



Vocabulary Progression: Music

The following represents the core vocabulary introduced in each year group in line with our chosen scheme of work, Charanga.

The following vocabulary is introduced in Reception

Music:

● Sounds, Noise, Voice, Notes, Tune, Chant, Sing, Song, Nursery Rhymes, Listen, Start, Stop, Follow, Repeat

Patterns of Sound:

- Rhythm and Beat (Pulse, like a heartbeat, a steady beat underlying the music)
- High, Low, Higher, Lower (Pitch)
- Loud, Quiet, Louder, Quieter, Getting Louder, Getting Quieter (Dynamics)
- Fast, Slow, Faster, Slower, Getting Faster, Getting Slower (Tempo)
- Spiky, Smooth, Soft (Timbre)
- Scary, Sad, Angry, Happy (Emotion)
- Bang, Crash, Boom, Tinkle (Sounds)
- Whisper, Shout (Using voice)

Instrument:

● Perform, Shake, Tap, Scratch. (Playing Instrument)
Drum, Tambourine, Maraca, Triangle, Glockenspiel, Bells, Claves, Shaker, Guiro (a serrated surface scraped with a stick), Agogo (2 joined wooden cones tapped with a stick), Casaba (loops of steel ball chain wrapped around a cylinder), Keyboard.

The following vocabulary is introduced in Year 1

- Decks: equipment used by DJs, MCs and rappers to use sounds from different records and make effects.
- Blues: a style of melancholic music of black American folk origin, typically in a twelve-bar sequence.
- Baroque: a style of music characterised by ornate detail from 17th and 18th century Europe.
- Latin: a style of music from Latin America with Caribbean and African influences.
- Irish Folk: a style of music often passed down through families and friends.
- Funk: a style of music with strong bass lines and strong beats in unexpected places.
- Groove: the rhythm in music that makes you want to dance.

The following vocabulary is introduced in Year 2

- Melody: a tune.
- Classical: a Western style of music from the 18th and 19th centuries.
- Rock: a form of popular music that evolved from rock and roll and pop music during the mid and late 1960s.
- South African Freedom Songs: The story of South Africa's apartheid struggle as told through music.
- African Traditional Music: mainly played at gatherings at special occasions it is historically ancient, rich and diverse.
- A Capella: Voices only, with no instrumental accompaniment.
- Improvise: to make up a tune and play it on the spot.

The following vocabulary is introduced in Year 3 & 4

- Introduction: music heard at the beginning of a song or piece of music
- Verse: a section in a song which has the same tune but different words
- Chorus: a repeated section in a song which gives the main message
- Timbre: the quality of a musical sound or voice as distinct from its pitch and intensity
- Tempo: the speed of the music; fast or slow or in-between
- Dynamics: how loud or quiet the music is
- Notation: the link between sound and symbol
- Texture: layers of sound that work together to make music interesting to listen to
- Structure: every piece of music has a structure e.g. an introduction, verse and chorus ending
- Hook: a term used in Pop music to describe a short catchy phrase or riff that we can't stop singing; the bit that 'hooks' us in; the main musical idea from a song that we remember
- Riff: a short repeated phrase, often played on a lead instrument such as guitar, piano or saxophone
- Pentatonic scale: a fixed five-note pattern e.g: the five black keys on a piano
- Drums: usually consist of a shell with a stretched skin or covering. When the covering is hit with a hand or stick it vibrates and makes a sound
- Guitar: a stringed instrument that makes sound from the vibrations of strings. It has a fret, or metal wires, on the finger board to help play the notes
- Keyboard: an electric instrument played like the piano. It has a range of pre-recorded sounds
- Synthesizer: an electric instrument that looks like a keyboard and has pre-recorded and created sounds
- Reggae: developed in the 1970s and originated from Jamaica, Reggae defined by Bob Marley. It has a prominent bass beat and a strong off-beat usually played on the guitar
- Disco: dance music from the 1970s, characterized by hypnotic rhythm, repetitive lyrics and electronically produced Sounds
- Dynamics: a musical dimension indicating how loudly or quietly the music is being played
- Texture: a musical dimension that describes the layers of sound in music
- Hook: a term used in Pop music to describe a short catchy phrase or riff that we can't stop singing; the bit that 'hooks' us in; the main musical idea from a song that we remember
- Riff: a short repeated phrase, often played on a lead instrument such as guitar, piano or saxophone

