 1	♦ <u>Keeping the pulse (My favourite things)</u>	<u>Tempo (Snail and mouse)</u>	<u>Dynamics (Seaside)</u>	♦ <u>Sound patterns (Fairytale)</u>	♦ <u>Pitch (Superheroes)</u>	♦ <u>Musical symbols (Under the sea)</u>
Key knowledge from the unit	To know that pulse is the regular heartbeat within music.	To understand that the pulse of the music can change.	To know that dynamics can change how someone listening feels about music.	To know that an instrument or rhythm pattern can represent a character in a story.	To know that sounds within music can be described as high or low sounds and the meaning of these terms.	To know that sounds within music can be described as high or low sounds and the meaning of these terms.
	To know that notation is read from left to right.	To know that sections of music can be described as fast or slow and the meaning of these terms.	To know that sections of music can be described as loud, quiet or silent and the meaning of these terms.	To know that the voice can whisper and shout to help tell a story.	To understand that music can be represented by pictures or symbols.	To recognise and name the following instruments: up to three instruments from Group A and B.
	To recognise and name the following instruments: up to three instruments from Group A and B.	To know that my voice, body and instruments can show fast and slow beats.	To understand that music can be represented by pictures or symbols.	To know that sections of music can be described as loud, quiet or silent and the meaning of these terms.		To know that notation is read from left to right.

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Year 2		♦ <u>Call and response (Animals)</u>	♦ <u>Instruments (Musical storytelling)</u>	<u>Contrasting dynamics (Space)</u>	<u>Singing (On this island)</u>	♦ <u>Structure (Myths and legends)</u>	♦ <u>Pitch (Musical Me)</u>
Listening with concentration to short pieces of music or excerpts from longer pieces of music.	Listening and evaluating	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Engaging with and responding to longer pieces of music.		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Confidently moving in time with the beat of the music when modelled.			✓		✓	✓	
Beginning to keep movements to the beat of different speeds of music..						✓	
Beginning to explain why the music has a certain effect on them, which could be related to the music or a personal experience.		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Identifying some common instruments when listening to music.			✓	✓	✓	✓	
Relating sounds in music to real-world experiences. (e.g. it sounds like squelching mud).			✓	✓			
Recognising simple patterns and repetition in rhythm. (e.g. where a pattern of beats is repeated).		✓		✓			
Recognising simple patterns and repetition in pitch (e.g. do re mi).							✓
Talking about the tempo of music using the vocabulary of fast and slow.			✓	✓	✓		
Talking about the dynamics of the music, using the vocabulary of loud, quiet and silent.			✓	✓	✓		
Talking about the pitch of music, using the vocabulary of high and low.			✓		✓		✓

♦ NB. Unit appears in the condensed curriculum

Year 2		♦ <u>Call and response (Animals)</u>	♦ <u>Instruments (Musical storytelling)</u>	<u>Contrasting dynamics (Space)</u>	<u>Singing (On this island)</u>	♦ <u>Structure (Myths and legends)</u>	♦ <u>Pitch (Musical Me)</u>
Stating what they enjoyed about their peers' performances.	Listening and evaluating	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Giving positive feedback relating to the tempo of practices and performances using the vocabulary of fast and slow.		✓					
Giving positive feedback related to the dynamics of practices and performances, using the vocabulary of loud, quiet and silent. (*Not covered if following our condensed curriculum)				✓			
Appreciating music from a wide variety of cultures and historical periods. (*Not covered if following our condensed curriculum)				✓	✓		
To recognise and name the following instruments: up to three instruments from Group A and B.		✓	✓				
To know that sections of music can be described as fast or slow and the meaning of these terms.			✓	✓	✓		
To know that sections of music can be described as loud, quiet or silent and the meaning of these terms.			✓	✓	✓		
To know that sounds within music can be described as high or low sounds and the meaning of these terms.			✓		✓		✓

