Key Stage 1:

Year 1:

Singing:

Sing simple songs, *chants* and rhymes (e.g. *Boom Chicka Boom*) from memory, singing collectively and at the same *pitch*, responding to simple visual directions (e.g. stop, start, loud, quiet) and counting in.

- Begin with simple songs with a very small range, **mi-so** (e.g. Hello, How are You), and then slightly wider (e.g. Bounce High, Bounce Low). Include **pentatonic songs** (e.g. Dr Knickerbocker).
- Sing a wide range of *call and response* songs (e.g. *Pretty Trees Around the World* from *Rhythms of Childhood*), to control vocal pitch and to match the pitch they hear with accuracy.

Listening:

Develop pupils' shared knowledge and understanding of the stories, origins, traditions, history and social context of the music they are listening to, singing and playing.

Use model curriculum and current topics for Music to listen to and reflect on.

Composing:

Improvise simple vocal chants, using *question and answer* phrases.

- Create musical sound effects and short **sequences** of sounds in response to stimuli, e.g. a rainstorm or a train journey. Combine to make a story, choosing and playing classroom instruments (e.g. rainmaker) or sound-makers (e.g. rustling leaves).
- Understand the difference between creating a *rhythm* pattern and a *pitch* pattern.
- Invent, retain and recall rhythm and pitch patterns and perform these for others, taking turns.
- Use music technology, if available, to capture, change and combine sounds.
- Recognise how graphic notation can represent created sounds.

Musicianship:

Pulse/Beat

- Walk, move or clap a steady **beat** with others, changing the speed of the beat as the **tempo** of the music changes.
- Use body percussion, (e.g. clapping, tapping, walking) and classroom percussion (shakers, sticks and blocks, etc.), playing repeated rhythm patterns (ostinati) and short, pitched patterns on tuned instruments (e.g. glockenspiels or chime bars) to maintain a steady beat.
- Respond to the *pulse* in recorded/live music through movement and dance, e.g. Stepping (e.g. *Mattachins* from *Capriol Suite* by Warlock), Jumping (e.g. *Trepak* from *The Nutcracker* by Tchaikovsky)

	 Walking on tiptoes (e.g.
	Scherzo from The Firebird Suite
	by Stravinsky).
	Rhythm
	Perform short copycat rhythm
	patterns accurately, led by the
	teacher.
	Perform short repeating
	rhythm patterns (ostinati) while
	keeping in time with a steady
	beat.
	Perform word-pattern chants
	(e.g. ca-ter-pil-lar crawl, fish
	and chips); create, retain and
	perform their own rhythm
	patterns.
	Ca-ter- pil- lar crawl Fish and
	chips
	Pitch
	Listen to sounds in the local
	school environment, comparing
	high and low sounds.
	Sing familiar songs in both low
	and high voices and talk about
	the difference in sound.
	Explore percussion sounds to
	enhance storytelling, e.g. o
	ascending xylophone notes to
	suggest Jack climbing the
	beanstalk,

	 quiet sounds created on a rainstick/shakers to depict a shower, regular strong beats played on a drum to replicate menacing footsteps.
	 Follow pictures and symbols to guide singing and playing, e.g. 4 dots = 4 taps on the drum.

Year 2:

Singing:	Listening:	Composing:	Musicianship:
Sing songs regularly with a <i>pitch</i> range of <i>do-so</i> with increasing vocal control. • Sing songs with a small pitch range (e.g. <i>Rain, Rain Go Away</i>), pitching accurately. • Know the meaning of <i>dynamics</i> (loud/quiet) and <i>tempo</i> (fast/slow) and be able to demonstrate these when	Develop pupils' shared knowledge and understanding of the stories, origins, traditions, history and social context of the music they are listening to, singing and playing. Use model curriculum and current topics for Music to listen to and reflect on.	Create music in response to a non-musical stimulus (e.g. a storm, a car race, or a rocket launch). • Work with a partner to improvise simple question and answer phrases, to be sung and played on untuned	Pulse/Beat • Understand that the speed of the beat can change, creating a faster or slower pace (tempo). • Mark the beat of a listening piece (e.g. <i>Bolero</i> by Ravel) by tapping or clapping and recognising tempo as well as changes in tempo.

