

Progression of Skills for Music

Lower school

Year	Autumn	Spring	Summer
Cycle A	What did the Romans do for us? (Rotten Romans)	Natural Disasters and Rainforests (What a disaster!)	Saxons and Vikings (Kingdom Invasion)
	Rhythmic patterns	Create layered piece of music using various rhythms.	Improvisation and composition. Body percussion. Hakka. Anglo Saxon Warrior
	Timbre, Tempo and Dynamics	Duration and Structure	Pitch and Texture
	Identify voice types and a wider range of non percussion instruments by family and name; further extend the use of voices and percussion	Fit rhythm patterns to a steady beat in 2,3 and 4 metre independently	Identify melodic shape and explore different scale patterns including pentatonic, major and minor Identify and use different types of texture
	instruments Explore how to use dynamics for expressive effect Explore how to use tempi for expressive effect	Develop understanding of extended conventional structures including Rondo ABACADA	including solo, unison, ostinato parts and simple harmony e.g. drone, melodic ostinato parts
Cycle B	Stone Age to Iron Age (Iron Rocks!)	Mountains, rivers and coasts. (Mountain High River Deep)	The Egyptians (Tomb Raiders)
	Unconventional instruments used to create stone age music	Sea shanties. Solos and feelings through song. Begin to understand pitch within staff notation.	Rhythm, pattern, control. Devise non-standard symbols to represent patterns. Move to understanding rhythm within staff notation.
	Tempo and duration	Dynamics, structure and timbre	Pitch, and texture
	Identify, use and understand getting faster / getting slower Identify how rhythm patterns fit to a steady beat and begin to use and understand 2, 3 and 4 metre	Identify, use and understand getting louder and getting quieter in finer gradations Develop understanding to conventional structures including binary (AB) and ternary (ABA) introductions	Identify, use and understand steps, leaps and repeated notes in melodies and begin to explore different scale patterns Identify the use and purpose of different layers of
		and codas Identify families of non-percussion instruments and the way they are played; extend the use of voices and percussion	music heard, created and performed



Upper School

Cycle A	Water as a resource and renewable energy (Fuelling the Future)	Ancient Greek democracy and monarchs past and present (Power!)	Evolution and inheritance (Discovering Darwin)
	Composition- recycled materials for instruments	Leitmotifs- representing people of power	Compose music (including singing) for various purposes. Rehearse year 6 production.
	Duration Timbre, Tempo	Dynamics Structure and Texture	Pitch (and rehearsal technique)
	Identify and understand more complex rhythm patterns and metres counting in 8 and 6 and possibly 5 and 7 Identify voices / instruments within families and their role in a wider range of ensembles: refine the use of voices and percussion with the intended impact Understand how a wide range of tempi can be precisely used and manipulated for expressive effect	Use detailed dynamic variation effectively for a specific musical purpose and be able to discuss and justify choices made Use a broader range of developmental structures and expressive structures (e.g. leitmotif) Use harmony including simple chords with greater awareness and understanding	Use scales effectively for a specific musical purpose and be able to discuss and justify choices made
Cycle B	History of Baghdad (Arabian Nights) and Mexico Study (Los mysterious de Mexico)	Space (Out of this world) and Portsmouth (local history study)	Forces (Flight) and Changes (SRE & Geography)
	Mexican music. Understanding culture through music	The Planet Suite – study how Holst created moods/themes. Then create own music using the same features.	Layering of music Tunes to sing and play in different keys. Rehearse year 6 production.
	Timbre and duration	Dynamics, Structure and Tempo	Texture and pitch
	Identify instruments within families and different instrumental / vocal combinations: refine the use of voices and percussion Identify and begin to understand more complex rhythm patterns and metres including counting in 8 and 6	Understand how a wide range of dynamics can be used and manipulated for expressive effect Explore and use a wider range of developmental structures (e.g. ABA, Rondo, 12 bar blues, theme and variations) and expressive structures Understand how a wide range of tempi can be used and manipulated for expressive effect	Extend the use of simple harmony to include consonant and dissonant clusters of notes and simple chords as accompaniment Explore, recognise and identify a range of different scale patterns including pentatonic, major minor and could extend to raga, chromatic, modes and how they influence music