♦ NB. Unit appears in the condensed curriculum

Year 2		♦ <u>Call and response (Animals)</u>	♦ <u>Instruments (Musical storytelling)</u>	<u>Contrasting dynamics (Space)</u>	<u>Singing (On this island)</u>	♦ <u>Structure (Myths and legends)</u>	♦ <u>Pitch (Musical Me)</u>
Singing simple songs, chants and rhymes from memory.	Creating sound				✓		✓
Practising singing songs with a wider pitch range (e.g. pentatonic melodies) which is gradually getting higher or lower.					✓		✓
Competently singing songs or short phrases with a small pitch range (up to five notes that are different but close together).							✓
Breathing at appropriate times when singing.		✓			✓		✓
Singing a range of call and response chants, matching the dynamic and tempo they hear with accuracy.		✓					
Singing part of a given song in their head (using their 'thinking voice').		✓			✓		✓
Developing an awareness of how sound is affected by the way an instrument is held. (Groups A, B and C.)							✓
Developing an awareness of how dynamics are affected by the force with which an instrument is played. (Groups A, B and C.)		✓	✓				
Learning to use instruments to follow the beat by first observing and then mimicking the teacher's modelling. (Group A.)		✓					✓
Using instruments imaginatively to create soundscapes which convey a sense of place. (Group B.)			✓	✓	✓	✓	
Using bilateral and hand-eye co-ordination to play/hold instruments using both hands. (Group A.)			✓	✓		✓	
Starting to understand how to produce different sounds on pitched instruments. (Group C.)			✓	✓		✓	✓
Maintaining a comfortable position when sitting or standing to sing and play instruments.		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

Year 2		♦ <u>Call and response (Animals)</u>	♦ <u>Instruments (Musical storytelling)</u>	<u>Contrasting dynamics (Space)</u>	<u>Singing (On this island)</u>	♦ <u>Structure (Myths and legends)</u>	♦ <u>Pitch (Musical Me)</u>
Reading different types of notation by moving eyes from left to right as sound occurs.	Notation			✓	✓	✓	✓
Using a simplified version of a stave (only three lines) to notate known musical phrases (of two pitches).							✓
Using pictorial representations to stay in time with the pulse when singing or playing.						✓	
Confidently reading simple rhythmic patterns comprising of one beat sounds (crotchets) and one beat rests (crotchet rests).				✓		✓	
Beginning to read simple rhythmic patterns which include two half beats (quavers).						✓	
To know that notation is read from left to right.					✓		✓
To know that in all pictorial representations of music, representations further up the page are higher sounds and those further down are lower sounds.				✓			✓
To know that pictorial representations of rhythm show sounds and rests.						✓	

♦ NB. Unit appears in the condensed curriculum

Year 2		♦ <u>Call and response (Animals)</u>	♦ <u>Instruments (Musical storytelling)</u>	<u>Contrasting dynamics (Space)</u>	<u>Singing (On this island)</u>	♦ <u>Structure (Myths and legends)</u>	♦ <u>Pitch (Musical Me)</u>
Creating sound responses to a variety of physical stimuli such as, nature, artwork and stories.	Improvising and composing	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Improvising simple question and answer phrases, using untuned percussion or voices.		✓		✓			
Experimenting with adapting rhythmic patterns by changing either the dynamics, tempo or instrument.		✓	✓	✓			
Selecting and creating short sequences of sound with voices or instruments to represent a given idea or character.		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Working collaboratively to combine different sounds by either turn-taking or by playing sounds at the same time.		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	

♦ NB. Unit appears in the condensed curriculum

Year 2		♦ <u>Call and response (Animals)</u>	♦ <u>Instruments (Musical storytelling)</u>	<u>Contrasting dynamics (Space)</u>	<u>Singing (On this island)</u>	♦ <u>Structure (Myths and legends)</u>	♦ <u>Pitch (Musical Me)</u>
Offering positive feedback on others' performances.	Performing	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
Starting to maintain a steady beat throughout short singing performances.		✓				✓	
Standing or sitting appropriately when performing or waiting to perform.		✓			✓	✓	✓
Beginning to acknowledge their own feelings around performance.				✓	✓		✓
Performing actively as a group, clearly keeping in time with the beat.		✓					
Following a leader to start and end a piece appropriately.					✓	✓	

