Music Curriculum Overview

Year A
2025 - 2026

Class	Autumn	Spring	Summer
Sycamore Class Year R	**I've got a Grumpy Face** - showing feelings and emotions in music; **The Sorcerer's Apprentice** - exploring how music can tell stories; **Witch, Witch** - pitch matching; Row **Row Row Your Boat** - tapping along with the beat, exploring steps and skips with regards to pitch.	**Cuckoo Polka** - imitating sounds of birds; **Shake My Sillies Out** - tempo, timbre, sound stories; **Up and Down** - composing lyrics and making music using pitched percussion instruments; **Five Fine Bumblebees** - counting songs, changes in tempo.	**Down There Under the Sea** - sea themed soundscapes, putting movement to music; **It's Oh So Quiet** - dynamics; **Slap Clap Clap** - 3/4 time, waltzes; **Bow Bow Bow Belinda** - beat, instrumental accompaniment.
Chestnut Class Year 1 & 2	**Tony Chestnut** - beat, rhythm, melody, echo, call-and-response, tuned and untuned instruments; **Carnival of the Animals** - timbre, tempo, dynamics, pitch, classical music; **Composing Music Inspired by Birdsong** - Composing using a non-musical stimulus, improvising.	**Grandma Rap** - duration (crotchet, quavers, crotchet rest), unison, round; **Swing Along with Shostakovitch** - 2 and 3 time, beat, beat groupings, 20th century Classical music; **Charlie Chaplin** - To create music to accompany a short film, pitch, duration, dynamics.	**The Rockpool Rock** - 2-part singing, rock 'n' roll, structure, timbre; **Tanczymy Labada** - Singing games, traditional Polish dances, follow a changing beat and tempo, playing a percussion accompaniment, body percussion patterns.
Beech Class Year 3 & 4	**This Little Light of Mine** - Pentatonic scale, gospel music, off-beat, rhythm, call-and-response; **The Pink Panther theme** - Timbre, tempo, rhythm, dynamics, atmosphere, music from a film; **Composing with Colour** - Creating music inspired by colour and art. Composing using a non-musical stimulus. Timbre, dynamics, rhythm, texture, suite, graphic score.	**The Doot Doot song** - Chords (A minor, C and F major), acoustic guitar style, song structure, relaxed swing feel, 2-bar phrases; **Fanfare for the Common Man** - Fanfare, timbre, dynamics, texture, silence; **Spain** - To create music inspired by Spain, habanera rhythm, triplet rhythm, fitting two rhythms together, count musically, structure ideas.	**Global Pentatonics** - Pentatonic scale, different music traditions and cultures, graphic/dot notation; **The Horse in Motion** - To create music inspired by one of the first ever motion pictures that shows the movement of a horse, composing to a moving image, graphic score, orchestration, ostinatos, dynamics; **Favourite Song** - Triads, chords: C, F, G major, A minor, chord structure, folk-rock styles.
Oak Class Year 5 & 6	**Hey, Mr Miller** - Swing music, syncopation, swing rhythm, Big band instruments, scat singing, social and historical context (WWII, segregation);	**Dona Nobis Pacem** - Texture (3-part round/polyphonic texture), monophonic, homophonic, 3/4 time, durations (crotchet, rest, quavers, minim, dotted minim,	**Race** - To create music to accompany a short film about a race, composing an extended melody and accompaniment; **Exploring Identity Through Song** - Vocal range, voice change,

