





Music Subject Progression:

		Nursery & Reception	Year 1 & 2	Year 3 & 4	Year 5 & 6
	Singing	Children explore their voices through singing simple songs, nursery rhymes, and chants. They experiment with volume, pitch, and rhythm, using their voices to create different sounds. Children develop confidence in singing along with others and begin to match pitch and rhythm in simple songs.	Children sing a wider range of songs from memory and with increasing confidence. They begin to control their voices, adjusting pitch and volume, and can follow simple melodies. Children learn to sing in unison with a group, maintaining a steady pulse, and start to explore singing in rounds or call-and-response songs.	Children develop greater control over their vocal technique, learning to vary dynamics and articulation while singing. They begin to explore harmony by singing in parts, including rounds and simple two-part songs. Children learn to breathe correctly while singing and use expression to enhance performances.	Children sing with confidence, accuracy, and expression. They explore a wider range of vocal techniques, including harmony singing and vocal layering. Children perform more complex pieces, using dynamics, phrasing, and articulation effectively. They develop an awareness of their vocal range and how to use it effectively in different musical styles.
	Listening & Appraising	Children listen to a variety of sounds and music, responding through movement, expression, and discussion. They begin to describe what they hear using simple words like "loud," "soft," "fast," and "slow," and express how music makes them feel.	Children listen to different styles of music and begin to describe instruments and musical features they hear. They develop simple opinions about music and start to recognise repeated patterns and rhythms. Children listen actively, responding to music through movement, discussion, and drawing.	Children identify instruments and key musical elements such as tempo, dynamics, and timbre. They listen to a wider range of musical styles, including classical, folk, and world music, and begin to discuss the historical and cultural context of different pieces. Children develop their ability to compare and contrast different pieces of music, explaining their opinions using musical vocabulary.	Children analyse music in greater depth, recognising complex musical structures and techniques. They listen critically to different genres and historical periods, discussing the impact and significance of composers and performers. Children develop confidence in expressing their opinions about music using technical vocabulary and consider how music conveys emotion and meaning.
	Composing	Children explore sounds and experiment with making their own music using voices, body percussion, and simple instruments. They begin to create short patterns of sound and express ideas through music play.	Children compose simple pieces by selecting and ordering sounds. They experiment with rhythm and pitch, creating short melodies or rhythmic patterns. Children begin to use symbols or pictures to represent their compositions and perform them to others.	Children develop their composing skills by combining sounds and exploring structures such as call and response, ostinatos, and drones. They use simple notation to record their compositions and begin to make choices about tempo, dynamics, and instrumentation to create different effects.	Children compose more complex pieces, developing their own musical ideas with structure and intention. They use a variety of instruments and digital tools to create compositions, considering harmony, texture, and form. Children refine their work through editing and feedback, creating pieces that reflect a specific mood or theme.
	Performing / Musicianship	Children explore making sounds using their voices, hands, and simple percussion instruments. They learn to keep a steady beat and begin to join in with musical performances in a group setting.	Children develop their ability to play simple percussion instruments with control. They keep a steady pulse and play rhythmic patterns, following simple notation. Children perform in small groups and class ensembles, developing confidence in playing music with others.	Children improve their instrumental technique, learning to play tuned and untuned instruments with increasing accuracy. They follow basic musical notation and play in ensembles, listening carefully to others. Children begin to develop an understanding of rhythm, melody, and accompaniment in performance.	Children perform confidently in group and solo settings, developing expression and stage presence. They play instruments with accuracy, control, and expression, using musical notation fluently. Children develop ensemble skills, listening to others and adjusting their playing accordingly. They perform with an awareness of dynamics, phrasing, and articulation to communicate musical ideas effectively.