

Music Learning Milestones



Key Stage	End of Key Stage 1	End of Lower Key Stage 2	End of Upper Key Stage 2
Curriculum		, 8	
area			
Performing	Sings in ensemble with instruction, using	Begins to control breathing and dynamics	Sings and plays instruments, using notation.
	their voice expressively.	when singing and is aware of others' parts.	Maintains more complex parts ensemble.
	Chooses instruments to make, control and	Performs simple instrumental melodies from	Improvises using 5 notes of the pentatonic
	combine sounds creating simple effects and experimenting with improvisation.	notation.	scale.
Composing and Arranging	Chooses, orders combines and controls	Experiments with notation to record own	Uses standard notation to create, compose
	sounds to create rhythmic patterns using a	songs and rhythmical patterns, using a	and improvise using five or more notes and
	range of instruments including voice.	variety of musical devices.	the full range of musical elements taught.
	Creates and records music using their own	Composes and performs melodies using four	
	sounds and symbols.	or five notes.	
Listening and appraising	Begins to identify the pulse, timbre,	Identifies the differences between pulse and	Uses musical vocabulary precisely to
	dynamics and melodic patterns of a piece of	rhythm.	describe music.
	music and describes the basic elements.	Can discuss the effect of different textures	Describes how music and lyrics can be used
	Can recognise some instruments used in a	and timbres.	to create expressive effects and convey
	piece of music.	Uses the correct vocabulary to describe	emotion.
	Listens carefully and can recall short	musical dimensions and evaluate them.	
	rhythmic and melodic patterns.		
Knowledge and understanding	Understands what is meant by timbre,	Understands what is meant by duration,	Understands standard musical notation on a
	dynamics, tempo (fast and slow), pitch (high	texture, structure, rhythm, metre, riff,	stave.
	and low) and pulse.	ostinato, melody, harmony.	Recognises notable pieces of music in
	Begins to understand basic formal notation.	Reads notes and know how many beats they	specific genres and knows about key artists
	Can recognise some pieces of music in	represent.	in the development of the genre.
	specific genres studied and name some key	Can make simple comparisons between	Can describe some links between genres and
	artists.	genres.	how they may have influenced each other.
	Understands that music has changed over	Recognises various pieces of music in the	Understands that music has evolved
	time.	specific genres studied and knows some of	throughout history due to cultural
		the important artists in the genre.	influences, technological advances and the
		Understands that music has changed	work of notable musicians.
		overtime due to cultural influences and	
		changes in technology.	