	Shadows - Artists and their influences, compare musical genres (country, electronic dance music, rock, classical, soul) **Composing for Protest** - To create music inspired by Ethel Smyth and a picture of the suffragettes, composing using a non-musical stimulus, lyrics, melody, steady beat, tempo, ostinato, coda.	dotted crotchet), sacred vocal music, singing in harmony; **Ain't Gonna Let Nobody** - Civil rights movement in the USA, compare musical styles (Gospel, rhythm and blues, choral), spiritual turned protest song, vocal improvisation, chords C minor and G7.	vocal technique, lyrics (internal rhymes), anthems **Ame Sau Vala Tara Bal** - Indian music, bhairavi raag, chaal rhythm, Indian musical instruments, Indian musical styles comparison (bhangra, Bollywood, Indian classical),
Year B 2026 - 2027			
Class	Autumn	Spring	Summer
Sycamore Class YR	**I've got a Grumpy Face** - showing feelings and emotions in music; **The Sorcerer's Apprentice** - exploring how music can tell stories; **Witch, Witch** - pitch matching; Row **Row Row Your Boat** - tapping along with the beat, exploring steps and skips with regards to pitch.	**Cuckoo Polka** - imitating sounds of birds; **Shake My Sillies Out** - tempo, timbre, sound stories; **Up and Down** - composing lyrics and making music using pitched percussion instruments; **Five Fine Bumblebees** - counting songs, changes in tempo.	**Down There Under the Sea** - sea themed soundscapes, putting movement to music; **It's Oh So Quiet** - dynamics; **Slap Clap Clap** - 3/4 time, waltzes; **Bow Bow Bow Belinda** - beat, instrumental accompaniment.
Chestnut Class Year 1 & 2	**Menu Song** - Active listening (movement), beat, echo singing, showing pitch moving; **Colonel Hathi's March** - Beat, march, timbre, film music; **Magical Musical Aquarium** - Timbre, pitch, structure, graphic symbols, classical music.	**Football** - Beat, ostinato, pitched/unpitched patterns, mi-re-do (notes E-D-C); **Who Stole my Chickens and my Hens?** - 4-beat patterns, rests, dotted quaver-semiquaver rhythm ('skipty' rhythm), clapping games.	**Dancing and Drawing to Nautilus** - Active listening (musical signals, internalising beat, draw to music, movement/actions), electronic music; **Cat and Mouse** - Mood, tempo, dynamics, rhythm, timbre, dot notation; **Come Dance with Me** - Call-and-response, echo singing and playing, playing percussion, crotchet, quavers, crotchet rest, developing beat skills.
Beech Class Year 3 & 4	**I've been to Harlem** - Pitch shape, ostinato, round, pentatonic, call-and-response; **Chilled Out Clap Rap** - Beat, rhythm, dynamics, crotchet, paired quavers, notes C-D-E, crotchet rest.	**Latin Dance** - Salsa, beat, clave rhythm, timbre, chords, rhythm pattern; **'March' from the Nutcracker** - Rondo structure, beat, higher/lower, staccato, call-and-response, romantic ballet music; **From a Railway Carriage** - Structure (repetition, round, pattern), texture (layers, unison), timbre beat, classical music. OR - Recorder Unit - **Enchanted Forest** - Holding the recorder correctly (focus on left-hand position), making a good sound, learning to control the breath, using the sound	**Just Three Notes** - Pitch (notes C-D-E), durations (crotchet, quaver, semiquaver, crotchet rest), rhythm patterns, structure, minimalism, score, dot notation; **Samba with Sergio** - Samba, carnival, fanfare, call-and-response, beat, percussion, word rhythms, music and community; **Fly with the Stars** - Minor and major chords (A minor, C major), chord, dot notation, durations (crotchet, quavers, crotchet rest)

		'doo' to start each note. Learning to play the notes B, A and G, to feel, blow, and recognise a semibreve, minim, crotchet, rests, and paired quavers. Playing as part of an ensemble, active listening skills, improvisation with familiar notes and durations, learning about the family of recorders and how the recorder has been used within folk, classical, and jazz musical styles.	
Oak Class Year 5 & 6	**What shall we do with the Drunken Sailor** - Sea shanties, beat, rhythm, chords, bass, dot notation; **Why we Sing** - Gospel music, instruments, structure, texture, vocal decoration; **Introduction to Songwriting** - Structure (verse/chorus), hook, lyric writing, melody.	**Madina Tun Nabi** - Nasheed (Islamic song), drone, melody, harmony, chords (G and D), vocal decoration, microtones; **Building a Groove** - Beat, rhythm, basslines, riffs; **Epoca** - Texture, articulation, rhythm, tango.	**Three Little Birds** - Reggae, riffs, offbeat, chords, major triads D and G, bassline, unison, harmony.; **Composing in Ternary Form -** Structure (Ternary form/ABA), pentatonic scale, tempo, dynamics, 20th-century orchestral music.