♦ NB. Unit appears in the condensed curriculum

Year 2	♦ <u>Call and response (Animals)</u>	♦ <u>Instruments (Musical storytelling)</u>	<u>Contrasting dynamics (Space)</u>	<u>Singing (On this island)</u>	♦ <u>Structure (Myths and legends)</u>	♦ <u>Pitch (Musical Me)</u>
Key knowledge from the unit	To know that dynamics can change the effect a sound has on the audience.	To know that sections of music can be described as loud, quiet or silent and the meaning of these terms.	To know that sections of music can be described as fast or slow and the meaning of these terms.	To know sections of music can be described as fast or slow and the meaning of these terms.	To know pictorial representations of rhythm show sounds and rests.	To know notation is read from left to right.
	To be able to recognise and name up to three instruments from Group A and B.	To know that sections of music can be described as fast or slow and the meaning of these terms.	To know that sections of music can be described as loud, quiet or silent and the meaning of these terms.	To know that sections of music can be described as loud, quiet or silent and the meaning of these terms.		To know sounds within music can be described as high or low sounds and the meaning of these terms.
		To know that sounds within music can be described as high or low sounds and the meaning of these terms.	To know in all pictorial representations of music, representations further up the page are higher sounds and those further down are lower sounds.	To know sounds within music can be described as high or low sounds and the meaning of these terms.		To know in all pictorial representations of music, representations further up the page are higher sounds and those further down are lower sounds.

♦ NB. Unit appears in the condensed curriculum

Year 3		♦ <u>Ballads</u>	<u>Creating compositions in response to an animation (Mountains)</u>	♦ <u>Developing singing technique (Vikings)</u>	♦ <u>Pentatonic melodies and composition (Chinese New Year)</u>	<u>Jazz</u>	♦ <u>Traditional instruments and improvisation (India)</u>
Explaining their preferences for a piece of music using musical vocabulary.	Listening and evaluating	✓	✓			✓	✓
Discussing the stylistic features of different genres, styles and traditions of music using musical vocabulary.		✓	✓		✓	✓	✓
Understanding that music from different parts of the world, and different times, has different features.			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Recognising and explaining the changes within a piece of music using musical vocabulary.		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Describing the timbre, dynamic, and textural details of a piece of music, both verbally, and through movement.		✓	✓		✓	✓	✓
Beginning to show an awareness of metre.		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Beginning to use musical vocabulary (related to the inter-dimensions of music) when discussing improvements to their own and others' work.		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Understanding that music from different times has different features.						✓	

♦ NB. Unit appears in the condensed curriculum

Year 3		♦ <u>Ballads</u>	<u>Creating compositions in response to an animation (Mountains)</u>	♦ <u>Developing singing technique (Vikings)</u>	♦ <u>Pentatonic melodies and composition (Chinese New Year)</u>	<u>Jazz</u>	♦ <u>Traditional instruments and improvisation (India)</u>
To understand that 'reading' music means using how the written note symbols look and their position to know what notes to play.	Notation			✓			
Using letter name and rhythmic notation (graphic or staff), and key musical vocabulary to label and record their compositions.			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Performing from basic staff notation, incorporating rhythm and pitch and able to identify these symbols using musical terminology.				✓	✓	✓	✓
Composing a piece of music in a given style with voices and instruments.	Improvising and composing	✓		✓		✓	✓
Beginning to improvise musically within a given style using their voice.						✓	
Combining melodies and rhythms to compose a multi-layered composition in a given style (pentatonic).			✓	✓	✓	✓	
Suggesting and implementing improvements to their own work, using musical vocabulary.			✓		✓		
Offering constructive feedback on others' performances.	Performing	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Singing songs in a variety of musical styles with accuracy and control, demonstrating developing vocal technique.		✓		✓		✓	
Singing and playing in time with peers, with some degree of accuracy and awareness of their part in the group performance.		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

