

Bledlow Ridge School Skills and Knowledge Progression Music



Foundation Stage MINIMUM EXPECTED STANDARDS By the end of the Reception Year most pupils should be able to:

PERFORM (Singing / Playing) Active learning	EXPLORE and COMPOSE Playing and exploring	LISTEN, REFLECT and APPRAISE Creating and thinking critically
Using their voices: ■ Speak and chant short phases together ■ Find their singing voice and begin to develop an awareness of pitch over a small range of notes ■ Make changes in their voices to express different moods /feelings ■ Co-ordinate actions to go with a song ■ Sing short phrases or responses on their own ■ Sing a variety of songs both accompanied and	Exploring: Different sounds made by the voice, hands, found objects and conventional instruments (timbre) High and low sounds (pitch) Long and short sounds (duration) Loud and quiet sounds (dynamics) Fast and slow sounds (tempo) Begin to be aware of the effect that different sounds have to convey mood or meaning	Listening: Listen to sounds and respond by talking about them or physically with movement and dance Recognise the sounds of the percussion instruments used in the classroom and identify and name them Respond appropriately to a range of classroom songs, e.g. tidy up songs, circle time songs, line up songs. Appraising:
unaccompanied. Using Classroom Instruments: Play instruments by shaking, scraping, rattling, tapping etc Start and stop together Begin to develop a sense of beat, using instruments or body sounds Respond to symbols or hand signs	Composing: Begin to create and manipulate different effects on a sound source or instrument Add chosen sound effects at an appropriate moment in a story or song Sort and name different sounds Create a sequence of different sounds in response to a given stimuli	 Begin to identify and describe key features or extreme contrasts within a piece of music Begin to use musical terms (louder/quieter, faster/slower, higher/lower) MUSICAL ELEMENTS DURATION Steady beat, short and long sounds
 Play loudly, quietly, fast, slow Copy a simple rhythm pattern or number of beats played on an instrument. Play along to music showing a developing awareness of the beat Play with a sense of purpose and enjoyment. 	KEY WORDS FOUND OBJECTS Pots and pans, material, paper or anything that can be manipulated to create sound	PITCH High and low TEMPO Fast and slow DYNAMICS Loud and quiet TIMBRE The tone quality of the sound – rough, smooth, scratch, etc

SINGING VOICE The musical quality of the voice, unlike the speaking voice uses tonality or pitch and rhythm	STRUCTURE Phrases of a song, overall plan of a piece
STEADY BEAT Regular pulse (in time)	

YEAR 1 MINIMUM EXPECTED STANDARDS By the end of Year 1 most pupils should be able to:

PERFORM (Singing / Playing)	EXPLORE and COMPOSE	LISTEN, REFLECT and APPRAISE
Using their voices: Speak and chant together Sing songs showing increasing vocal control (singing more in tune, breathing deeply, singing words clearly) Sing songs in different styles conveying different moods (happy, sad, angry etc) and with sense of enjoyment Co-ordinate actions to go with a song Sing in time to a steady beat	Exploring: Different sounds made by the voice and hands (timbre) High and low sounds (pitch) Long and short sounds (duration) Loud and quiet sounds (dynamics) Fast and slow sounds (tempo) Pitch shapes (moving up and down) and rhythmic	Listening: Listen to a piece of music and move in time to its steady beat. Recognise and respond through movement /dance to the different musical characteristics and moods of music Recognise the sounds of the percussion instruments used in the classroom and identify and name them
 Perform an action or a sound (clapping, stamping, etc) on the steady beat whilst singing 	patterns	Appraising:
Using Classroom Instruments: Play instruments by shaking, scraping, rattling, tapping etc Play in time to a steady beat, using instruments or body sounds Play loudly, quietly, fast, slow Imitate a rhythm pattern on an instrument Play a repeated rhythmic pattern (rhythmic	Composing: Add sound effects to a story Choose musical sound effects to follow a story line or match a picture Use graphics/symbols to portray the sounds they have made made Sequence these symbols to make a simple structure (score) Compose own sequence of sounds without help and	 Begin to use musical terms (louder/quieter, faster/slower, higher/lower) Begin to articulate how changes in speed, pitch and dynamics effect the mood
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 Play with help the rhythmic pattern of a spoken 	
sentence, e.g. 'Hungry caterpillar'	
 Follow simple hand signals indicating: 	
loud/quiet and start/stop	

