

#### **Curriculum Overview**



# Listening

Nursery	Reception	Year 1	Year 2
<ul> <li>Range 2-</li> <li>Pays attention to dominant stimulus – easily distracted by noises or other people talking.</li> <li>Range 3-</li> <li>Listens to and enjoys rhythmic patterns in rhymes and stories, trying to join in with actions or vocalisations</li> <li>Enjoys rhymes and demonstrates listening by trying to join in with actions or vocalisations</li> <li>Moves while singing/vocalising, whilst listening to sounds and music, while playing with sound makers/instruments</li> <li>Sings/vocalises whilst listening to music or playing with instruments/sound makers</li> <li>Range 4-</li> <li>Recognises and responds to many familiar sounds, e.g. turning to a knock on the door, looking at or going to the door</li> <li>Shows interest in play with sounds, songs and rhymes</li> <li>Moves in response to music, or rhythms played on instruments such as drums or shakers</li> <li>Developing understanding of simple concepts (e.g. fast/slow, good/bad)</li> <li>Moves in response to music, or rhythms played on instruments such as drums or shakers</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Responding to music through movement, altering movement to reflect the tempo, dynamics or pitch of the music.</li> <li>Exploring lyrics by suggesting appropriate actions.</li> <li>Exploring the story behind the lyrics or music.</li> <li>Listening to and following a beat using body percussion and instruments.</li> <li>Considering whether a piece of music has a fast, moderate or slow tempo.</li> <li>Listening to sounds and matching them to the object or instrument.</li> <li>Listening to and repeating a simple rhythm.</li> <li>Listening to and repeating a simple lyrics.</li> <li>Understanding that different instruments make different sounds and grouping them accordingly.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Recognising and understanding the difference between pulse and rhythm.</li> <li>Understanding that different types of sounds are called timbres.</li> <li>Recognising basic tempo, dynamic and pitch changes (faster/slower, louder/quieter and higher/lower).</li> <li>Describing the character, mood, or 'story' of music they listen to, both verbally and through movement.</li> <li>Describing the differences between two pieces of music.</li> <li>Expressing a basic opinion about music (like/dislike).</li> <li>Listening to and repeating short, simple rhythmic patterns.</li> <li>Listening and responding to other performers by playing as part of a group.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>*Recognising timbre changes in music they listen to.</li> <li>Recognising structural features in music they *listen to.</li> <li>Listening to and recognising instrumentation.</li> <li>*Beginning to use musical vocabulary to describe music.</li> <li>Identifying melodies that move in steps.</li> <li>Listening to and repeating a short, simple melody by ear.</li> <li>Suggesting improvements to their own and others' work.</li> </ul>

Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
<ul> <li>Discussing the stylistic features of different genres, styles and traditions of music using musical vocabulary (Indian, classical, Chinese, Battle Songs, Ballads, Jazz).</li> <li>Understanding that music from different parts of the world has different features.</li> <li>Recognising and explaining the changes within a piece of music using musical vocabulary.</li> <li>Describing the timbre, dynamic, and textural details of a piece of music, both verbally, and through movement.</li> <li>Beginning to show an awareness of metre.</li> <li>Beginning to use musical vocabulary when discussing improvements to their own and others' work.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Recognising the use and development of motifs in music.</li> <li>Identifying gradual dynamic and tempo changes within a piece of music.</li> <li>Recognising and discussing the stylistic features of different genres, styles and traditions of music using musical vocabulary (Samba, Rock and Roll).</li> <li>Identifying common features between different genres, styles and traditions of music.</li> <li>Recognising, naming and explaining the effect of the interrelated dimensions of music.</li> <li>Identifying scaled dynamics (crescendo/decrescendo) within a piece of music.</li> <li>Using musical vocabulary to discuss the purpose of a piece of music.</li> <li>Using musical vocabulary when discussing improvements to their own and others' work.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Recognising and confidently discussing the stylistic features of different genres, styles and traditions of music using musical vocabulary. (South African, West African, Musical, Theatre, Blues, Dance Remix.).</li> <li>Representing the features of a piece of music using graphic notation, and colours, justifying their choices with reference to musical vocabulary.</li> <li>Comparing, discussing and evaluating music using detailed musical vocabulary.</li> <li>Developing confidence in using detailed musical vocabulary (related to the interrelated dimensions of music) to discuss and evaluate their own and others' work.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>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.</li> <li>Recognising and confidently discussing the stylistic features of music and relating it to other aspects of the Arts (Pop art, Film music).</li> <li>Representing changes in pitch, dynamics and texture using graphic notation, justifying their choices with reference to musical vocabulary.</li> <li>Identifying the way that features of a song can complement one another to create a coherent overall effect.</li> <li>Use musical vocabulary correctly when describing and evaluating the features of a piece of music.</li> <li>Evaluating how the venue, occasion and purpose affects the way a piece of music sounds.</li> <li>Confidently using detailed musical vocabulary (related to the inter-related dimensions of music) to discuss and evaluate their own and others work.</li> </ul>