♦ NB. Unit appears in the condensed curriculum

Year 3	♦ <u>Ballads</u>	<u>Creating compositions in response to an animation (Mountains)</u>	♦ <u>Developing singing technique (Vikings)</u>	♦ <u>Pentatonic melodies and composition (Chinese New Year)</u>	<u>Jazz</u>	♦ <u>Traditional instruments and improvisation (India)</u>
Key knowledge from the unit	To know that a ballad tells a story through song.	To understand that the timbre of instruments played affect the mood and style of a piece of music.	To know that the group of pitches in a song is called its 'key' and that a key decides whether a song sounds happy or sad.	To know that the word 'crescendo' means a sound getting gradually louder.	To understand that 'syncopation' means a rhythm that is played off the natural beat.	To know that Indian music uses all of the sounds in between the 12 'notes' that we are used to in western music.
	To know that lyrics are the words of a song.	To know that an ensemble is a group of musicians who perform together.	To know that different notes have different durations, and that crotchets are worth one whole beat.	To know that some traditional music around the world is based on five notes called a 'pentatonic' scale.	To know that Ragtime is piano music that uses syncopation and a fast tempo.	To know that a 'tala' is a set rhythm that is repeated over and over, usually on the drums called 'tabla'.
	To know that in a ballad, a 'stanza' is a verse.	To know that to perform well, it is important to listen to the other members of your ensemble.	To understand that 'reading' music means using how the written note symbols look and their position to know what notes to play.	To understand that a pentatonic melody uses only the five notes C D E G A.	To know that jazz is a type of music that originated in the African-American communities of the USA about 120 years ago.	To know that a 'rag' is the tune in traditional Indian music, and is often played on a stringed instrument called a 'sitar'
			To know that written music tells you how long to play a note for.		To know that 'scat singing' is using made-up words to create the sound of an instrument playing.	To know that a 'drone' in music is a note that goes on and on, staying the same, a bit like someone humming a long-held note.
						To know that many types of music from around the world consist of more than one layer of sound; for example a 'tala' and 'rag' in traditional Indian music.

♦ NB. Unit appears in the condensed curriculum

Year 4		♦ Body and tuned percussion (Rainforests)	Rock and roll	♦ Changes in pitch, tempo and dynamics (Rivers)	Haiku music and performance (Hanami)	♦ Samba and carnival sounds and instruments (South America)	♦ Adapting and transposing motifs (Romans)
Explaining their preferences for a piece of music using musical vocabulary.	Listening and evaluating		✓	✓			
Recognising the use and development of motifs in music.		✓		✓			✓
Identifying gradual dynamic and tempo changes within a piece of music.		✓		✓			✓
Identifying common features between different genres, styles and traditions of music.			✓			✓	✓
Recognising, naming and explaining the effect of the interrelated dimensions of music.		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Identifying scaled dynamics (crescendo/decrescendo) within a piece of music.		✓		✓			✓
Using musical vocabulary to discuss the purpose of a piece of music.		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Recognising and discussing the stylistic features of different genres, styles and traditions of music using musical vocabulary.			✓	✓		✓	
Using musical vocabulary when discussing improvements to their own and others' work.		✓	✓	✓	✓		✓

♦ NB. Unit appears in the condensed curriculum

Year 4		♦ Body and tuned percussion (Rainforests)	Rock and roll	♦ Changes in pitch, tempo and dynamics (Rivers)	Haiku music and performance (Hanami)	♦ Samba and carnival sounds and instruments (South America)	♦ Adapting and transposing motifs (Romans)
To know that 'performance directions' are words added to music notation to tell the performers how to play.	Notation			✓			
Using letter name, graphic and rhythmic notation and musical vocabulary to label and record their compositions.				✓	✓		✓
Composing a coherent piece of music in a given style with voices, bodies and instruments.	Improvising and composing	✓		✓	✓		✓
Beginning to improvise musically within a given style using an instrument.				✓	✓	✓	✓
Developing melodies using rhythmic variation, transposition, inversion, and looping.		✓		✓	✓		✓
Creating a piece of music with at least four different layers and a clear structure.		✓			✓	✓	

♦ NB. Unit appears in the condensed curriculum

Year 4		♦ <u>Body and tuned percussion (Rainforests)</u>	<u>Rock and roll</u>	♦ <u>Changes in pitch, tempo and dynamics (Rivers)</u>	<u>Haiku music and performance (Hanami)</u>	♦ <u>Samba and carnival sounds and instruments (South America)</u>	♦ <u>Adapting and transposing motifs (Romans)</u>
Singing longer songs in a variety of musical styles from memory, with accuracy, control, fluency and a developing sense of expression including control of subtle dynamic changes.	Performing		✓	✓			✓
Singing and playing in time with peers with accuracy and awareness of their part in the group performance. .		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Playing melody parts on tuned instruments with accuracy and control and developing instrumental technique.		✓	✓		✓		✓
Playing syncopated rhythms with accuracy, control and fluency.						✓	
♦ NB. Unit appears in the condensed curriculum							

