

Music

Progression of Skills & Knowledge

Standard

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How is the Music scheme of work organised?

Progression of Skills & knowledge

Listening and evaluating

Year 3

Skills

- Explaining their preferences for a piece of music using musical vocabulary.
- 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.

Knowledge

- 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 an ensemble is a group of musicians who perform together.
- 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 know that some traditional music around the world is based on five notes called a 'pentatonic' scale.
- To understand that 'syncopation' means a rhythm that is played off the natural beat.
- To know that Ragtime is piano music that uses syncopation and a fast tempo.
- 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 'scat singing' is using made-up words to create the sound of an instrument playing.
- 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 a 'tala' is a set rhythm that is repeated over and over, usually on the drums called 'tabla'.
- 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 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.

National curriculum - end of KS2

play and perform in solo and ensemble contexts, using their voices and playing musical instruments with increasing accuracy, fluency, control and expression

improvise and compose music for a range of purposes using the inter-related dimensions of music

listen with attention to detail and recall sounds with increasing aural memory

use and understand staff and other musical notations

appreciate and understand a wide range of high-quality live and recorded music drawn from different traditions and from great composers and musicians

develop an understanding of the history of music.

Progression of Skills & knowledge

Listening and evaluating

Year 4	
Skills • Explaining their preferences for a piece of music using musical vocabulary. • 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.	Knowledge • 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 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 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 the 'on beat' is the pulse of a piece of music, and the 'off beat' is beats that fall in between these. • 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.
Year 5	
Skills • Understanding the impact music has on them and starting to articulate the reasons for this effect using musical vocabulary.	Knowledge • To understand that a slow tempo and a minor key (pitch) can be used to make music sound sad. • To understand that a chord is the layering of several pitches played at the same time.

- 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.

- To know that 12-bar Blues is a sequence of 12 bars of music, made up of three different chords.
- To know that 'blues' music aims to share feelings and blues songs tend to be about sadness or worry.
- 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 songs sung in other languages can contain sounds that are unfamiliar to us, like the clicks of the Xhosa language.
- 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 major chords create a bright, happy sound.
- To know that poly-rhythms means many rhythms played at once.
- 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 know that remix is music that has been changed, usually so it is suitable for dancing to.
- To understand that musical theatre includes both character and action songs, which explain what is going on and how characters feel.

National curriculum - end of KS2

play and perform in solo and ensemble contexts, using their voices and playing musical instruments with increasing accuracy, fluency, control and expression

improvise and compose music for a range of purposes using the inter-related dimensions of music

listen with attention to detail and recall sounds with increasing aural memory

use and understand staff and other musical notations

appreciate and understand a wide range of high-quality live and recorded music drawn from different traditions and from great composers and musicians

develop an understanding of the history of music.

Progression of Skills & knowledge

Listening and evaluating

Year 6

Skills

- Understanding the impact music has on them and starting to articulate the reasons for this effect using musical vocabulary.
- 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.
- Confidently using detailed musical vocabulary (related to the inter-related dimensions of music) to discuss and evaluate their own and others work.

Knowledge

- To understand that texture can be created by adding or removing instruments in a piece and can create the effect of dynamic change.
- 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 'Pack up your troubles in your old kit bag' and 'We'll meet again' are examples of songs popular during WW2
- A 'counter-subject' or 'counter-melody' provides contrast to the main melody.
- 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 film soundtrack includes the background music and any songs in a film.
- To understand that 'major' key signatures use note pitches that sound cheerful and upbeat.
- To understand that 'minor' key signatures use note pitches that can suggest sadness and tension.
- To know that a 'theme' is a main melody in a piece of music.
- To know that 'variations' in music are when a main melody is changed in some way throughout the piece.
- To know that 'The Young Person's Guide to the Orchestra' was written in 1945 by Benjamin Britten.
- To know that a 'polyphonic' texture means lots of individual melodies layered together, like in a canon.

- To know that music in which very similar parts are introduced one by one to overlap is called a canon.
- To know that ground bass is a repeating melody played on a bass instrument in Baroque music.
- 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.

National curriculum - end of KS2

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Progression of Skills & knowledge

Creating sound

EYFS	
Skills • Singing short, rhythmic rhymes and songs. • 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.	Knowledge • To know that sounds can be copied by my voice, body percussion and instruments. • To understand that instruments can be played loudly or softly. • To understand that my voice or an instrument can match an action in a song. • To recognise that different sounds can be long or short.
Year 1	
Skills • Singing simple songs, chants and rhymes from memory. • 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.	Knowledge • To know that my voice, body and instruments can show fast and slow beats. • To know that the voice can whisper and shout to help tell a story.

- Singing a range of call and response songs, attempting to match the pitch and tempo they hear.
- 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.

National curriculum - end of KS1

use their voices expressively and creatively by singing songs and speaking chants and rhymes

play tuned and untuned instruments musically

listen with concentration and understanding to a range of high-quality live and recorded music

experiment with, create, select and combine sounds using the inter-related dimensions of music.

