

Holy Cross Primary School – Music Curriculum



UNIT OVERVIEWS						
Year	Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Spring 1	Spring 2	Summer 1	Summer 2
1	My Musical Heartbeat Develop an understanding of pulse (steady beat), with movement and clapping exercises to internalise rhythm.	Dance, Sing and Play Explore long and short sounds (rhythm) and high and low sounds (pitch) through dancing, singing, and playing.	Exploring Sounds Learn to distinguish between different sounds and create simple melodies to develop pitch awareness.	Learning to Listen Focus on listening skills, identifying sounds, and responding to music physically.	Having Fun with Improvisation Introduction to improvisation, creating melodies and rhythms individually or in groups.	Let's Perform Together Prepare for a class performance, reinforcing all learned skills in rhythm, melody, and group coordination.
2	Pulse, Rhythm and Pitch Develop a deeper understanding of pulse, rhythm, and pitch by combining these elements in singing and instrument playing.	Playing in an Orchestra Explore ensemble playing with a focus on different instrumental roles within an orchestra.	Inventing a Musical Story Learn to use music to tell a story, emphasising dynamics, tempo, and emotional expression.	Recognising Different Sounds Identify various instrument sounds and discover harmony as different pitches play together.	Exploring Improvisation Further explore improvisation with a focus on expressing personal ideas through selected notes.	Our Big Concert Plan and perform in a class concert, showcasing skills in melody, harmony, and rhythm.
3	Writing Music Down Introduction to notation, learning how to read and write basic music symbols and rhythms.	Playing in a Band Develop ensemble skills, read simple notation, and practice coordinating with peers.	Compose Using Your Imagination Create imaginative compositions, connecting music with personal expression and storytelling.	More Musical Styles Explore dynamics and various music genres, learning how music can express different feelings.	Enjoying Improvisation Practice improvisation, focusing on form, structure, and the excitement of creating new music.	Opening Night Plan and deliver a performance, applying knowledge of structure, dynamics, and teamwork.
4	Musical Structures Study the form and structure of music, identifying verses, choruses, and repeated sections.	Exploring Feelings When You Play Use music to express emotions, focusing on how lyrics and sounds can convey meaning.	Compose with Your Friends Collaborate in groups to create compositions that express specific moods or themes.	Feelings Through Music Discover how dynamics and instrument choices impact the emotional quality of music.	Expression and Improvisation Enhance improvisational skills, focusing on dynamics and expression to communicate emotions.	The Show Must Go On Prepare for a final performance, integrating skills learned across the year in melody, harmony, and form.
5	Learning to Play a Brass Instrument (Oldham Music Service) Work as a band to prepare a performance, focusing on audience engagement and confident presentation.	Learning to Play a Brass Instrument (Oldham Music Service) Plan a final performance, celebrating each student's progress and their contributions to the class.	Learning to Play a Brass Instrument (Oldham Music Service) Work as a band to prepare a performance, focusing on audience engagement and confident presentation.	Learning to Play a Brass Instrument (Oldham Music Service) Plan a final performance, celebrating each student's progress and their contributions to the class.	Learning to Play a Brass Instrument (Oldham Music Service) Work as a band to prepare a performance, focusing on audience engagement and confident presentation.	Learning to Play a Brass Instrument (Oldham Music Service) Plan a final performance, celebrating each student's progress and their contributions to the class.
6	Music and Technology Explore Digital Audio Workstations, blending live and digital sounds in compositions.	Developing Ensemble Skills Strengthen ensemble playing, focusing on dynamics, expression, and group coordination.	Creative Composition Experiment with chords and melodies to create structured compositions with emotional impact.	Musical Styles Connect Us Understand how music unites cultures and explore social themes reflected in music.	Improvising with Confidence Confidently improvise with phrasing and dynamics, creating cohesive musical ideas.	Farewell Tour Plan a final performance, celebrating each student's progress and their contributions to the class.

***Note: See ‘Progression of Knowledge Skills and Elements Years 1-6’ document for detailed curriculum coverage for each year group.**

INSTRUMENT ALLOCATION						
	Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Spring 1	Spring 2	Summer 1	Summer 2
1	Single Glocks Singing	Nativity Singing	Single Glocks Singing	Single Glocks Singing	Single Glocks Singing	Single Glocks Singing
2	Single Glocks Singing	Nativity Singing	Single Glocks Singing	Single Glocks Singing	Single Glocks Singing	Single Glocks Singing
3	Recorders Singing	Recorders Singing	Recorders Singing	Easter Show	Recorders Singing	Recorders Singing
4 Kestrel	Swim Singing	Swim Singing	Swim Singing	Recorders Singing	Recorders Singing	Recorders Singing
4 Puffin	Recorders Singing	Recorders Singing	Recorders Singing	Swim Singing	Swim Singing	Swim Singing
5	Brass Singing	Brass Singing	Brass Singing	Brass Singing	Brass Singing	Brass Singing
6	Double Glocks Singing	Double Glocks Singing	Double Glocks Singing	Double Glocks Singing	Double Glocks Singing	End of year Show Singing