Year 4	♦ <u>Body and tuned percussion (Rainforests)</u>	<u>Rock and roll</u>	♦ <u>Changes in pitch, tempo and dynamics (Rivers)</u>	<u>Haiku music and performance (Hanami)</u>	♦ <u>Samba and carnival sounds and instruments (South America)</u>	♦ <u>Adapting and transposing motifs (Romans)</u>
Key knowledge from the unit	To know that deciding the structure of music when composing can help us create interesting music with contrasting sections.	To know that rock and roll music uses blues chord structures, with a fast tempo and strong vocals. It was created after the second world war and it was intended to represent happiness.	To know that when you sing without accompaniment it is called 'A Capella'.	To know that a glissando in music means a sliding effect played on instruments or made by your voice.	To know that samba music originated in Brazil, South America and its main musical feature is syncopated rhythms.	To understand that musical motifs (repeating patterns) are used as a building block in many well-known pieces of music for example, Beethoven's fifth symphony (dah dah dah dum!).
	To know that combining different instruments and different rhythms when we compose can create layers of sound we call 'texture'.	To know that a bass line is the lowest pitch line of notes in a piece of music, and a walking bassline (where patterns of notes go up then down again) is common in rock and roll.	To understand that harmony means playing two notes at the same time, which usually sound good together.	To know that expressive language (like a poem) can be used as inspiration for composing music.	To understand that the 'on beat' is the pulse of a piece of music, and the 'off beat' is beats that fall in between these.	To know that 'transposing' a melody means changing its key, making it higher or lower pitched.
	To know that a 'loop' in music is a repeated melody or rhythm.	To know that playing in time means all performers playing together at the same speed.	An ostinato is a musical pattern that is repeated over and over; a vocal ostinato is a pattern created with your voice.	To understand that both instruments and voices can create audio effects that describe something you can see.	To understand that a rhythmic break is a place in the music where some of the instruments play a new rhythm before going back to the original rhythms.	To know that a motif can be adapted by changing the notes, the rhythm or the order of notes.
	To know that changing the dynamics of a musical phrase or motif can change the texture of a piece of music.	To know that playing 'in time' requires playing the notes for the correct duration as well as at the correct speed.	To know that 'performance directions' are words added to music notation to tell the performers how to play.	To know that grouping instruments according to their timbre can create contrasting 'textures' in music.		

♦ NB. Unit appears in the condensed curriculum

Year 5		♦ <u>Composition notation (Ancient Egypt)</u>	♦ <u>Blues</u>	♦ <u>South and West Africa</u>	♦ <u>Composition to represent the festival of colour (Holi)</u>	<u>Looping and remixing</u>	<u>Musical theatre</u>
Understanding the impact music has on them and starting to articulate the reasons for this effect using musical vocabulary.	Listening and evaluating		✓				✓
Recognising and confidently discussing the stylistic features of different genres, styles and traditions of music using musical vocabulary.			✓	✓		✓	✓
Representing the features of a piece of music using graphic notation, and colours, justifying their choices with reference to musical vocabulary.		✓	✓		✓		
Comparing, discussing and evaluating music using detailed musical vocabulary.			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Developing confidence in using detailed musical vocabulary (related to the inter-related dimensions of music) to discuss and evaluate their own and others' work.		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
Confidently discussing the stylistic features of different genres, styles and traditions of music and explaining how these have developed over time.			✓				

♦ NB. Unit appears in the condensed curriculum

Year 5		♦ <u>Composition notation (Ancient Egypt)</u>	♦ <u>Blues</u>	♦ <u>South and West Africa</u>	♦ <u>Composition to represent the festival of colour (Holi)</u>	<u>Looping and remixing</u>	<u>Musical theatre</u>
To know that simple pictures can be used to represent the structure (organisation) of music.	Notation	✓					
To understand that in written staff notation, notes can go on or between lines, and that the lines show the pitch of the note.		✓					
Using staff notation to record rhythms and melodies.		✓	✓				
Composing a detailed piece of music from a given stimulus with voices, bodies and instruments (Remix, Colours, Stories, Drama).	Improvising and composing	✓			✓	✓	✓
Improvising coherently within a given style.		✓	✓	✓		✓	
Combining rhythmic patterns (ostinato) into a multi-layered composition using all the inter-related dimensions of music to add musical interest.				✓		✓	
Selecting, discussing and refining musical choices both alone and with others, using musical vocabulary with confidence.		✓	✓		✓	✓	✓
Suggesting and demonstrating improvements to own and others' work.		✓	✓				✓

