

# KS1 MUSIC SCHEME OF WORK

EYFS

## Unit 1

Pulse

Movement with music

Coordination to music

Animal sounds

Following instructions from a  
conductor

## Unit 2

Voice

Singing songs with a small range of  
notes

Performing actions to accompany  
songs

Pitch match

## Unit 3

Rhythm

Learning about tempo, pulse and  
rhythm through songs

How syllables formulate rhythms

Simple graphical scores

## Unit 4

Pitch

Exploring pitch through physical  
movements

Exploring the part of the conductor  
Listening to and performing pitches

## Unit 5

Technology, structure and form

Exploring and changing sounds  
through play and technology  
Understanding musical structure

## Unit 6

20th Century music

Commenting and responding to  
recorded music from different  
traditions, genres, styles and times.  
Understanding melody, strophic form,  
genres and improvisation



# KS1 MUSIC SCHEME OF WORK

## YEAR ONE

### Unit 1

Pulse

Long & short sounds

Creating signals when performing

“Staccato”

Rhythms

Syllables

Pulse when performing

### Unit 2

Voice

Performing songs which contain a  
small range of notes

Recognise higher and lower sounds  
using graphic notation

Exploring “pause”, graphic scores,  
melody, dynamics and pitch

### Unit 3

Rhythm

Creating rhythms and maintain pulse

Physical actions and movements to  
show pulse and indicate rest

Dynamics, pulse, rest, rhythm and  
tempo all covered

### Unit 4

Pitch

Pitches of the voice, sounds and  
instruments

Comparing and ordering sounds

Composing a short piece about  
moods, feelings, emotions

### Unit 5

Technology, Structure and Form

Using technology to create and  
change sounds  
Understanding melody  
Commenting and responding to  
recordings of our own compositions

### Unit 6

20th Century Music

Listening to recorded music and use  
one element from different traditions,

genres, styles and times.

Understanding and using melody,  
strophic forms and grooves.



# KS1 MUSIC SCHEME OF WORK

## YEAR TWO

### Unit 1

Pulse

Rhythm and ostinatos

Rests

Practice and perform rhythms

Layering rhythms

Cross-curricular links to classroom  
topic

### Unit 2

Voice

Singing with accuracy within a  
range of notes

Performance instructions: starting,  
stopping, dynamics, tempo

Recognising and demonstrating the  
link between pitch and shape using  
graphic notation

### Unit 3

Rhythm

Listening to a variety of music  
from a diverse range of  
composers including Franz  
Schubert

Rhythmical accuracy with a clear  
start and end point  
Performance - recorded

### Unit 4

Pitch

Identifying pitches when performing  
and playing instruments  
Composing our own graphical notes  
Performance – filmed and peer  
assessed

### Unit 5

Technology, Structure and Form

Experiment changing and combining  
sounds using technology  
Making statements about musical  
structure from live performances  
Understanding 4/4 time, hooks and  
call/response

### Unit 6

20th Century Music

Recognising and describing features of  
film music  
Listening to sounds and drawing  
symbols to represent them



# KS2 MUSIC SCHEME OF WORK

## YEAR THREE

### Unit 1

Pulse

Maintaining a steady pulse for ostinatos

Cup song

Whole class ostinato performance

Visual cues

Following and leading simple performance directions

### Unit 2

Voice

Listening to melodies and creating a graphic score to represent it

Creating, using and leading groups with performance instructions: tempo, dynamics, start and stop.

### Unit 3

Rhythm

Syllable patterns from simple phrases

Working in mixed ability groups to create graphical scores to record and notate their ideas

Performance - recorded

### Unit 4

Pitch

Pitch to be used as a tool to create mood and emotive responses

Creating simple rhythmic patterns, melodies and accompaniments

Understanding motif, interval, texture & timbre

### Unit 5

Technology, structure and form

Recognising and using basic musical structure

Understanding song forms and ABC song forms, soundations and tempo

### Unit 6

20th Century music

Listening to and using features of recorded music from different traditions, genres, styles and times



# KS2 MUSIC SCHEME OF WORK

## YEAR FOUR

### Unit 1

Pulse

Songs with ostinatos

Riffs, walking basslines, repeating patterns

Working with bars which contain 10 beats

Graphical notations, Bach's, Pachelbel Canon, Mission Impossible

### Unit 2

Voice

Singing with awareness of breathing and pronunciation

Using standard graphic notations to create melodies

Playing and singing as an ensemble

Using pentatonic scales

### Unit 3

Rhythm

Listening to a variety of pieces by Steve Reich, Anna Meredith and Stomp  
Creating, layering and combining rhythms to create a range of textures, dynamic and musical interest. Formal and non-formal notation

### Unit 4

Pitch

Exploring mimemic music and creating their own

Singing within a given vocal range with clear diction

Listening to and evaluating recorded music from different traditions, genres, styles and times

### Unit 5

Technology, Structure and Form

Using our voices, sounds, technology and instruments in creative ways  
Understanding bridge, chorus, synthesisers and verses

### Unit 6

20th Century Music

Minimal music (Steve Reich and Kraftwerk)

Music from musicals (Lion King & Mamma Mia)

Pop music (Beyoncé & Jay Z)  
Understanding dynamics, harmonies, loops, minimalism and bridges.



# KS2 MUSIC SCHEME OF WORK

## YEAR FIVE

### Unit 1

Pulse

Composing bars of rhythms

Graphic and formal notation using  
crochets, quavers and rests

Songs with varied tempos

Maintain pulse throughout pieces with  
and without syncopation

### Unit 2

Voice

Singing and maintaining and  
independent part

Experimenting sounds made by the  
voice

Following and performing a vocal  
piece using a graphic/notated score

### Unit 3

Rhythm

Music from different genres and  
time signatures

Audibly identifying rhythms

Arrangement, structure and texture  
explored

Peer assessed performance

### Unit 4

Pitch

Chord D and Chord G,  
semitones and scales

Exploring different roles within a  
group performance

### Unit 5

Technology, Structure and Form

Using and identifying key features of  
a basic musical structure  
Exploring improvisation, shanties  
and samplers.

### Unit 6

20th Century Music

Evaluating a variety of recorded  
music from different traditions,  
genres, styles and times  
Using a variety of musical devices,  
timbres, textures, techniques



# KS2 MUSIC SCHEME OF WORK

## YEAR SIX

### Unit 1

Pulse

Music with different time signatures  
Creating our own ostinatos with body percussion  
Creating range of timbres using voice  
Creating our own piece with a 5/4 time signature

### Unit 2

Voice

Experimenting and refining sounds with the voice  
Whole class performance  
Creating and performing a vocal piece by following a graphic/notated score

### Unit 3

Rhythm

Using a variety of musical devices, timbres, textures, techniques  
Tuned and untuned instruments  
Maintaining an independent part when playing an instrument

### Unit 4

Pitch

Using popular motifs and musical themes that are linked to films and iconic characters  
Exploring impacts created by semitones  
Understanding arpeggio and semitones

### Unit 5

Technology, Structure and Form

Experimenting with voice, sounds, technology and instruments in creative ways to explore new techniques  
Understanding timbres

### Unit 6

20th Century Music  
Experimenting with voice, sounds and technology  
Understanding dissonance, octaves, ostinati, transposing and 12-tone rows.