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singing by responding to (a) the leader's directions and (b) visual symbols (e.g. crescendo, decrescendo, pause)	percussion, creating a musical conversation. • Use graphic symbols, dot notation and stick notation, as appropriate, to keep a record of composed pieces. • Use music technology, if available, to capture, change and combine sounds.	 • Walk in time to the beat of a piece of music or song (e.g. La Mourisque by Susato). Know the difference between left and right to support coordination and shared movement with others. • Begin to group beats in twos and threes by tapping knees on the first (strongest) beat and clapping the remaining beats. • Identify the beat groupings in familiar music that they sing regularly and listen to, e.g. ○ in 2 Maple Leaf Rag by Joplin ○ in 3 The Elephant from Carnival of the Animals by Saint-Saëns
		 Rhythm Play copycat rhythms, copying a leader, and invent rhythms for others to copy on untuned percussion. Create rhythms using word phrases as a starting point (e.g. Hel-lo Si-mon or Can you come and play?). Read and respond to chanted rhythm patterns, and represent them with stick notation

	including <i>crotchets</i> , <i>quavers</i> and <i>crotchets rests</i> . • Create and perform their own chanted rhythm patterns with the same stick notation.
	Pitch • Play a range of singing games based on the <i>cuckoo interval</i> (so-mi, e.g. Little Sally Saucer) matching voices accurately, supported by a leader playing the melody. The melody could be played on a piano, acoustic instrument or backing track. • Sing short phrases independently within a singing game or short song. • Respond independently to pitch changes heard in short <i>melodic phrases</i> , indicating with actions (e.g. stand up/sit down, hands high/hands low). • Recognise dot notation and match it to 3-note tunes played on <i>tuned percussion</i> .

Singing:

Year 3:

Sing a widening range of *unison* songs of varying styles and structures with a *pitch* range of *do-so* (e.g. Extreme Weather), tunefully and with expression. Perform *forte* and *piano*, loud and soft.

• Perform actions confidently and in time to a range of action

- and in time to a range of action songs (e.g. Heads and Shoulders).
- Walk, move or clap a steady beat with others, changing the speed of the beat as the tempo of the music changes.
- Perform as a choir in school assemblies.

Listening:

Develop pupils' shared knowledge and understanding of the stories, origins, traditions, history and social context of the music they are listening to, singing and playing.

Use model curriculum and current topics for Music to listen to and reflect on.

Composing:

Improvise

- Become more skilled in *improvising* (using voices, *tuned* and *untuned percussion* and instruments played in whole-class/group/individual/instrumental teaching), inventing short 'on-the-spot' responses using a limited note-range.
- Structure musical ideas (e.g. using *echo* or *question and answer phrases*) to create music that has a beginning, middle and end. Pupils should compose in response to different stimuli, e.g. stories, verse, images (paintings and photographs) and musical sources.

Compose

 Combine known rhythmic notation with letter names to Performing:

Develop facility in playing tuned percussion or a melodic instrument such as violin or recorder. Play and perform melodies following **staff notation** using a small range (e.g. **Middle C**–E/do–mi) as a whole class or in small groups (e.g. **trios** and **quartets**).