♦ NB. Unit appears in the condensed curriculum

Year 5		✦ <u>Composition notation (Ancient Egypt)</u>	✦ <u>Blues</u>	✦ <u>South and West Africa</u>	✦ <u>Composition to represent the festival of colour (Holi)</u>	<u>Looping and remixing</u>	<u>Musical theatre</u>
Using musical vocabulary to offer constructive and precise feedback on others' performances.	Performing		✓		✓		✓
Singing songs in two or more parts, in a variety of musical styles from memory, with accuracy, fluency, control and expression.		✓	✓	✓			✓
Working as a group to perform a piece of music, adjusting dynamics and pitch according to a graphic score, keeping in time with others and communicating with the group.		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Combining rhythmic patterns (ostinato) into a multi-layered composition using all the inter-related dimensions of music to add musical interest.		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	

✦ NB. Unit appears in the condensed curriculum

Year 5	♦ <u>Composition notation (Ancient Egypt)</u>	♦ <u>Blues</u>	♦ <u>South and West Africa</u>	♦ <u>Composition to represent the festival of colour (Holi)</u>	<u>Looping and remixing</u>	<u>Musical theatre</u>
Key knowledge from the unit	To know that simple pictures can be used to represent the structure (organisation) of music.	To understand that a chord is the layering of several pitches played at the same time.	To know that songs sung in other languages can contain sounds that are unfamiliar to us, like the clicks of the Xhosa language.	To know that a vocal composition is a piece of music created only using voices.	To know that dance music is usually produced using electronic percussion sounds, and recordings of the music are played by DJs in clubs or at festivals.	To understand that musical theatre includes both character and action songs, which explain what is going on and how characters feel.
	To understand that a slow tempo and a minor key (pitch) can be used to make music sound sad.	To know that 12-bar Blues is a sequence of 12 bars of music, made up of three different chords.	To know that 'The Click Song' is a traditional song sung in the Xhosa language and is believed to bring good luck at weddings.	To understand that varying effects can be created using only your voice, for example by changing the pitch, dynamic or tempo of the sounds made.	To know that a loop is a repeated rhythm or melody, and is another word for ostinato.	To know that choreography means the organisation of steps or moves in a dance.
	To understand that in written staff notation, notes can go on or between lines, and that the lines show the pitch of the note.	To know that 'blues' music aims to share feelings and blues songs tend to be about sadness or worry.	To understand that major chords create a bright, happy sound.	To understand that human voices have their own individual timbre, and that this can be adapted by using the voice in different ways.	To know that remix is music that has been changed, usually so it is suitable for dancing to.	To know that musical theatre uses transitions, which are short passages of music used to move between sections of the musical action.
		To know that a 'bent note' is a note that varies in its pitch, eg the pitch may slide up or down.	To know that poly-rhythms means many rhythms played at once.	To know that the duration of a note or phrase in music can be shown using a repeated symbol or the size of a symbol on a graphic score.		