- Solo: an Italian word to describe playing, singing or performing of one person or on our own
- Pentatonic Scale: a fixed five-note pattern e.g: the five black keys on a piano
- Unison: when everyone plays or sings the same music at the same time
- Style: the type of music e.g. Blues or Rock
- Lyrics: the words of a song
- By ear: play music without looking at written notation
- Notation: ways to visually represent music
- Wind instruments are typically grouped into two families:
Brass instruments (horns, trumpets, trombone and tubas)
Woodwind instruments (recorders, flutes, oboes, clarinets, saxophones, and bassoons)
- Percussion: musical instruments played by striking with the hand or with a stick or beater, or by shaking, including drums, cymbals, xylophones, gongs, bells, and rattles
- Strings: all stringed instruments make sound and notes by vibrating. Musicians do this by rubbing a bow against the strings, striking them, or plucking them

The following vocabulary is introduced in Year 5 & 6

- Structure: every piece of music has a structure e.g. an introduction, verse and chorus ending
- Bridge: contrasting section which leads back to main material
- Backbeat: beats 2 and 4 in a drum-line or if we are clapping along with the music
- Amplifier: a device that increases the strength of electric signals so that sounds played through an electronic system are louder
- Appraising: listening carefully and considering aspects of the music
- Bossa Nova: a Brazilian dance music that has syncopated guitar rhythms
- Syncopation: music with lots of rhythmic variety, often quite difficult. The strong beats occur in unexpected places
- Swing: a form of popular music developed in the United States during the 1930s and 1940s. The name swing came from the 'swing feel' where the emphasis is on the off-beat or weaker pulse in the music.
- Big band: rhythmic, swing music that is designed to encourage people to dance
- Ballad: a gentle love song
- Verse: a section in a song which has the same tune but different words
- Interlude: a passage of music played between the main theme
- Cover: a version of a song performed by someone other than the original artist. It might sound a bit or very different from the original
- Old-school Hip Hop: music that developed in the 1970s but remains very popular today. It includes rapping
- Rap: rhythmic speech that sometimes rhymes. Rap songs often tell stories about rappers and their backgrounds
- Synthesizer: an electronic machine that produces music by combining sounds that have previously been Recorded

- Style indicators: identifiers that show us the genre of the music - the rhythms can shift and change throughout the song
- Neo soul: the style emerged from Soul and contemporary RnB. The instrumentation, arrangement and studio mix are very important. Songs are mixed in the studio to sound as if they are from an older Soul era like the Motown era. The modern way in which the songs are produced, give a timeless Soul feel that has a contemporary edge
- Producer: a record producer or music producer oversees and manages the sound recording and production of a band or performer's music
- Motown: a 1960s label created from Soul music characterised by a rhythm section playing, laying down the groove with a funky bassline and a tambourine sounding over the top. Often brass sections play punchy riffbased rhythms and sometimes violins playing long high notes
- Solo: an Italian word to describe playing, singing or performing of one person or on our own
- Blues: a style of music characterised by its harmonic structure and the notes used to create the melodies
- Jazz: an original style of American Music. It is a unique blend of many styles of music including gospel music
- Ostinato: a short repeated rhythmic or melodic pattern
- Phrase: a musical sentence
- Unison: everyone plays or sings the same music at the same time
- Urban Gospel: a modern form of Christian music that expresses either a personal or communal belief regarding Christian life