

Music Curriculum Overview 2026-2027

Music is taught explicitly and in-depth in Autumn 2, Spring 2 and Summer 2

	Autumn	Spring	Summer
Year 1/2	Pulse, Rhythm and Pitch 1 2 3 4 5 6 7	Playing in an Orchestra 1 2 3 4 5 6 7	Exploring Improvisation 1 2 3 4 5 6 7
Year 3/4	Musical Structures 1 2 3 4 5 6 7	Compose with Your Friends 1 2 3 4 5 6 7	Feelings Through Music 1 2 3 4 5 6 7
Year 5/6	Music and Technology 1 2 3 4 5 6 7	Developing Ensemble Skills 1 2 3 4 5 6 7	Farewell Tour 1 2 3 4 5 6 7

Year 1/2

Autumn 2 – Pulse, Rhythm and Pitch

Musical Spotlight: Pulse, Rhythm and Pitch

Music has a pulse, a steady beat. Music is also made up of long and short and high and low sounds, called 'rhythm' and 'pitch'. These elements combine when we sing and play. As you listen to, sing, play and dance to the music in this unit, explore these elements of music and how they work together.

Social Question: How Does Music Help Us to Make Friends?

Musical Learning: Singing and listening are at the heart of each lesson. Play, improvise and compose using a selection of these notes: C, D, E, F, G, A

Year 1/2

Spring 2 – Playing in an Orchestra

Musical Spotlight: Playing in an Orchestra

Playing together is a very important part of learning music. There are many ensembles, bands and groups you can play in. One of these groups is an orchestra. This unit features the orchestra - what can you learn about the orchestra?

Social Question: How Does Music Teach Us About the Past?

Musical Learning: Singing and listening are at the heart of each lesson. Play, improvise and compose using a selection of these notes: C, D, E, F, G, A, B $\flat$, B

Year 1/2**Summer 2 – Exploring Improvisation**

Musical Spotlight: Exploring Improvisation

Explore improvisation a bit further in this unit. Perhaps use two or three notes and have a go playing or singing on your own. Explore and have fun!

Social Question: How Does Music Make Us Happy?

Musical Learning: Singing and listening are at the heart of each lesson. Play, improvise and compose using a selection of these notes: C, D, E, F, G, A, B $\flat$, B

Year 3/4

Autumn 2 – Musical Structures

Musical Spotlight: Musical Structures

Musical sections that repeat or change help create the structure, or form, of a piece of music or a song. Look for patterns in the sections of music and songs within this unit. Verses and choruses can repeat or alternate and these provide structure in music.

Social Question: How Does Music Bring Us Together?

Musical Learning: Singing and listening are at the heart of each lesson. Play, improvise and compose using a selection of these notes: C, D, E, F, G, A, B $\flat$

Year 3/4

Spring 2 – Compose with your Friends

Musical Spotlight: Compose with your Friends

When you are composing music together, there is a lot to remember! Music is often written based on various key signatures that guide melodies used in the music. There is often a note that sounds like 'home', or where a melody should 'land'. This is called the 'tonic pitch' or the 'home note' and makes a melody or a song sound final – like it has been resolved. Practice listening, singing, and playing instruments to explore this important note in music.

Social Question: How Does Music Improve Our World?

Musical Learning: Singing and listening are at the heart of each lesson. Play, improvise and compose using a selection of these notes: C, D, E, F, F $\sharp$, G, A, B $\flat$, B

Year 3/4**Summer 2 – Feelings through Music**

Musical Spotlight: Feelings through Music

Music is used for many reasons and can help us express our feelings. Music can be loud or quiet, fast or slow, smooth and connected or short and detached. We can also use instruments with different sounds to help communicate different emotions. Explore the music in this unit and try to connect your feelings with what you hear.

Social Question: How Does Music Teach Us About Our Community?

Musical Learning: Singing and listening are at the heart of each lesson. Play, improvise and compose using a selection of these notes: C, D, E, F#, G, A, Bb, B

Year 5/6

Autumn 2 – Music and Technology

Musical Spotlight: Music and Technology

In today's world, music and songs are often created and composed using a DAW (Digital Audio Workstation). In all the units of work, there is a combination of live instruments with a DAW. Can you tell the difference between the live sounds and digital sounds? The YuStudio projects in the YuStudio tab will teach you invaluable skills in music production that will enrich and enhance your musical journey and inspire your creativity.

Social Question: How Does Music Bring Us Together?

Musical Learning: Singing and listening are at the heart of each lesson. Play, improvise and compose using a selection of these notes: C, D, E, F, F#, G, A, Bb, B

Year 5/6

Spring 2 – Developing Ensemble Skills

Musical Spotlight: Developing Ensemble Skills

We are all used to singing and playing together in a band or ensemble now. You will have gained confidence, so when you are playing together in this unit make sure to use dynamics and expression, read a notated instrumental part. Make sure you listen to one another and follow the leader if there is one. By changing the dynamics of music, we can make the music more interesting. Sometimes, gradual changes from soft to loud ("crescendo") or from loud to soft ("decrescendo") can help make music more exciting.

Social Question: How Does Music Connect Us with Our Past?

Musical Learning: Singing and listening are at the heart of each lesson. Play, improvise and compose using a selection of these notes: C, D, E, F, F#, G, A, Bb, B

Year 5/6

Summer 2 – Farewell Tour

Musical Spotlight: Farewell Tour

This is your last performance before you move to high school. It will be a special performance, so take time to plan and include the songs and music that represent your class. You might perform in small groups or bands and as a whole class. Remember - band parts are available. Enjoy this performance!

Social Question: How Does Music Connect Us with the Environment?

Musical Learning: Singing and listening are at the heart of each lesson. Play, improvise and compose using a selection of these notes: C, C#, D, E, F, F#, G, G#, Ab, A, Bb, B