♦ NB. Unit appears in the condensed curriculum

Year 6		♦ <u>Dynamics, pitch and texture</u> (Coast- Fingal's Cave)	<u>Songs of World War 2</u>	<u>Film music</u>	♦ <u>Theme and variations</u> (Pop Art)	♦ <u>Baroque</u>	♦ <u>Composing and performing a Leavers' song</u>
Understanding the impact music has on them and starting to articulate the reasons for this effect using musical vocabulary.	Listening and evaluating			✓		✓	
Discussing musical eras in context, identifying how they have influenced each other, and discussing the impact of different composers on the development of musical styles		✓	✓		✓	✓	
Recognising and confidently discussing the stylistic features of music and relating it to other aspects of the Arts			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Representing changes in pitch, dynamics and texture using graphic notation, justifying their choices with reference to musical vocabulary.		✓	✓	✓	✓		
Identifying the way that features of a song can complement one another to create a coherent overall effect.			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Use musical vocabulary correctly when describing and evaluating the features of a piece of music.		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
Evaluating how the venue, occasion and purpose affects the way a piece of music sounds.			✓	✓		✓	✓
Discussing musical eras in context, identifying how they have influenced each other, and discussing the impact of different composers on the development of musical styles.						✓	
Confidently using detailed musical vocabulary (related to the inter-related dimensions of music) to discuss and evaluate their own and others work.		✓		✓	✓	✓	

Year 6		♦ Dynamics, pitch and texture (Coast- Fingal's Cave)	Songs of World War 2	Film music	♦ Theme and variations (Pop Art)	♦ Baroque	♦ Composing and performing a Leavers' song
To know that 'graphic notation' means writing music down using your choice of pictures or symbols but 'staff notation' means music written more formally on the special lines called 'staves'.	Notation			✓			
To know that chord progressions are represented in music by Roman numerals.							✓
Recording own composition using appropriate forms of notation and/or technology and incorporating the inter-related dimensions of music.		✓		✓		✓	✓
Performing with accuracy and fluency from graphic and staff notation and from their own notation.		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Improvising coherently and creatively within a given style, incorporating given features.	Improvising and composing	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
Composing a multi-layered piece of music from a given stimulus with voices, bodies and Instruments.		✓			✓	✓	✓
Composing an original song, incorporating lyric writing, melody writing and the composition of accompanying features, within a given structure.							✓
Developing melodies using rhythmic variation, transposition and changes in dynamics, pitch and texture.		✓	✓		✓	✓	
Constructively critique their own and others' work, using musical vocabulary.		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓

♦ NB. Unit appears in the condensed curriculum

Year 6		✦ <u>Dynamics, pitch and texture (Coast- Fingal's Cave)</u>	<u>Songs of World War 2</u>	<u>Film music</u>	✦ <u>Theme and variations (Pop Art)</u>	✦ <u>Baroque</u>	✦ <u>Composing and performing a Leavers' song</u>
Using musical vocabulary to offer constructive and precise feedback on others' performances.	Performing		✓	✓			✓
Singing songs in two or more secure parts from memory, with accuracy, fluency, control and expression.			✓		✓		✓
Working as a group to perform a piece of music, adjusting the interrelated dimensions of music as required, keeping in time and communicating with the group.		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Performing a solo or taking a leadership role within a performance.		✓					✓
Performing by following a conductor's cues and directions.		✓	✓				✓

✦ NB. Unit appears in the condensed curriculum

Year 6	◆ <u>Dynamics, pitch and texture</u> (Coast- Fingal's Cave)	<u>Songs of World War 2</u>	<u>Film music</u>	◆ <u>Theme and variations</u> (Pop Art)	◆ <u>Baroque</u>	◆ <u>Composing and performing a Leavers' song</u>
Key knowledge from the unit	To know that the conductor beats time to help the performers work well together.	To know that 'Pack up your troubles in your old kit bag' and 'We'll meet again' are examples of songs popular during WW2	To know that a film soundtrack includes the background music and any songs in a film.	To know that a 'theme' is a main melody in a piece of music.	To know that a 'polyphonic' texture means lots of individual melodies layered together, like in a canon.	To know that a chord progression is a sequence of chords that repeats throughout a song.
	To understand that improvisation means making up music 'on the spot'.	To know that the Solfa syllables represent the pitches in an octave.	To understand that 'major' key signatures use note pitches that sound cheerful and upbeat.	To know that 'variations' in music are when a main melody is changed in some way throughout the piece.	To know that music in which very similar parts are introduced one by one to overlap is called a canon.	To know that a melody can be adapted by changing its dynamics, pitch or tempo.
	To understand that texture can be created by adding or removing instruments in a piece and can create the effect of dynamic change.	A 'counter-subject' or 'counter-melody' provides contrast to the main melody.	To understand that 'minor' key signatures use note pitches that can suggest sadness and tension.	To know that 'The Young Person's Guide to the Orchestra' was written in 1945 by Benjamin Britten.	To know that ground bass is a repeating melody played on a bass instrument in Baroque music.	To know that chord progressions are represented in music by Roman numerals.
	To know that timbre can also be thought of as 'tone colour' and can be described in many ways eg warm or cold, rich or bright.	To know that a counter-melody is different to harmony because it uses a different rhythm as well as complementary notes.	To know that 'graphic notation' means writing music down using your choice of pictures or symbols but 'staff notation' means music written more formally on the special lines called 'staves'.	To understand that representing beats of silence or 'rests' in written music is important as it helps us play rhythms correctly.	To know that a 'counter-subject' or 'counter-melody' provides contrast to the main melody.	To understand that all types of music notation show note duration.
					To know that a counter-melody is different to harmony because it uses a different rhythm as well as complementary notes.	
					To know that a canon is a musical structure or 'form' in which an opening melody is imitated by one or more parts coming in one by one.	
◆ NB. Unit appears in the condensed curriculum						