Vocabulary Examples:

EYFS	Key Stage 1	Key Stage 2
pitch, beat, tempo, timbre, lyrics, percussion, waltzes, beat, rhythm, accompaniment, names of classroom instruments, dynamics.	**Year A:** beat, rhythm, melody, echo, call-and-response, tuned and untuned instruments, timbre, tempo, dynamics, pitch, classical music, improvising, duration (crotchet, quavers, crotchet rest), unison, round, 2 and 3 time, 20th century music, pitch, duration, dynamics, rock 'n' roll, structure, accompaniment. **Year B:** beat, echo, pitch, march, timbre, film music, structure, graphic symbols, classical music, ostinato, pitched/unpitched patterns, mi-re-do, rests, dotted quaver-semiquaver rhythms, electronic music, mood, tempo, dynamics, rhythm, dot notation, call-and-response, percussion, crotchet, quavers, crotchet rest.	**Year A:** Pentatonic scale, gospel music, off-beat, rhythm, call-and-response, timbre, tempo, rhythm, dynamics, atmosphere, dynamics, texture, suite, graphic score, chords (A minor, C and F major), song structure, fanfare, silence, habanera rhythm, triplet rhythm, graphic/dot notation composing, graphic score, orchestration, ostinatos, triads, chord structure, folk-rock styles, swing music, syncopation, swing rhythm, big band instruments, scat singing, artists, genres (country, electronic dance music, rock, classical, soul), lyrics, melody, steady beat, coda, 3-part round, polyphonic, monophonic, homophonic, 3/4 time, durations (crotchet, rest, quavers, minim, dotted minim, dotted crotchet), sacred vocal music, singing in harmony, gospel, rhythm and blues, choral, spiritual, protest song, vocal improvisation, chords C minor and G7, accompaniment, vocal range, lyrics, anthems, bhangra, Bollywood, Indian, names of all periods of music history (renaissance, baroque etc). **Year B:** Pitch, shape, ostinato, round, pentatonic, call-and-response, beat, rhythm, dynamics, crotchet, paired quavers, notes C-D-E, crotchet rest, salsa, beat, clave rhythm, timbre, chords, pattern, rondo structure, staccato, romantic ballet music, structure (repetition, round, pattern), texture (layers, unison), durations (crotchet, quaver, semiquaver, crotchet rest), minimalism, score, dot notation, samba, carnival, fanfare, percussion, community, minor, major, A minor, C major, chord, dot notation, sea shanties, bass, gospel music, instruments, vocal decoration, verse, chorus, hook, lyrics, melody, Nasheed (Islamic song), drone, melody, harmony, chords (G and D), microtones, basslines, riffs, articulation, tango, lullaby, 3/4, 4/4, question-and-answer, accompaniment, round, arrangement, names of all periods of music history (renaissance, baroque etc).

Developing Reading in Music		
EYFS 'Tabby McTatt' - Julia Donaldson 'Commotion in the Ocean' - Giles Andreae	**Key Stage 1** 'Because' - Mo Williams 'Allegro - A musical journey through ten masterpieces' - David W. Miles 'Listen to the Birds - An introduction to Classical Music' - Ana Gerhard 'I, Vivaldi' - Janice Shefelman 'The Bear and the Piano' - David Litchfield	**Key Stage 2** 'Itzhak - A Boy who Loved the Violin' - Tracey Newman 'Why Beethoven Threw the Stew' - Steven Isserlis