### Composing

Nursery	Reception	Year 1	Year 2
<ul> <li>Range 3</li> <li>Mirrors and improvises actions they have observed, e.g. clapping or waving</li> <li>Expresses self through physical actions and sound</li> <li>Creates sound effects and movements, e.g. creates the sound of a car, animals</li> <li>Range 4</li> <li>Creates sounds by rubbing, shaking, tapping, striking or blowing</li> <li>Shows an interest in the way sound makers and instruments sound and experiments with ways of playing them, e.g. loud/quiet, fast/slow</li> <li>Creates rhythmic sounds and movements</li> <li>Range 5</li> <li>Develops an understanding of how to create and use sounds intentionally</li> <li>Experiments and creates movement in response to music, stories and ideas</li> <li>Creates sounds, movements, drawings to accompany stories</li> <li>Explores and learns how sounds and movements can be changed</li> <li>Uses movement and sounds to express experiences, expertise, ideas and feelings</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Playing untuned percussion 'in time' with a piece of music.</li> <li>Selecting classroom objects to use as instruments.</li> <li>Experimenting with body percussion and vocal sounds to respond to music.</li> <li>Selecting appropriate instruments to represent action and mood.</li> <li>Experimenting with playing instruments in different ways.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Selecting and creating short sequences of sound with voices or instruments to represent a given idea or character.</li> <li>Combining instrumental and vocal sounds within a given structure.</li> <li>Creating simple melodies using a few notes.</li> <li>Choosing dynamics, tempo and timbre for a piece of music.</li> <li>Creating a simple graphic score to represent a composition.</li> <li>Beginning to make improvements to their work as suggested by the teacher.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Selecting and creating longer sequences of appropriate sounds with voices or instruments to represent a given idea or character.</li> <li>Successfully combining and layering several instrumental and vocal patterns within a given structure.</li> <li>Creating simple melodies from five or more notes.</li> <li>Choosing appropriate dynamics, tempo and timbre for a piece of music.</li> <li>Using letter name and graphic notation to represent the details of their composition.</li> <li>Beginning to suggest improvements to their own work.</li> </ul>

Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
<ul> <li>Composing a piece of music in a given style with voices and instruments (Battle Song, Indian Classical, Jazz, Swing).</li> <li>Combining melodies and rhythms to compose a multi-layered composition in a given style (pentatonic).</li> <li>Using letter name and rhythmic notation (graphic or staff), and key musical vocabulary to label and record their compositions.</li> <li>Suggesting and implementing improvements to their own work, using musical vocabulary.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Composing a coherent piece of music in a given style with voices, bodies and instruments.</li> <li>Beginning to improvise musically within a given style.</li> <li>Developing melodies using rhythmic variation, transposition, inversion, and looping.</li> <li>Creating a piece of music with at least four different layers and a clear structure.</li> <li>Using letter name, graphic and rhythmic notation and key musical vocabulary to label and record their compositions.</li> <li>Suggesting improvements to others' work, using musical vocabulary.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Composing a detailed piece of music from a given stimulus with voices, bodies and instruments (Remix, Colours, Stories, Drama).</li> <li>Improvising coherently within a given style.</li> <li>Combining rhythmic patterns (ostinato) into a multi-layered composition using all the inter-related dimensions of music to add musical interest.</li> <li>Using staff notation to record rhythms and melodies.</li> <li>Selecting, discussing and refining musical choices both alone and with others, using musical vocabulary with confidence.</li> <li>Suggesting and demonstrating improvements to own and others' work.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Improvising coherently and creatively within a given style, incorporating given features.</li> <li>Composing a multi-layered piece of music</li> <li>from a given stimulus with voices, bodies and Instruments.</li> <li>Composing an original song, incorporating lyric writing, melody writing and the composition of accompanying features, within a given structure.</li> <li>Developing melodies using rhythmic variation, transposition and changes in dynamics, pitch and texture.</li> <li>Recording own composition using appropriate forms of notation and/or technology and incorporating.</li> <li>Constructively critique their own and others' work, using musical vocabulary.</li> </ul>