Instrumental scheme			✦ <u>South Africa</u>	✦ <u>Caribbean</u>	<u>South America</u>	<u>Indonesia</u>	<u>India</u>	<u>North America</u>
Discussing the stylistic features of different genres, styles and traditions of music using musical vocabulary.	Year 3	Listening and evaluating	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Understanding that music from different parts of the world, and different times, have different features.			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Recognising and explaining the changes within a piece of music using musical vocabulary.			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Describing the timbre, dynamic, and textural details of a piece of music, both verbally, and through movement.			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Beginning to show an awareness of metre.			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Beginning to use musical vocabulary when discussing improvements to their own and others’ work.			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Understanding that music from different times has different features.				✓			✓	
Explaining their preferences for a piece of music using musical vocabulary.	Year 4		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Recognising the use and development of motifs in music.			✓		✓	✓		✓
Identifying common features between different genres, styles and traditions of music.			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Recognising and discussing the stylistic features of different genres, styles and traditions of music using musical vocabulary.			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

This page shows which skills are also covered by the instrumental scheme

Instrumental scheme			<u>South Africa</u>	<u>Caribbean</u>	<u>South America</u>	<u>Indonesia</u>	<u>India</u>	<u>North America</u>
Performing from basic staff notation, incorporating rhythm and pitch and be able to identify these symbols using musical terminology.	Year 3	Notation	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Using staff notation to record rhythms and melodies.	Year 5		✓		✓	✓		
Combining melodies and rhythms to compose a multi-layered composition in a given style (pentatonic).	Year 3	Improvising and composing		✓	✓	✓		✓
Suggesting and implementing improvements to their own work, using musical vocabulary.			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Beginning to improvise musically within a given style.	Year 4		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Singing songs in a variety of musical styles with accuracy and control, demonstrating developing vocal technique.	Year 3	Performing	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓
Singing and playing in time with peers, with some degree of accuracy and awareness of their part in the group performance.			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Playing melody parts on tuned instruments with accuracy and control and developing instrumental technique.	Year 4		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

Instrumental scheme	◆ South Africa	◆ Caribbean	South America	Indonesia	India	North America
Key knowledge from the unit	To know the key features of South African Gumbo music.	To know the key features of Calypso music.	To know the history and key features of salsa music.	To know the history and key features of gamelan music.	To know the history and key features of Bollywood music.	To know the history and key features of minimalist music.
	To understand the key features of staff notation including: clefs, key signatures, time signatures, minims, semibreves, crotchets, rests, and how pitch is shown.	To understand how to read and play quavers from staff notation, and pitches from staff notation with letter name prompts.	To understand how to play pitches and rhythms from staff notation without prompts.	To understand the concept of an octave, recognise this on staff notation, and play it at the correct pitch.	To understand how to play melodies in three parts from staff notation without prompts.	To understand how to play complex melodies in two parts from staff notation without prompts.
	To know the correct technique for playing tuned percussion instruments.	To be able to play tuned percussion with the correct technique.	To be able to play tuned percussion with the correct technique.	To be able to play tuned percussion with the correct technique.	To be able to play tuned percussion with the correct technique.	To be able to play tuned percussion with the correct technique.

◆ NB. Unit appears in the condensed curriculum