



Curriculum Progression for Music –

Skill	Nursery	Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Play and Perform	Range of singing games	Sing nursey rhymes and action songs.	Begin to play patterns from memory.	Learn about voices singing notes of different pitches	Confidently use graphic/grid notation when	Play their own part when performing on various	As a group, perform music using cultural	As a group, perform music using cultural
	Play different percussion instruments(to develop motor skills) Action and counting songs	•	memory. Sing with a developing sense of pitch, dynamics and duration when singing songs with an appropriate range. Experiment with their voices (chant, rap, represent known sounds) Know how to make sounds on a few un-tuned instruments (drum, triangle, shaker) — play along to a song Treat all instruments with respect Start and stop songs — follow my leader Sing loud and soft;	different pitches (high and low). Recognise and use hand signals to represent high/low Sing largely in tune as part of the class Learn that they can make different types of sounds with their voices Know how to make sounds on several un-tuned instruments and tuned instruments (glock, recorder, keyboard etc.) Show an awareness of more than one element when performing (e.g. loud and long; quiet and short) Learn to play a tuned instrumental		on various instruments along with others Perform with planned and tidy openings and endings Link notes together to form musical phrases Be confident in the use of notes representing 4 beats, 2 beats, 1 beat and pairs of half beats (conventional notation) Sing in a way that reflects the lyric and the mood Sing a solo part. Sing unison and simple two-parts. Play differentiated parts on a tuned		
			high and low	part that matches their musical		instrument – a one-note, simple or medium part or	in tune	

				challenge, using		the melody of the	To rehearse and	
				one of the		song from	perform an	
				differentiated parts		memory or using	instrumental part	
				(a one-note, simple		notation.	within the context	
				or medium part).			of the Unit song	
				1 /		Rehearse and	(Charanga)	
				Play a part in time		perform their part		
				with the steady		within the context		
				pulse.		of the Unit song.		
				•				
				Listen to and		Listen to and		
				follow musical		follow musical		
				instructions from a		instructions from a		
				leader.		leader - to		
						experience leading		
				Record the		the playing.		
				performance and		1 7 0		
				say how they were				
				feeling about it.				
Listen and	Body movements	Listen and respond	Recognise and	Show some	Can identify the	Use relevant	Respond to and	Respond to and
Appraise	in response to	to Nursery rhymes.	react to changes in	knowledge of	impact of elements	musical	briefly describe	briefly describe
- Ippruise	different styles of		music (e.g.	music from	in selected music	vocabulary when	music from	music from
	music	Find the pulse –	suddenly loud/fast)	different times and	pieces	talking about the	different periods	different periods
		marching -		places		elements of music	of history and	of history (e.g.
	Make music	tapping – blinking	Sing back or copy		Can explain how		different cultures	renaissance
	shakers		the rhythm (in	Can make some	to improve their	Identify how	(e.g. Balinese,	recorders, classical
		High and low	warm-up games)	suggestions to	own or a partner's	elements are used	Gamelan, African	piano)
	Introduce names	games.		improve their own	work	in music which is	drumming)	
	of percussion		Begin to react to	work		intended to create		Use musical
	instruments	Imaginative	musical		Identify some	an effect, feeling	Use musical	vocabulary to
		movement	instructions (e.g.	Recognise and	features which	or atmosphere	vocabulary to	describe and
			hand gesture to get	describe repetition	suggest a mood or		describe pieces,	compare pieces,
		Children verbalise	louder) march, be	when listening to	atmosphere	Make clear	commenting on	commenting on
		a response to	an animal	the music of others		comparisons	structure, phrasing	structure, phrasing
		music (ET theme)				between music of	and effects	and effects such as
			Begin to recognise	Enjoy moving to		different cultures		ritenuto,
		"How does this	repetition	music by dancing,			Find similarities	crescendo,
		music make you		marching, being			and differences	staccato etc.
		feel? (Give		animals or pop			between pieces of	
		choices)		stars.			music.	