YEAR 2 MINIMUM EXPECTED STANDARDS By the end of Year 2 most pupils should be able to:

PERFORM (Singing/Playing)	EXPLORE and COMPOSE	LISTEN, REFLECT and APPRAISE

Using their voices:

- Sing a variety of songs with more accuracy of pitch
- Sing words clearly and breathing at the end of phrases
- Convey the mood or meaning of the song
- Sing with a sense of control of **dynamics**(volume) and **tempo** (speed)
- Echo sing a short melodic phrases
- Identify if the pitch is getting higher or lower, or is staying the same and copy with their voices
- Follow a leader (teacher)starting and stopping together

Using Instruments:

- Play with control: a) maintaining steady beat
 b) getting faster or slower
 c) getting louder or quieter
- Perform a repeated two note melodic ostinato to accompany a song
- Perform a rhythm accompaniment to a song
- Perform a sequence of sounds using a graphic score
- Work and perform in smaller groups
- Follow a leader (teacher)starting and stopping together

Explore:

- Ways in which sounds are made (*tapped, blown, scraped, shaken*), and can be changed
- Long and short sounds (rhythm duration)
- The rhythm patterns of words and sentences
- Changes in pitch (higher and lower)
- Sequences of sound (structure)
- Sounds in response to a stimulus (visual or aural)
- How sounds can be manipulated to convey different effects and moods

Compose:

- Short melodic phrases
- Short repeated rhythmic patterns (ostinati)
- Rhythm patterns from words
- A piece of music that has a beginning, middle and end (structure)
- Music that has long and short sounds, and/or changes in tempo, timbre and dynamics, in small groups
- Music that conveys different moods

Listening and appraising

- Listen with increased concentration
- Recognise the sounds of the percussion instruments used, their names, how they are played and which ones can make high and low sounds
- Recognise how sounds are made tapping, rattling, scraping, blowing etc
- Identify different qualities of sound such as smooth, scratchy, clicking, ringing (timbre)
- Recognise and respond to different changes of speed (tempo)/volume (dynamics) and pitch
- Respond through movement/dance to different musical characteristics and moods (angrily, sadly, cheerfully, daintily etc)
- Recognise and respond to the mood of a piece of music. Begin to use music terminology when describing how the mood is created (i.e. the mood is sad because the music is played very slowly and quietly)

•	Demonstrate some confidence in performing as a	
group a	nd as an individual	

YEAR 3 MINIMUM EXPECTED STANDARDS By the end of year 3 most pupils should be able to:

PERFORM (Singing /Playing)	EXPLORE and COMPOSE	LISTEN, REFLECT and APPRAISE
Using their voices:	Explore:	Listening, reflecting and appraising:
 Sing songs in a variety of styles with confidence, 	• Longer – shorter / faster - slower / higher - lower	Listen with concentration to longer pieces /
singing an increasing number from memory	/ louder - quieter sounds on tuned and untuned percussion	extracts of music
Show increasing accuracy of pitch and awareness	and voices.	Listen to live/recorded extracts of different kinds
of the shape of a melody.	Pitch notes moving by step (notes adjacent to each	of music and identify where appropriate
Imitate increasingly longer phrases with accuracy	other) and by leap (notes with gaps between them)	 a steady beat / no steady beat
With an awareness of the phrases in a song	 Symbols to represent sound (graphic scores / 	 a specific rhythm pattern or event
Understand that posture, breathing and diction are	traditional notation)	 the speed (TEMPO) of the music
important.	The sounds of different instruments - TIMBRE and	 the volume (DYNAMICS)
Demonstrate an awareness of character or style in	how they can represent pictures/ stories/ moods	the melody
performance.	The different sounds (timbres) that one instrument	using appropriate musical terms/language
Chant or sing a round in two parts	can make	Identify common characteristics
 Sing songs with a recognised structure (verse and 	 How the musical elements can be combined to 	Recognise some familiar instrumental sounds in
chorus/ call and response)	compose descriptive music	recorded music (piano, violin, guitar drums etc)
	Compose:	 Identify repetition in music ie a song with a chorus
Using instruments:	 Words and actions to go with songs 	 Recognise aurally wooden, metal, skin percussion
Keep a steady beat on an instrument in a group or	A simple rhythmic accompaniment to go with a	instruments and begin to know their names
individually	song, using ostinato patterns	 Listen to their own compositions and use musical
Maintain a rhythmic or melodic ostinato	 Music that has a recognisable structure; Beginning, 	language to describe what happens in them
simultaneously with a different ostinato and/or steady beat	Middle and End or verse/chorus	
Use tuned percussion with increasing confidence	Music that tells a story, paints a picture or creates	
Copy a short melodic phrase by ear on a pitched	a mood	
instrument		
 Play using symbols including graphic and / or 		
simple traditional notation		
Follow simple hand directions from a leader		
Perform with an awareness of others		
Combine musical sounds with narrative and		
movement		