## Performing

Nursery	Reception	Year 1	Year 2
<ul> <li>Range 3</li> <li>Creates sound effects and movements, e.g. creates the sound of a car, animals</li> <li>Participates in finger and action rhymes, songs and games, imitating the movements and anticipating actions</li> <li>Shows interest, dances and sings to music rhymes and songs, imitating movements of others</li> <li>Mirrors and improvises actions they have observed, e.g. clapping or waving</li> <li>Range 4</li> <li>Joins in singing songs</li> <li>Shows increasing control in holding, using and manipulating a range of tools and objects such as tambourines, jugs, hammers, and mark making tools</li> <li>Range 5</li> <li>Sings familiar songs, e.g. pop songs, songs from TV programmes, rhymes, songs from home</li> <li>Taps out simple repeated rhythms</li> <li>Sings to self and makes up simple songs</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Using their voices to join in with well - known songs from memory.</li> <li>Remembering and maintaining their role within a group performance.</li> <li>Moving to music with instruction to perform actions.</li> <li>Participating in performances to a small audience.</li> <li>Stopping and starting playing at the right time.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Using their voices expressively to speak and chant.</li> <li>Singing short songs from memory, maintaining the overall shape of the melody and keeping in time.</li> <li>Maintaining the pulse (play on the beat) using hands, and tuned and untuned instruments.</li> <li>Copying back short rhythmic and melodic phrases on percussion instruments.</li> <li>Responding to simple musical instructions such as tempo and dynamic changes as part of a class performance.</li> <li>Performing from graphic notation.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Using their voices expressively when singing, including the use of basic dynamics (loud and quiet).</li> <li>Singing short songs from memory, with melodic and rhythmic accuracy.</li> <li>Copying longer rhythmic patterns on untuned percussion instruments, keeping a steady pulse.</li> <li>Performing expressively using dynamics and timbre to alter sounds as appropriate.</li> <li>Singing back short melodic patterns by ear and playing short melodic patterns from letter notation.</li> </ul>
Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
<ul> <li>Singing songs in a variety of musical styles with accuracy and control, demonstrating developing vocal technique.</li> <li>Singing and playing in time with peers, with some degree of accuracy and awareness of their part in the group performance.</li> <li>Performing from basic staff notation, incorporating rhythm and pitch and being able to identify these symbols using musical terminology.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>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.</li> <li>Singing and playing in time with peers with accuracy and awareness of their part in the group performance.</li> <li>Playing melody parts on tuned instruments with accuracy and control and developing instrumental technique.</li> <li>Playing syncopated rhythms with accuracy, control and fluency.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Singing songs in two or more parts, in a variety of musical styles from memory, with accuracy, fluency, control and expression.</li> <li>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.</li> <li>Performing with accuracy and fluency from graphic and simple staff notation.</li> <li>Playing a simple chord progression with accuracy and fluency.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Singing songs in two or more secure parts from memory, with accuracy, fluency, control and expression.</li> <li>Working as a group to perform a piece of music, adjusting the interrelated dimensions of music as required, keeping in time with others and communicating with the group.</li> <li>Performing a solo or taking a leadership role within a performance.</li> <li>Performing with accuracy and fluency from graphic and staff notation and from their own notation.</li> <li>Performing by following a conductor's cues and directions.</li> </ul>