Improvise and Compose	Make own clapping rhythms and body percussion.	Fast facts about John Williams' music. (ET Star Wars Home Alone Jurassic Park Harry Potter) Compose using one or two notes on a computer. Compose using Row Row Row Your Boat. On Screen app.	experiment with sounds on instruments — improvise using or 2 notes only create and share short patterns of sound in response to a stimulus (picture/story etc) Clap answers to a musical question Invent their own symbol to represent a sound	To learn how songs can tell a story or describe an idea. Create patterns of sound that have been specially selected (Help create three simple melodies with the Units using one, three) Use a simple structure which has a beginning, middle and an end Support some compositions with graphic or grid symbols on paper or computer	Create patterns of sound that have been carefully selected (e.g. take turns to improvise using up to three notes) Select resources /instruments to suit the compositional task Show some use of silence in their work Make some use of dynamics in compositions Use graphic or grid symbols to represent musical ideas	Create music in draft form then edit and develop it Choose musical resources to suit the task Deliberately use silences in their work Use repetition and dynamics in their work Work in a group to create pieces with 2 instrumental parts	Identify and use 4-bar phrases in group and individual compositions Recognise and form a basic triad Improvise musical phrases including repetition Use a recognisable method of recording a composition (notation – pictures, symbols, notes; electronic) To know and be able to talk about improvisation:	Suggest improvements to a composition or performance giving reasons for success or failure Identify and use 4- bar and 8-bar phrases in group and individual compositions Form and use basic triads in compositions Compose musical phrases and use them in pieces using repetition and other structures such as rondo or ternary form Record ideas using notation
					grid symbols to represent musical			



Musical Vocabulary: Years 1–6

Year 1

Words you need to know: Pulse, rhythm, pitch, rap, improvise, compose, melody, bass guitar, drums, decks, perform, singers, keyboard, percussion, trumpets, saxophones, Blues, Baroque, Latin, Irish Folk, Funk, p ulse, rhythm, pitch, groove, audience, imagination.

Year 2

Words you need to know: K eyboard, drums, bass, electric guitar, saxophone, trumpet, pulse, rhythm, pitch, improvise, compose, audience, question and answer, melody, dynamics, tempo, perform/performance, audience, rap, Reggae, glockenspiel.

Year 3

Vocabulary: Structure, intro/introduction, verse, chorus, improvise, compose, pulse, rhythm, pitch, tempo, dynamics, bass, drums, guitar, keyboard, synthesizer, hook, melody, texture, structure, electric guitar, organ, backing vocals, hook, riff, melody, Reggae, pentatonic scale, imagination, Disco.

Year 4

Vocabulary: K eyboard, electric guitar, bass, drums, improvise, compose, melody, pulse, rhythm, pitch, tempo, dynamics, texture, structure, compose, improvise, hook, riff, melody, solo, pentatonic scale, unison, rhythm patterns, musical style, rapping, lyrics, choreography, digital/electronic sounds, turntables, synthesizers, by ear, notation, backing vocal, piano, organ, acoustic guitar, percussion, birdsong, civil rights, racism, equality.

Year 5

Vocabulary: Rock, bridge, backbeat, amplifier, chorus, bridge, riff, hook, improvise, compose, appraising, Bossa Nova, syncopation, structure, Swing, tune/head, note values, note names, Big bands, pulse, rhythm, solo, ballad, verse, interlude, tag ending, strings, piano, guitar, bass, drums, melody, cover, Old-school Hip Hop, Rap, riff, synthesizer, deck, backing loops, Funk, scratching, unison, melody, cover, pitch, tempo, dynamics, timbre, texture, Soul, groove, riff, bass line, brass section, harmony, melody.

Year 6

Vocabulary: style indicators, melody, compose, improvise, cover, pulse, rhythm, pitch, tempo, dynamics, timbre, texture, structure, dimensions of music, Neo Soul, producer, groove, Motown, hook, riff, solo, Blues, J azz, improvise/ improvisation, by ear, melody, riff, solo, ostinato, phrases, unison, Urban Gospel, civil rights, gender equality, unison, harmony. © Copyright 2020 Charanga Ltd



- Pulse the regular heartbeat of the music; its steady beat.
- Rhythm long and short sounds or patterns that happen over the pulse.
- Pitch high and low sounds.
- Tempo the speed of the music; fast or slow or in-between.
- Dynamics how loud or quiet the music is.
- Timbre all instruments, including voices, have a certain sound quality e.g. the trumpet has a very different sound quality to the violin.
- Texture layers of sound. Layers of sound working together make music very interesting to listen to.
- Structure every piece of music has a structure e.g. an introduction, verse and chorus ending.
- Notation the link between sound and symbol.

