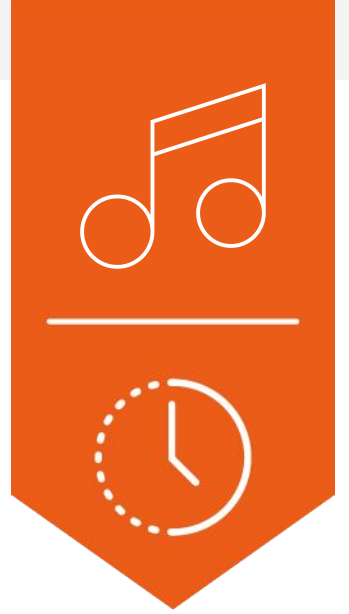



Curriculum overview for parents and carers

Music

Summary of key Music learning for Reception to Year 6.



Unit 1	<p>Exploring sound</p> <p>Exploring how we can use our voice, bodies and instruments to make sounds, and identifying sounds in the environment.</p>	
Unit 2	<p>Music and movement</p> <p>Creating simple actions to well-known songs, learning how to move to a beat and expressing feelings and emotions through movement to music.</p>	
Unit 3	<p>Transport</p> <p>Identifying and copying sounds produced by different vehicles using voices, bodies and instruments, demonstrating tempo changes and understanding how symbols can represent sound.</p>	
Unit 4	<p>Big band</p> <p>Learning about what makes a musical instrument, the four different groups of musical instruments, following a beat using an untuned instrument and performing a practised song.</p>	

Year 1			
Unit 1	Keeping the pulse (My favourite things)	Unit 3	Pitch (Superheroes)
	Exploring the concept of keeping a steady pulse together, children engage in music and movement activities inspired by their favourite things. They participate in different activities, moving to the beat of the music while thinking about and expressing their favourite objects or experiences.		Identifying high and low notes, children use this knowledge to compose a simple tune that represents a superhero. They then listen to different pitches, recognising the difference between high and low sounds. After identifying these notes, pupils experiment with combining different pitches to create a melody that represents their chosen superhero.
Unit 2	Sound patterns (Fairytale)	Unit 4	Musical symbols (Under the sea)
	Examining different favourite fairy tales, children discuss the key moments in these stories. They are guided to clap and read simple sound patterns, matching the different characters of the story. Pupils then use these sound patterns to retell the fairy tale, bringing the story to life through sound and movement.		Diving into the unknown, children explore the depths of the sea through music, movement, musical symbols, and the playing of tuned percussion instruments. They engage in activities that allow them to express the mysterious underwater world, such as using their bodies to mimic the movement of sea creatures. They learn to interpret musical symbols to translate visual cues into sounds and play tuned percussion instruments, to represent the wonders of the underwater world.

Year 2			
Unit 1	Call and response (Animals)	Unit 3	Structure (Myths and legends)
	Chanting different call and response sound patterns, children progress to creating their own call and response patterns using untuned percussion instruments. They practise rhythm and pulse as they echo and respond to each other's chants, building a strong sense of musical communication.		Exploring structure through listening, analysing, and performing, children engage with a song about a well-known myth to understand its composition. They listen to identify sections, analyse simple sound patterns, and see how these elements tell the story of the myth. Pupils then perform short sound patterns in a simple structure using instruments and voices.
Unit 2	Instruments (Musical storytelling)	Unit 4	Pitch (Musical Me)
	Exploring longer pieces of music, children look at how music can tell a story through the use of different instruments. They think creatively, considering how sounds can represent characters, actions, and emotions when creating a soundscape to tell the story of Jack and the Beanstalk.		Learning to sing and play the song 'Once a Man Fell in a Well,' children learn to connect the melody to specific pitches. They explore how different notes correspond to different parts of the song, using their instruments to recreate the tune accurately. Additionally, they begin to recognise how simple symbols can represent pitch, developing their ability to read and interpret musical notation.

Year 3			
Unit 1	Ballads	Unit 3	Pentatonic melodies and composition (Theme: Chinese New Year)
	Learning what ballads are, how to identify their features and how to convey different emotions when performing. Selecting vocabulary to describe a story, before turning it into lyrics following the structure of a traditional ballad.		Using the story of Chinese New Year as a stimulus: revising key musical terminology, playing and creating pentatonic melodies, composing a piece of music in a group using layered melodies and performing a finished piece.
Unit 2	Developing singing technique (Theme: The Vikings)	Unit 4	Traditional instruments and improvisation (Theme: India)
	Developing singing technique; learning to keep in time, musical notation and rhythm, culminating in a group performance of a song with actions.		Introducing to traditional Indian music. Learning about the rag and tal, listening to a range of examples of Indian music, identifying traditional instruments and creating improvisations and performing.

Year 4			
Unit 1	Body and tuned percussion (Theme: Rainforests)	Unit 3	Samba and carnival sounds and instruments
	Exploring the rainforest through music whilst being introduced to new musical terms. Using a mixture of body percussion and tuned percussion instruments to create rhythms of the rainforest, layer by layer.		Introducing samba and the sights and sounds of the carnival. Learning about the traditional sounds and instruments, syncopated rhythms and composing their samba breaks.
Unit 2	Changes in pitch, tempo and dynamics (Theme: Rivers)	Unit 4	Adapting and transposing motifs (Theme: Romans)
	Representing the different stages of a river through vocal and percussive ostinatos, culminating in a final group performance.		Drawing upon their understanding of repeating patterns in music, pupils are introduced to the concept of motifs and adapt and transpose motifs and perform them to their peers.

Year 5			
Unit 1	Composition notation (Theme: Ancient Egypt)	Unit 3	South and West Africa
	Identifying the pitch and rhythm of written notes and experimenting with notating their compositions in different ways to further develop understanding of staff notation.		Learning 'Shosholoza', a traditional South African song, playing the accompanying chords using tuned percussion and learning to play the djembe and some dance moves.
Unit 2	Blues	Unit 4	Composition to represent the festival of colour (Theme: Holi festival)
	Identifying the key features and mood of Blues music and its importance and purpose. Learning the 12-bar Blues and the Blues scale, and combining these to create an improvised piece with a familiar, repetitive backing.		Exploring the associations between music, sounds and colour, composing and, as a class and performing their own musical composition.

Year 6			
Unit 1	Dynamics, pitch and tempo (Theme: Fingal's Cave)	Unit 3	Baroque
	Appraising the work of Mendelssohn and further developing the skills of improvisation and composition.		Exploring music of the Baroque Period (from 1600-1750). Looking at the great Baroque composers and musicians and at the structural and stylistic features of the music that they wrote and performed.
Unit 2	Theme and Variations (Theme: Pop Art)	Unit 4	Composing and performing a Leavers' Song
	Exploring the musical concept of theme and variations and discovering how rhythms can 'translate' onto different instruments		Creating their own leavers' song personal to their experiences as a class; listening to and critiquing well known songs, writing the lyrics, exploring the concept of the four chord backing track and composing melodies.