- Use listening skills to correctly order phrases using dot notation, showing different arrangements of notes C-D-E/do-re-mi (see illustration):
- Individually (solo) copy stepwise melodic phrases with accuracy at different speeds; allegro and adagio, fast and slow. Extend to question-andanswer phrases.

create rising and falling phrases using just three notes (<i>do, re and mi</i>). • Compose song accompaniments on untuned percussion using known rhythms and <i>note values</i> .	Reading Notation Introduce the stave, lines and spaces, and clef. Use dot notation to show higher or lower pitch. Introduce and understand the differences between crotchets and paired quavers. Apply word chants to rhythms, understanding how to link each syllable to one musical note.
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Year 4:

Sing	ing:	Listening:	Composing:	Performing:
Cor	ntinue to sing a broad range		Improvise	Instrumental Performance
of u	inison songs with the range		• Improvise on a limited range	Develop facility in the basic
of a	n <i>octave</i> (<i>do–do</i>) (e.g. One		of pitches on the instrument	skills of a selected musical
Mor	re Day-a traditional sea		they are now learning, making	instrument over a sustained
sha	nty) pitching the voice		use of musical features	learning period. This can be
acc	urately and following			achieved through working

directions for getting louder (*crescendo*) and quieter (*decrescendo*).

- Sing rounds and partner songs in different time signatures (2, 3 and 4 time) (e.g. Our Dustbin) and begin to sing repertoire with small and large leaps as well as a simple second part to introduce vocal harmony (e.g. Hear the Wind).
- Perform a range of songs in school assemblies.

including smooth (*legato*) and detached (*staccato*).

 Begin to make compositional decisions about the overall structure of improvisations.
 Continue this process in the composition tasks below.

Compose

- Combine known rhythmic notation with letter names to create short *pentatonic* phrases using a limited range of 5 pitches suitable for the instruments being learnt. Sing and play these phrases as self-standing compositions.
- Arrange individual notation cards of known note values (i.e. *minim, crotchet, crotchet rest* and *paired quavers*) to create sequences of 2-, 3- or 4-beat phrases, arranged into bars.

Explore developing knowledge of musical components by composing music to create a specific mood, for example creating music to accompany a short film clip.

- Introduce *major* and *minor* chords.
- Include instruments played in whole-class/group/individual

closely with your local Music Education Hub who can provide whole-class instrumental teaching programmes.

- Play and perform melodies following staff notation using a small range (e.g. Middle C– G/do–so) as a whole-class or in small groups.
- Perform in two or more parts (e.g. *melody and accompaniment* or a *duet*) from simple notation using instruments played in whole class teaching. Identify *static* and *moving parts*.

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• Copy short melodic phrases including those using the pentatonic scale (e.g. C, D, E, G, A).

Reading Notation

- Introduce and understand the differences between minims, crotchets, paired quavers and rests.
- Read and perform pitch notation within a defined range (e.g. C–G/do–so).
- Follow and perform simple rhythmic scores to a steady beat: maintain individual parts

	teaching to expand the scope and range of the sound palette available for composition work. • Capture and record creative ideas using any of: o graphic symbols o rhythm notation and time signatures o staff notation o technology.	accurately within the rhythmic texture, achieving a sense of ensemble.
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Year 5:

Singing:	Listening:	Composing:	Performing:
Sing a broad range of songs from an extended repertoire with a sense of ensemble and performance. This should include observing phrasing, accurate pitching and appropriate style. • Sing three-part rounds, partner songs, and songs with a verse and a chorus.	Develop pupils' shared knowledge and understanding of the stories, origins, traditions, history and social context of the music they are listening to, singing and playing. Use model curriculum and current topics for Music to listen to and reflect on.	Improvise Improvise freely over a drone, developing sense of shape and character, using tuned percussion and melodic instruments. Improvise over a simple groove, responding to the beat, creating a satisfying melodic shape; experiment with using a wider range of dynamics, including very loud	Instrumental Performance • Play melodies on tuned percussion, melodic instruments or keyboards, following staff notation written on one stave and using notes within the Middle C–C'/do–do range. This should initially be done as a whole class with greater independence gained each lesson through smaller group performance.

• Perform a range of songs in school assemblies and in school performance opportunities. (*fortissimo*), very quiet (*pianissimo*), moderately loud (*mezzo forte*), and moderately quiet (*mezzo piano*). Continue this process in the composition tasks below.