Progression of Skills & knowledge

Creating sound

Year 2

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Year 3

Skills

- N/A

Knowledge

- N/A

National curriculum - end of KS2

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Progression of Skills & knowledge

Creating sound

Year 4	
Skills N/A	Knowledge To understand that both instruments and voices can create audio effects that describe something you can see.
Year 5	
Skills N/A	Knowledge - 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 understand that human voices have their own individual timbre, and that this can be adapted by using the voice in different ways.
National curriculum - end of KS2 play and perform in solo and ensemble contexts, using their voices and playing musical instruments with increasing accuracy, fluency, control and expression improvise and compose music for a range of purposes using the inter-related dimensions of music listen with attention to detail and recall sounds with increasing aural memory use and understand staff and other musical notations appreciate and understand a wide range of high-quality live and recorded music drawn from different traditions and from great composers and musicians develop an understanding of the history of music.	

Progression of Skills & knowledge

Creating sound

Year 6

Skills

- N/A

Knowledge

- N/A

National curriculum - end of KS2

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Progression of Skills & knowledge

Notation

Year 3

Skills

- 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.

Knowledge

- To understand that 'reading' music means using how the written note symbols look and their position to know what notes to play.
- To know that different notes have different durations, and that crotchets are worth one whole beat.
- To know that written music tells you how long to play a note for.
- To understand that a pentatonic melody uses only the five notes C D E G A.

National curriculum - end of KS2

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Progression of Skills & knowledge

Notation

Year 4

Skills

- Using letter name, graphic and rhythmic notation and musical vocabulary to label and record their compositions.

Knowledge

- To know that 'performance directions' are words added to music notation to tell the performers how to play.
- To know that 'transposing' a melody means changing its key, making it higher or lower pitched.

Year 5

Skills

- Using staff notation to record rhythms and melodies.

Knowledge

- To know that simple pictures can be used to represent the structure (organisation) of music.
- 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 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.

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Progression of Skills & knowledge

Notation

Year 6

Skills

- 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.

Knowledge

- 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 know that chord progressions are represented in music by Roman numerals.
- To know that the Solfa syllables represent the pitches in an octave.
- To understand that representing beats of silence or 'rests' in written music is important as it helps us play rhythms correctly.
- To understand that all types of music notation show note duration.

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Progression of Skills & knowledge

Improvising and composing

Year 3

Skills

- Composing a piece of music in a given style with voices and instruments.
- 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.

Knowledge

- To know that lyrics are the words of a song.
- To know that in a ballad, a 'stanza' is a verse.

National curriculum - end of KS2

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Progression of Skills & knowledge

Improvising and composing

Year 4	
Skills • Composing a coherent piece of music in a given style with voices, bodies and instruments. • 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.	Knowledge • To know that deciding the structure of music when composing can help us create interesting music with contrasting sections. • To know that combining different instruments and different rhythms when we compose can create layers of sound we call 'texture'. • To know that a 'loop' in music is a repeated melody or rhythm. • To know that changing the dynamics of a musical phrase or motif can change the texture of a piece of music. • To understand that harmony means playing two notes at the same time, which usually sound good together. • An ostinato is a musical pattern that is repeated over and over; a vocal ostinato is a pattern created with your voice. • To know that expressive language (like a poem) can be used as inspiration for composing music. • To know that grouping instruments according to their timbre can create contrasting 'textures' in music. • 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 a motif can be adapted by changing the notes, the rhythm or the order of notes.
Year 5	
Skills	Knowledge

- Composing a detailed piece of music from a given stimulus with voices, bodies and instruments (Remix, Colours, Stories, Drama).
- 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.

- To know that a vocal composition is a piece of music created only using voices.
- To know that a loop is a repeated rhythm or melody, and is another word for ostinato.

National curriculum - end of KS2

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Progression of Skills & knowledge

Improvising and composing

Year 6

Skills

- Improvising coherently and creatively within a given style, incorporating given features.
- 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.

Knowledge

- To understand that improvisation means making up music 'on the spot'.
- To know that a chord progression is a sequence of chords that repeats throughout a song.
- To know that a melody can be adapted by changing its dynamics, pitch or tempo.

National curriculum - end of KS2

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Progression of Skills & knowledge

Performing

Year 3

Skills

- Offering constructive feedback on others' performances.
- 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.

Knowledge

- To know that to perform well, it is important to listen to the other members of your ensemble.

National curriculum - end of KS2

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Progression of Skills & knowledge

Performing

Year 4

Skills

- 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.
- 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.

Knowledge

- To know that playing 'in time' requires playing the notes for the correct duration as well as at the correct speed.

Year 5

Skills

- Using musical vocabulary to offer constructive and precise feedback on others' performances.
- 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.

Knowledge

- To know that choreography means the organisation of steps or moves in a dance.
- To know that musical theatre uses transitions, which are short passages of music used to move between sections of the musical action.

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Progression of Skills & knowledge

Performing

Year 6

Skills

- Using musical vocabulary to offer constructive and precise feedback on others' performances.
- 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.

Knowledge

- To know that the conductor beats time to help the performers work well together.

National curriculum - end of KS2

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