# History of music (KS2 only)

	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6	
•	Understanding that music from different times has different features.	<ul> <li>Recognising and discussing the stylistic features of different genres, styles and traditions of music using musical vocabulary.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Confidently discussing the stylistic features of different genres, styles and traditions of music and explaining how these have developed over time.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>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.</li> </ul>	
	(Also part of the Listening strand)				

#### **Inter-related dimensions of music**

	Nursery	Reception	Year 1	Year 2
Pitch		• To understand that what 'high' and ' low' notes are.	<ul> <li>To understand that pitch means how high or low a note sounds.</li> <li>To understand that 'tuned' instruments play more than one pitch of notes.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>To know that some tuned instruments have a lower range of pitches and some have a higher range of pitches.</li> <li>To understand that a melody is made up from high and low pitched notes played one after the other, making a tune.</li> </ul>
	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Pitch	<ul> <li>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.</li> <li>To know that some traditional music around the world is based on five-notes called a 'pentatonic' scale.</li> <li>To understand that a pentatonic melody uses only the five notes C D E G A.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>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.</li> <li>To know that a glissando in music means a sliding effect played on instruments or made by your voice.</li> <li>To know that 'transposing' a melody means changing its key, making it higher or lower pitched.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>To understand that a minor key (pitch) can be used to make music sound sad.</li> <li>To understand that major chords create a bright, happy sound.</li> <li>To know that a 'bent note' is a note that varies in its pitch, eg the pitch may slide up or down.</li> <li>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.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>To know that the Solfa syllables represent the pitches in an octave.</li> <li>To understand that 'major' key signatures use note pitches that sound cheerful and upbeat.</li> <li>To understand that 'minor' key signatures use note pitches that can suggest sadness and tension.</li> <li>To know that a melody can be adapted by changing its pitch.</li> </ul>

	Nursery	Reception	Year 1	Year 2
Duration		<ul> <li>To recognise that different sounds can be long or short.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>To know that rhythm means a pattern of long and short notes.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>To know that 'duration' means how long a note, phrase or whole piece of music lasts.</li> <li>To know that the long and short sounds of a spoken phrase can be represented by a rhythm.</li> </ul>
	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Duration	<ul> <li>To know that different notes have different durations, and that crotchets are worth one whole beat.</li> <li>To know that written music tells you how long to play a note for.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>To know that combining different instruments playing different rhythms creates layers of sound called 'texture'.</li> <li>To know that playing 'in time' requires playing the notes for the correct duration as well as at the correct speed.</li> <li>To know that a motif in music can be a repeated rhythm.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>To know that 'poly-rhythms' means many different rhythms played at once.</li> <li>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.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>To understand that all types of music notation show note duration, including the Kodaly method which uses syllables to indicate rhythms.</li> <li>To understand that representing beats of silence or 'rests' in written music is important as it helps us play rhythms correctly.</li> <li>To know that a quaver is worth half a beat.</li> </ul>

	Nursery	Reception	Year 1	Year 2
Dynamics		• To understand that instruments can be played loudly or softly.	<ul> <li>To know that dynamics means how loud or soft a sound is.</li> <li>To understand that sounds can be adapted to change their mood, e.g. through dynamics</li> </ul>	• To know that dynamics can change the effect a sound has on the audience.
	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Dynamics	• To know that the word 'crescendo' means a sound getting gradually louder.	• To know that changing the dynamics of a musical phrase or motif can change the texture of a piece of music.	• 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 know that a melody can be adapted by changing its dynamics.

