

Progression of skills in Music

| | EYFS | Year 1 | Year 2 | Year 3 | Year 4 | Year 5 | Year 6 |
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| Singing | (Nursery) Remember and sing entire songs copying the pitch sung by another person Sing melodic shape (moving melody, such as up and down of familiar songs. | Year 1 Sing a song with contrasting high and low melodies Sing a song together as a group | Year 2 Sing with expression, paying attention to the pitch shape of the melody Chant and sing in two parts while keeping a steady beat | Year 3 Copy and create a wide range of vocal sounds to incorporate into a song Sing in two- part harmony Perform a round in three parts | Year 4 Sing a call and response song in a minor key in two groups Sing a song with three simple independent parts | Year 5 Sing scales and chromatic melodies accurately Sing a song in unison and three-part harmony Sing with attention to accuracy in rhythm, pitch and dynamics | Demonstrate understanding of pitch through singing from simple staff notation Learn to sing major and minor note patterns accurately Refine vocal performance |
| | (Reception) Sing in a group or on their own, increasingly matching the | | | | | | with consideration of posture, breathing and enunciation, |

| Playing Instruments | pitch and following the melody (Nursery) Play instruments with increasing control to express their feelings and ideas. (Reception) Express their ideas and feelings. | Identify and keep a steady beat using instruments Explore and control dynamics, duration, and timbre and tempo with percussion instruments Explore sounds on instruments and find different ways to vary their sound | Listen to and repeat rhythmic patterns on body percussion and instruments Play pitch lines on tuned percussion Accompany a song with vocal, body percussion and instrumental ostinati | Accompany a song with a melodic ostinato on tuned percussion using pitch notation Perform rhythmic ostinati individually and in combination reading simple rhythm notation Read graphic notation to play a melody on tuned | Play a pentatonic song with leaps in pitch on tuned percussion Play repeated patterns (ostinati) from staff notation Play a piece with melody, chords, bass and rhythm parts from graphic, rhythm and staff notations | Read a melody in staff notation or from a graphic score Perform descriptive music together in synchronisati on with a short movie Develop ensemble playing, focusing on steady beat and placing notes accurately together | changing vocal tone to reflect mood and style Play a chordal accompanime nt to a piece Follow and interpret a complex graphic score for four instruments Play tuned instrumental parts confidently from graphic scores with note names |
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| Improvising/ Exploring | (Nursery) Create their own songs or improvise a song around one they know | Improvise descriptive music Create a soundscape using | • Explore timbre and texture to understand how vocal and instrumental | Improvise descriptive music Improvise to an ostinato accompanim | Improvise in response to visual stimuli, with a focus on timbre Improvise 5- | • Develop accompanim ents using ostinato and improvise rhythms | • Improvise descriptive music on instruments and other sound makers |
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| | (Reception) Express their ideas and feelings. | Explore different sound sources and | sounds can be descriptive • Combine and organise sounds to | ent • Explore simple accompanim ents using | note melodies using five (pentatonic scale) | Learn about jazz scat singing and devise scat sounds | Devise, combine and structure rhythms through dance |
| | | sources and materials • and find ways to vary their sound | create a musical effect in response to visual stimuli | ents using beat and rhythm patterns | Explore layering using a graphic score Understand syncopation and clap improvised off-beat rhythms | Improvise using the whole tone scale and contrasting pitch Explore techniques used in movie soundtracks, | |
| Composing | (Reception) Express their ideas and feelings. | Invent and perform new rhythms to a steady beat | Compose music to illustrate a story | Select descriptive sounds to | • Compose an introduction for a song | with graphic scores • Develop a structure for a vocal piece | •Revise, rehearse, and develop music for |

| | • Develop storylines in their pretend play. | Create, play and combine simple word rhythms Create a picture in sound | Perform and create simple three- and four-beat rhythms using a simple score | accompany a poem Choose different timbres to make an accompanim ent Make choices about musical structure, balance and effect Create and perform from a symbol score | Compose and notate pentatonic melodies on a graphic score Compose and play sequences of word rhythms including Rap | and create graphic scores • Perform, evaluate and refine compositions with reference to the inter-related dimensions of music | performance, with reference to the inter- related dimensions of music •Compose music from a visual stimulus |
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| Listening | (Nursery) Listen with increased attention to sounds. (Reception) Listen | Recognise and respond to changes in tempo in music Identify changes in | • Listen to and repeat back rhythmic patterns on instruments and body percussion | Learn how sounds are produced and how instruments are classified | Explore the descriptive music of two famous composers of the 20th and 21st century | Hear and understand the features of the whole tone scale Listen to and learn about | Follow and interpret a complex graphic score for four instruments |

| | attentively, move to and talk about music, expressing their feelings and responses. • Explore and engage in music making, performing solo or in groups | pitch and respond to them with • movement • Understand how music can tell a story | Match descriptive sounds to images | Listen to and learn about a music from medieval and Romantic times. Listen to, learn about, play and dance to Tudor dance music | Listen to and learn about 1940s dance band music and Renaissance music Copy and match short rhythmic phrases with rhythm notation | modern classical music (20th century) • Demonstrate understandin g of the effect of music in movies | Experience and understand the effect of changing harmony Listen to and understand modulation in a musical bridge |
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| Appraising | (Nursery) Respond to what they have heard, expressing their thoughts and feelings. (Reception) Watch and talk about performance art, expressing their feelings and responses. | Identify a sequence of sounds (structure) in a piece of music Listen to a piece of orchestral music (e.g. identify instruments, metre or repeated | Identify ways of producing sounds (e.g. shake, strike, pluck) Identify rising and falling pitch Listen in detail to a piece of | Identify the metre in a piece of music Recognise rhythm patterns in staff notation Recognise pitch shapes | Identify different instrument groups from a recording Describe, compare and contrast the structure of pieces of orchestral music | Use musical vocabulary to compare and contrast two pieces of 19th century Romantic music Evaluate and refine compositions and songs with reference to | Revise, rehearse, and develop and appraise music for performance, with reference to the inter- related dimensions of music Appraise the music of a |

| rhythm | orchestral | Develop | inter-related | Russian |
|-----------|-------------|----------------------------------|----------------|----------------|
| patterns) | music (e.g. | listening | dimensions | Romantic |
| | • how it | skills by | of music, | composer with |
| | depicts a | analysing and | arrangement | reference to |
| | season) | comparing | s and | paintings from |
| | | music from | structures. | the same |
| | •Use simple | different | | period |
| | musical | traditions | • Rehearse, | |
| | vocabulary | | improve and | |
| | to describe | Identify the | analyse an | |
| | orchestral | metre of | ensemble | |
| | music | music | performance, | |
| | | | with attention | |
| | | | to balance | |
| | | | and staying in | |
| | | | time | |