

Non-Negotiable Music Vocabulary

Key Stage 1

Music Vocabulary terms taught in Year 1

Autumn 1	Music – Something that is made when sounds are put together. Sounds – The things we hear Hit – A way to play an instrument Shake – A way to play an instrument
Autumn 2	Loud – Making a lot of noise (it is easy to hear). Quiet – Making a little bit of noise or none at all. Start - to begin (playing the music). Stop – to finish (playing the music).
Spring 1	Chant – To sing or say something over and over again. Fast – The speed of the music. Slow – The speed of the music.
Spring 2	Tune – Another word for a song. Pitch – The musical name for high and low notes. Note – A musical sound.
Summer 1	Short (sound) – Then length of a note Long (sound) – The length of a note Tap – A way to play an instrument
Summer 2	Music Pattern – a group of sounds Speed – How fast or slow the music is High note – A note with high pitch Low note – A note with low pitch

Music Vocabulary terms taught in Year 2

Autumn 1	Dynamics – How loud or quiet the notes are. Soft note – How a note can be played Hard note – How a note can played
Autumn 2	Solo – Singing or playing music on your own. Duet – Two people singing or playing music together. Ensemble – A group of people singing or playing music together. Mood – The feeling of the music.
Spring 1	Pulse – the heartbeat of the music (constant beat) Beats – the patterns of notes in music (Children will be able to demonstrate the difference between these 2 terms) Call and Response – A question and answer in a musical way. Clap – A way to make a sound

Spring 2	Soundscape – creating different sounds to show an environment. Humming – A sound created with lips closed together. (Children will be able to demonstrate this) Vibration – Something moving up and down (or back and forth) quickly to make a sound. Song – A set of words to music.
Summer 1	light, heavy, bright, hollow, dull, cold, warm, smooth, scratchy, chiming, clicking – Children will be able to use a minimum of 2 of these words to describe the music. Dance – Movement or set of steps to music Ballet – A story told through dance
Summer 2	Music Rest – A moment of silence in the music where you do not play. Chord – Where 3 notes are played together (usually) Arpeggio – The notes of a chord played separately moving up and down in pitch.

Lower Key Stage 2

Music Vocabulary terms taught in Year 3

Autumn 1 & 2	Rhythm – A sequence of short and long sounds that can fit to a steady beat Notation – the name for written symbols to represent music. Crotchet – A note with the value of one beat Minim – A note with the value of two beats Semibreve – A note with the value of four beats Body Percussion – Using your body to make different sounds
Spring 1	Motif – A short repeating pattern Repeat – To play the same part of music again. Melody – A tune made up of high and low notes. Ostinato – A musical pattern that repeats but does not change Posture – How you hold your body when sitting or standing.
Spring 2	Bollywood – Indian popular film industry Improvisation – making something (music) in the moment without preparation. Tabla – A pair of small hand drums used in Indian music. Sitar – A large string instrument played in Indian music. Strum – A way to play a string instrument (for example, guitar by moving fingers across the string). Pluck – A way to play a string instrument (for example, guitar by pulling the string). Drone – One note played continuously throughout most/all of a piece of music (on repeat)

Summer 1	Jazz – A style of music. Brass – A group of instruments made out of metal that make a sound from vibration of the player's lips Piano – A musical instrument Band – A group of people playing together that doesn't include string instruments Saxophone - The most popular Jazz instrument where sound is made by blowing (woodwind).
Summer 2	Lyrics – Words to a song Music Structure – The different sections/parts of a song Verse – A repeated section of the tune but with different lyrics Chorus - A repeated section of the tune usually with the same lyrics Ballad – A song which tells a story through music

Music Vocabulary terms taught in Year 4

Autumn 1	Blues – A style of music Guitar – A type of string instrument Saxophone – A wind instrument made out of brass Harmonica – A small rectangular wind instrument Wind instrument – Sound is produced by blowing causing air vibration String instrument - Sound is produced by the vibration of strings Blow – A way to play an instrument
Autumn 2	Bass – A tone in low pitch / An instrument with a low pitch note range Rock n Roll – Dance music originating in the 1950s Forte – Loud Piano -Quiet Music Hook – A musical idea Accented beat – an emphasised note Vocals – the sung part of the music
Spring 1	Musical Key – A group of notes that a piece of music is based on Minor Key – When the music sounds sad Major Key – When the music sounds happy Tempo – The musical term for the speed of the music Duration – How much time something lasts
Spring 2	Samba – Brazilian music genre and dance Carnival – A festival involving music, dance, costumes and processions

	<p>Percussion instrument – An instrument played by tapping, beating, hitting or striking it.</p> <p>Rhythmic break – When the main song has a break and percussion play exciting beats</p> <p>Syncopation – off beat (accenting the weaker beats in the music)</p> <p>Bateria – A samba group playing music together</p> <p>Cowbell – A musical instrument played by hitting</p> <p>Agogo bells – A musical instrument played by hitting</p>
Summer 1 & 2	<p>Octave – A note interval of 8 pitches (C to C)</p> <p>Musical Scale – A set of musical notes ordered by pitch</p> <p>Dotted minim – A note with the value of 3 beats</p> <p>Crescendo – Gradually getting louder</p> <p>Diminuendo – Gradually getting quieter</p> <p>Largo – to be played slowly</p> <p>Allegro – To be played quickly or at a brisk speed</p>

Upper Key Stage 2

Music Vocabulary terms taught in Year 5

Autumn 1 & 2	<p>Fragment</p> <p>Music Loop</p> <p>Remix</p> <p>Composition</p> <p>Texture</p> <p>Backing track</p> <p>Presto</p> <p>Up-tempo</p> <p>Musicality</p> <p>Freestyle</p>
Spring 1 & 2	<p>Mezzo Forte</p> <p>Mezzo Piano</p> <p>Quaver</p> <p>Stave</p> <p>Staccato</p> <p>Legato</p> <p>Rallentando</p> <p>Accellerando</p>
Summer 1	<p>Instrumentalist – A player of an instrument</p> <p>Pianist – An individual who plays the piano</p> <p>Orchestra – A group of instrumentalists consisting of the 4 main instrument groups</p>

	Symphony - A long piece of music in parts, written for an orchestra to play. Violin Flute Clarinet Trumpet Horn Timpani
Summer 2	Musical theatre Opera Theatre Plot Character song Action song Performer Acoustic Soprano Alto Tenor Bass

Music Vocabulary terms taught in Year 6

Autumn 1 & 2	Pianissimo Fortissimo Semiquaver Treble clef Timbre
Spring 1	Romantic music Overture Conductor Composer Music Ensemble Organ Viola Cello Bassoon
Spring 2	Reggae Riff Skank Staccato Rastafarianism Time signature (4/4)

<p>Summer 1 & 2</p>	<p>Harmony Backing track</p> <p>Recap and embed: Melody Chorus Verse Dynamics – including terms (PP/MP/P/MF/F/FF) Crescendo Diminuendo</p>
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