



Saint Michael Catholic Primary School



Music Curriculum Overview 2024 – 2025

	Autumn 1		Autumn 2		Spring 1		Spring 2		Summer 1		Summer 2	
EYFS	Exploring Sound		Celebration Music		Music and Movement		Transport		Musical Stories		Big Band	
Year 1	Keeping the Pulse: My Favourite Things Children explore keeping the pulse together through music and movement, by exploring their favourite things. Tempo: The Snail and the Mouse Use bodies and instruments to listen and respond to pieces of music with fast and slow speeds; learn and perform a rhyme and a song focussing on fast and slow.		Dynamics: The Seaside Children make links between music, sounds and environments and use percussion, vocal and body sounds to represent the seaside.		Royal Opera House: The Magic Flute Use their voices expressively and creatively by singing songs and speaking chants and rhymes. Listen with concentration and understanding to a range of high-quality live and recorded music. Sing simple songs, chants and rhymes from memory, singing collectively and at the same pitch, responding to simple visual directions and counting in. Respond to the pulse in recorded/live music through movement and dance.				Sound Patterns: Fairytales Through fairytales, children are introduced to the concept of sound patterns (rhythms). They explore clapping along to repeated words and phrases, creating rhythmic patterns to tell a familiar fairytale.		Pitch: Superheroes Learning how to identify high and low notes and to compose a simple tune to represent a superhero. Musical Symbols: Under the Sea Children combine all the musical concepts learned throughout Year 1 for an underwater-themed performance incorporating instrumental, vocal and body sounds.	
Year 2	Call and Response: Animals Using instruments to represent animals, copying rhythms and creating call and response rhythms.		Instruments: Musical Storytelling Children learn how events, actions and feelings within stories can be represented by pitch, dynamics and tempo.		Royal Opera House: The Magic Flute Use their voices expressively and creatively by singing songs and speaking chants and rhymes. Listen with concentration and understanding to a range of high-quality live and recorded music. Sing songs with increasing vocal control, pitching accurately.				Singing: On This Island Learning folk songs and creating sounds to represent three contrasting landscapes: seaside, countryside and city.		Structure: Myths and Legends Developing an understanding of structure by exploring and ordering rhythms. Pitch Exploring the song ‘Once a Man Fell in a Well’, playing it using tuned percussion and reading simple symbols representing pitch.	
Year 3	Reading Rhythm Learn basic rhythmic notation through clapping games, body percussion and graphic scores, developing timing, musical literacy and composition skills.		Off-Beat Grooves: Ska and Reggae Explore Jamaican ska and reggae through off-beat rhythms, melody and ensemble work, developing rhythm, listening, creativity and cultural understanding.	Tales and Tunes: Polish Folk Music Explore Polish folk music through listening, singing and composing, developing rhythm, melody, ensemble skills, cultural understanding and musical expression.	Pentatonic Melodies and composition: Chinese New Year Explore the pentatonic scale through movement and melody, notating and performing tunes inspired by traditional Chinese music in group compositions.		Calls and Responses: South and West Africa Explore African-inspired music through call and response, rhythm and ensemble work, developing confidence with notation, layered textures and group performance skills.		Steel and Syncopation: The Caribbean Explore Calypso music through singing, rhythm and melody, developing ensemble skills, understanding syncopation, notation and creating pentatonic improvisations.		Country & Western Music Explore Country & Western music through rhythm, storytelling, instruments and song structure, developing singing, notation, composition and ensemble performance skills.	
Year 4	Feel the Groove: Voices of Soul and R&B Explore Soul and R&B through listening, performing and composing, focusing on rhythm, expression, call and response, and ensemble performance.	Rhyme and Flow: Hip-Hop & Rap Explore Hip Hop and rap through rhythm, rhyme, beatboxing and body percussion, composing and performing with flow, structure and musical expression.	Ballet: Music that Dances Explore ballet music through listening, movement and composition, developing awareness of structure, dynamics, storytelling and orchestration in classical dance works.		Creating Rainforest Soundscapes Create atmospheric rainforest soundscapes using layered rhythms and melodies. Explore texture, structure and form through body and tuned percussion.	Rhythms of South America Develop ensemble and notation skills through South American music. Learn clave rhythms, read pitch notation and perform with accuracy and confidence.	Emotion and Expression: Romantic Music 1800-1910 Explore Romantic-era music through expressive melodies, dynamics and orchestration. Listen, perform and compose using motifs, timbre, emotion and historical context.		Gongs and Gamelan: Indonesia Discover the features of gamelan music, including the Slendro scale, cyclical rhythms, traditional instruments, octaves and contrasting timbres.		Game On! The Music of Koji Kondo Discover Koji Kondo’s iconic video game music through listening, composing and performing, exploring motifs, mood, character themes and soundtrack structure.	
Year 5	Guitars Playing the guitar, reading formal notation, and general musicianship skills											
	Voices and Vespers: Medieval Music 500-1400 Explore medieval music through chant, troubadour songs and early instruments. Develop singing, composition, notation and understanding of texture, modes and history. Renaissance Music 1400-1600 Explore Renaissance music through listening, singing and composing. Develop understanding of polyphony, modes, vocal harmony, notation and key historical composers.				Twelve Bars, Big Feelings: A Journey into the Blues Explore the Blues through its history, 12-bar structure, call-and-response and blue notes, developing improvisation, composition, performance and musical expression. Swing, Scat, and Saxophones: Jazz Explore Jazz through listening, swing rhythms, syncopation and improvisation. Develop ensemble performance, musical vocabulary, historical understanding and creative confidence.				Bollywood Beats: India This unit introduces Bollywood music and Indian soundscapes. Pupils create city-inspired music using body and vocal percussion, identify pitch and note durations, perform in harmony and understand expressive techniques.			
Year 6	Amped Up: The Evolution of Rock Explore rock music’s history and subgenres through listening, performing and composing riffs, chords, lyrics and identifying key stylistic features.		Ornaments and Ostinatos: Baroque 1600-1750 Explore Baroque music through listening, performing and composing using ground bass, structure, dynamics and notation, including Pachelbel’s Canon.		Voices of Change: How Music Speaks Truth to Power Explore how music inspires change through singing, composing and performing message songs, developing expression, structure, listening and historical understanding.		Order & Elegance: Classical Music 1750-1820 Explore Classical music through listening, analysis and composition, focusing on structure, key features, notation and composers like Mozart and Beethoven.		Less is More: Minimalism and Modern Music Discover Minimalism through performing interlocking patterns, identifying key features and reading notation. Develop ensemble fluency, technique, expression and performance confidence.		Lyrical Legacies: Our Leavers’ Song Create and perform a class musical or medley, focusing on composition, rehearsal, collaboration and showcasing musical skills developed throughout the year.	