	Nursery	Reception	Year 1	Year 2
Tempo		<ul> <li>To recognise music that is 'fast' or 'slow'.</li> <li>To understand that we can match our body movements to the speed (tempo) or pulse (beat) of music.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>To know that the 'pulse' is the steady beat that goes through music.</li> <li>To know that tempo is the speed of the music.</li> </ul>	• To understand that the tempo of a musical phrase can be changed to achieve a different effect.
	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Tempo		<ul> <li>To know that playing in time means all performers playing together at the same speed.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>To understand that a slow tempo can be used to make music sound sad.</li> <li>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.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>To know that a melody can be adapted by changing its dynamics, pitch or tempo.</li> </ul>

	Nursery	Reception	Year 1	Year 2
Timbre		• To know that different instruments can sound like a particular character.	<ul> <li>To know that 'timbre' means the quality of a sound; e.g. that different instruments would sound different playing a note of the same pitch.</li> <li>To know that my voice can create different timbres to help tell a story.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>To know that musical instruments can be used to create 'real life' sound effects.</li> <li>To understand an instrument can be matched to an animal noise based on its timbre.</li> </ul>
	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Timbre	<ul> <li>To understand that the timbre of instruments played affect the mood and style of a piece of music.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>To know that grouping instruments according to their timbre can create contrasting 'textures' in music.</li> <li>To understand that both instruments and voices can create audio effects that describe something you can see.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>To understand that human voices have their own individual timbre, and that this can be adapted by using the voice in different ways.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>To know that timbre can also be thought of as 'tone colour' and can be described in many ways e.g. warm or cold, rich or bright.</li> </ul>

	Nursery	Reception	Year 1	Year 2
Texture		<ul> <li>To know that music often has more than one instrument being played at a time.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>To know that music has layers called 'texture'.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>To know that a graphic score can show a picture of the layers, or 'texture', of a piece of music.</li> </ul>
	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Texture	<ul> <li>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.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>To know that combining different instruments and different rhythms when we compose can create layers of sound we call 'texture'.</li> <li>To understand that harmony means playing two notes at the same time, which usually sound good together.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>To understand that a chord is the layering of several pitches played at the same time.</li> <li>To know that poly-rhythms means many rhythms played at once.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>To understand that texture can be created by adding or removing instruments in a piece and can create the effect of dynamic change.</li> <li>To know that a counter-melody is different to harmony because it uses a different rhythm as well as complementary notes.</li> </ul>

	Nursery	Reception	Year 1	Year 2
Structure		• To recognise the chorus in a familiar song.	• To know that a piece of music can have more than one section, eg a versed and a chorus.	<ul> <li>To understand that structure means the organisation of sounds within music, eg a chorus and verse pattern in a song.</li> </ul>
	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Structure	<ul> <li>To know that in a ballad, a 'stanza' means a verse.</li> <li>To know that music from different places often has different structural features, e.g. traditional Chinese music is based on the five-note pentatonic scale.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>To know that deciding the structure of music when composing can help us create interesting music with contrasting sections.</li> <li>An ostinato is a musical pattern that is repeated over and over; a vocal ostinato is a pattern created with your voice.</li> <li>To understand that musical motifs (repeating patterns) are used as a building block in many well-known pieces of music</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>To know that a loop is a repeated rhythm or melody, and is another word for ostinato.</li> <li>To know that 12-bar Blues is a sequence of 12 bars of music, made up of three different chords.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>To know that a chord progression is a sequence of chords that repeats throughout a song.</li> <li>To know that a 'theme' in music is the main melody and that 'variations' are when this melody has been changed in some way.</li> </ul>

	Nursery	Reception	Year 1	Year 2
Notation		<ul> <li>To know that signals can tell us when to start or stop playing.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>To understand that music can be represented by pictures or symbols.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>To know that 'notation' means writing music down so that someone else can play it</li> <li>I know that a graphic score can show a picture of the structure and / or texture of music.</li> </ul>
	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Notation	<ul> <li>To understand that 'reading' music means using how the written note symbols look and their position to know what notes to play.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>To know that 'performance directions' are words added to music notation to tell the performers how to play.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>To know that simple pictures can be used to represent the structure (organisation) of music.</li> <li>To understand that in written staff notation, notes can go on or between lines, and that the lines show the pitch of the note.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>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'.</li> <li>To know that chord progressions are represented in music by Roman numerals.</li> </ul>