Perform a composed piece to a friendly audience, as a	
member of a group or class	

YEAR 4 MINIMUM EXPECTED STANDARDS By the end of Year 4 most pupils should be able to:

PERFORM (Singing/Playing)	EXPLORE and COMPOSE	LISTEN, REFLECT and APPRAISE
Using their voices:	Explore:	Listening, Reflecting and Appraising:
 Sing songs in a variety of styles with an 	 Sounds to create particular effects (timbre) 	Recognise aurally the range of percussion (tuned and)
increasing awareness of the tone of their voices and the	Rhythm patterns in music from different times and	untuned) used in school and some individual orchestral
shape of the melody	places (duration)	instruments taught in school.
 Sing songs showing musical expression 	The pentatonic scale	Recognise and talk about some contrasting styles of
(phrasing, changes of tempi, dynamics; reflecting the	 Pitched notes that move by steps and/ or leaps to 	music in broad terms, using appropriate musical language (the
mood and character of the song and its context)	make short phrases/melodies	tempo, dynamics, metre, texture, timbre)
 Sing confidently as part of a small group or solo 	 Music that describes feelings or moods using 'tense' 	Recognise music from different times and countries
being aware of posture and good diction.	or 'calm' sounds using dynamics, different tempi, different	indentifying key elements that give it its unique sound.
 Copy short phrases and be able to sing up and 	timbres etc	Identify repeated rhythmic or melodic phrases in live
down in step independently.	 Combining and controlling sounds to achieve a 	or recorded music
Using instruments:	desired effect	 Identify whether a song has a verse/chorus or call
Maintain two or more different ostinato	 Music that incorporates effective silences (rests) 	and response structure
patterns in a small instrumental group against a steady	 Different groupings of beats (metre of 2/3) 	Recognise the combined effect of layers of sound by
beat	Compose:	listening to their own arrangements, compositions and
 Play music that includes RESTS 	A simple rhythmic accompaniment to a song using	recordings.
 Use tuned percussion instruments with 	ostinato patterns	
increasing confidence to accompany songs and improvise	A simple melody from a selected group of notes (i.e.	
 Play by ear – find known phrases or short 	a pentatonic scale)	
melodies using tuned instruments	Music that has a recognisable structure	
 Read and play from some conventional music 	 A piece of music that reflects images/ and 	
symbols	atmosphere, that has a clearly defined plan, making subtle	
 Combine instrumental playing with narrative 	adjustments to achieve the intended effect	
and movement	Arrange a song using tuned and untuned	
 Follow a leader, stopping / starting, playing 	accompaniments developed from the song and perform to a	
faster/ slower and louder / quieter.	friendly audience	
Perform to an audience of adults, an assembly	Use a range of ICT to sequence, compose, record and	
or other classes with increasing confidence.	share work	

YEAR 5 MINIMUM EXPECTED STANDARDS By the end of year 5 most pupils should be able to:

PERFORM(Singing/Playing)	EXPLORE and COMPOSE	LISTEN, REFLECT and APPRAISE
Using their voices:	Explore:	Listening, Reflecting and Appraising
Sing confidently in a wide variety of styles	Chords / harmony – concord and discord	Distinguish differences in timbre and texture
with expression	• texture created by layering rhythmic and/or melodic	between a wide variety of instruments and instrumentation
Communicate the meaning and mood of the	ostinatos	Identify and discuss 'what happens when' within
song	Developing ideas, using musical devices such as	simple musical structures
Sing in a round	repetition, question and answer, ostinato.	Recognise and identify features of expression
Maintain own part in a round	• Characteristics of various styles, for example, Blues,	(phrasing, melody, harmony, different dynamics, metre and
Perform a song from memory with attention	Rap, Gospel , Folk, African etc	tempi) in an extract of live or recorded music
to phrasing, dynamics and accuracy of pitch, for a	 Improvising in a variety of styles 	Use musical vocabulary and knowledge to talk about
special occasion	Compose / Arrange:	and discuss music from a variety of sources, traditions and
Using instruments:	(Always considering the musical elements)	cultures, including performances of their own and others'
Perform on a range of instruments in mixed	Create own simple songs reflecting the meaning of	compositions
groups to an audience, with confidence	the words	 Use musical vocabulary and knowledge to help
 Read and play with confidence from 	Compose music that reflects given intentions, e.g.	identify areas for development or refinement when
conventional or graphic notation	descriptive music, a rap, a melody with an ostinato	composing
 Continue to play by ear on pitched 	accompaniment	
instruments, extending the length of phrases,	Arrange a song for class performance with an	
melodies played.	appropriate pitched and unpitched accompaniment	
 Perform with sensitivity to different 	Refine own compositions after discussion	
dynamics, tempi	Use a range of symbols (conventional or graphic) to	
 Lead/conduct a group of instrumental 	record compositions.	
performers		
Maintain a rhythmic or melodic		
accompaniment to a song		
Maintain own part on a pitched instrument		
in a small ensemble		
Perform own compositions to an audience		
Use an mp3 recoder/video recorder to keep		
a record of work in progress and record		
performances.		
Know what makes a good performance		

YEAR 6 MINIMUM EXPECTED STANDARDS By the end of Year 6 most pupils should be able to:

PERFORM(Singing/Playing)	EXPLORE and COMPOSE	LISTEN, REFLECT and APPRAISE
Using their voices:	Explore:	Listening, Reflecting and Appraising
 Sing confidently in a wide variety of styles with 	 Chords / harmony – concord and discord 	Distinguish differences in timbre and texture
expression	Texture created by layering rhythmic and/or melodic	between a wide variety of instruments and
Communicate the meaning and mood of the song	ostinatos	instrumentation
 Perform a song from memory with attention to 	Developing ideas, using musical devices such as	 Identify and discuss 'what happens when' within
phrasing, dynamics and accuracy of pitch, for a special	repetition, question and answer, ostinato.	simple musical structures
occasion	 Characteristics of various styles, for example, Blues, 	Recognise and identify features of expression
Using instruments:	Rap, Gospel , Folk, African etc	(phrasing, melody, harmony, different dynamics, metre
Perform on a range of instruments in mixed groups	 Improvising in a variety of styles 	and tempi) in an extract of live or recorded music
to an audience, with confidence	Compose / Arrange:	Use musical vocabulary and knowledge to talk
Read and play with confidence from conventional	(Always considering the musical elements)	about and discuss music from a variety of sources,
or graphic notation	Compose music that reflects given intentions, e.g.	traditions and cultures, including performances of their
Continue to play by ear on pitched instruments,	descriptive music, a rap, a melody with an ostinato	own and others' compositions
extending the length of phrases, melodies played.	accompaniment	Use musical vocabulary and knowledge to help
 Perform with sensitivity to different dynamics, 	 Arrange a song for class performance with an 	identify areas for development or refinement when
tempi	appropriate pitched and unpitched accompaniment	composing
 Lead/conduct a group of instrumental performers 	Refine own compositions after discussion	
Maintain a rhythmic or melodic accompaniment to	 Use a range of symbols (conventional or graphic) to 	
a song	record compositions.	
Maintain own part on a pitched instrument in a		
small ensemble		
Perform own compositions to an audience		
Use an video recorder to keep a record of work in		
progress and record performances.		
Know what makes a good performance		