Compose

- Compose melodies made from pairs of phrases in either C major or A minor or a key suitable for the instrument chosen. These melodies can be enhanced with rhythmic or chordal accompaniment.
- Working in pairs, compose a short *ternary* piece.
- Use chords to compose music to evoke a specific atmosphere, mood or environment. For example, *La Mer* by Debussy and *The River Flows In You* by Yiruma both evoke images of water. Equally, pupils might create music to accompany a silent film or to set a scene in a play or book.
- Capture and record creative ideas using any of: graphic symbols
- rhythm notation and *time* signatures
- staff notation

- Understand how *triads* are formed, and play them on tuned percussion, melodic instruments or keyboards. Perform simple, chordal accompaniments to familiar songs (e.g. *Yellow Submarine* by The Beatles).
- Perform a range of repertoire pieces and *arrangements* combining acoustic instruments to form mixed ensembles, including a school orchestra.
- Develop the skill of playing by ear on tuned instruments, copying longer phrases and familiar melodies.

Reading Notation

- Further understand the differences between semibreves, minims, crotchets and crotchet rests, paired quavers and semiguavers.
- Understand the differences between 2/4, 3/4 and 4/4 time signatures.
- Read and perform pitch notation within an octave (e.g. C-C'/do-do).
- Read and play short rhythmic phrases at sight from prepared cards, using conventional

	o technology.	symbols for known rhythms and note durations.

Year 6:

Singing:

Sing a broad range of songs, including those that involve **syncopated** rhythms, as part of a choir, with a sense of ensemble and performance. This should include observing rhythm, phrasing, accurate pitching and appropriate style.

• Continue to sing **three- and four-part rounds** (e.g. *Calypso* by Jan Holdstock) or partner songs, and experiment with

positioning singers randomly

in discrete parts – in order to develop greater listening skills,

within the group – i.e. no longer

Listening:

Develop pupils' shared knowledge and understanding of the stories, origins, traditions, history and social context of the music they are listening to, singing and playing.

Use model curriculum and current topics for Music to listen to and reflect on.

Composing:

Improvise

Extend improvisation skills through working in small groups to:

- Create music with multiple sections that include repetition and contrast.
- Use chord changes as part of an improvised sequence.
- Extend improvised melodies beyond 8 beats over a fixed *groove*, creating a satisfying melodic shape.

Compose

Performing:

Instrumental Performance

- Play a melody following *staff notation* written on one stave and using notes within an *octave range* (*do-do*); make decisions about dynamic range, including very loud (), very quiet (), moderately loud () and moderately quiet ().
- Accompany this same melody, and others, using block chords or a bass line. This could be done using keyboards, *tuned percussion* or tablets, or demonstrated at the board using an online keyboard.

balance between parts and vocal independence.

 Perform a range of songs as a choir in school assemblies, school performance opportunities and to a wider audience.

- Plan and compose an 8- or 16-beat melodic phrase using the *pentatonic* scale (e.g. C, D, E, G, A) and incorporate rhythmic variety and interest. Play this melody on available tuned percussion and/or orchestral instruments. Notate this melody.
- Compose melodies made from pairs of phrases in either G major or E minor or a key suitable for the instrument chosen.
- Either of these melodies can be enhanced with rhythmic or chordal accompaniment.
- Compose a ternary piece; use available music software/apps to create and record it, discussing how musical contrasts are achieved.

• Engage with others through ensemble playing (e.g. school orchestra, band, mixed ensemble) with pupils taking on melody or accompaniment roles. The accompaniment, if instrumental, could be chords or a single-note bass line.

Reading Notation

- Further understand the differences between semibreves, minims, crotchets, quavers and semiquavers, and their equivalent rests.
- Further develop the skills to read and perform pitch notation within an octave (e.g. C–C/ do–do).
- Read and play confidently from rhythm notation cards and rhythmic scores in up to 4 parts that contain known rhythms and note durations.
- Read and play from notation a four-bar phrase, confidently identifying note names and durations.

Transition Project

The end of Year 6 transition project provides a way to bring

together what the pupils have
learnt about reading notation,
playing an instrument, composing
melodies and singing as a class.