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Progression Scheme for Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2

We follow the SMS Progression of Music Curriculum Skills which links to the National Curriculum. The Progression scheme was based on the ISM's Assessment and Progression Framework (2014) which divides the curriculum into the four musical activities of Singing, Playing, Improvising and Composing and Critical Engagement (Listening and Appraising). Each activity has a table of skills statements from KS1 to KS2 which are linked to the national curriculum and divided into 'Area of Study' rows. Each Area of Study has a code (eg: S.1, S.2 for singing skills) which teachers are encouraged to use in lesson planning as a simple way to refer to the progression.

The progression scheme is divided into columns called Stages B, C and D which essentially refer to Key Stage 1, Lower Key Stage 2 and Upper Key Stage 2 respectively. However, since it concerns general musical development, 'Stages' can be used when teaching pupils with SEND where progress does not need to be age related.

For EYFS, please see the separate progression document in the EYFS section of this page.

In March 2021, the Model Music Curriculum identified a gap in the progression in the inclusion of Music Technology. This has been provisionally included in italics, subject to review.

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National Curriculum Links

KS1	Pupils should be taught to:									
1a	Use their voices expressively and creatively by singing songs and speaking chants and rhymes									
1b	Play tuned and untuned instruments musically									
1c	Listen with concentration and understanding to a range of high-quality live and recorded music									
1d	Experiment with, create, select and combine sounds using the inter-related dimensions of music.									
KS2	Pupils should be taught to:									
2a	Play and perform in solo and ensembles context, using their voices and playing musical instruments with									
	increasing accuracy, fluency, control and expression.									
2b	Improvise and compose music for a range of purposes using the inter-related dimensions of music.									
2c	Listen with attention to detail and recall sounds with increasing aural memory.									
2d	Use and understand staff and other musical notations									
2e	Appreciate and understand a wide range of high-quality live and recorded music drawn from different traditions									
	and from great composers and musicians.									
2f	Develop and understanding of the history of music.									

Progression Scheme for Singing

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STAGES		STAGE B		STAGE C	STAGE D		
Key Stage guide	NC	NC KS1		NC Lower KS2		Upper KS2	
				P-Buzz Trumpets		P-Buzz Trumpets	
S.1	1a	Enjoys joining in with chants, rhymes and	2a	Sings, with increasing confidence, fluency	2a	Sings confidently, fluently and	
Engagement		singing simple songs.	2e	and expression, songs from different	2e	maintaining a strong pulse, songs from a	
and Using the Voice			2f	traditions, genre and times.	2f	range of traditions, genre and times.	
	1a	Uses own voice in a variety of ways, with	2a	Uses own voice in a variety of ways,	2a	Understands why and how to warm up	
		growing confidence, exploring the sounds		including vocal warm ups.		the voice.	
		a speaking and singing voice make.	_				
S.2	1a	Sings broadly in tune within a limited	2a	Sings accurately in tune within a limited	2a	Sings accurately in tune within a wider	
Pitch Skills		pitch range (octave) and with the sense	2c	pitch range, following a melody or interval		pitch range (*octave and half*) and	
		of the shape of a melody or intervals		jumps.		appropriate individual vocal range.	
		jumps.					
	1a	Imitates melodic patterns in echoes.					
S.3	1a	Begins to control steady expressive	2a	Sings songs and speaks chants with	2a	Uses dynamics, phrasing, emphasis and	
Singing with		changes in songs and chants (e.g.		increasing expression (e.g. dynamics,		accents to create intended effects.	
Control and		dynamics, tempo).		tone, phrasing).			
Expression							
			2a	Sings with clear diction and breathing.	2a	Sings with an awareness of breathing, posture and diction.	

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S.4 Ensemble skills and part- singing	1a	Sings in unison, in small and large groups, and may sing solo.	2a	Sings in unison and in short solos.	2a	Sings confidently in unison and solo.
	1a	Sings in time with others, with or without an accompaniment.	2a 2c	Maintains a simple part in a large group with two or more layers (rounds, drones and ostinato).	2a 2c	Maintains an independent part in a small group with several layers and being aware of other parts (rounds, drones, ostinato and harmony).
	1a	Follows simple musical instructions (e.g. start and stop).	2a 2c	Follows musical instructions (e.g. dynamic changes).	2a	Follows more complex musical instructions (e.g. in part singing).
S.5 Performing	1a	Performs in a group with a good sense of pulse and rhythm, knowing when to start and stop.	2a	Performs confidently in a group and may occasionally perform a solo.	2a	Performs confidently in a group and solo with expression and variety.
	1a	Beginning to be aware of an audience during special performances.	2a	Shows an awareness of audience and a sense of occasion during special performances.	2a	Performs in a way that reflects the meaning and impact of the lyrics to an audience.
S.6 Understanding song structure	1c	Recognises the sections of a song may be the same or different (e.g. verse and chorus, cumulative song).	2a 2c	Recognises different song structures (call and response, verse and chorus, cumulative).	2a 2c	Understands more complex song structures.
			2a 2c	Differentiates between contrasting sections (e.g. verse and chorus) and show	2a	Identifies phrases through breathing appropriately.

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awareness of simple phrase structure or
repetition.

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STAGES		STAGE B		STAGE C		STAGE D
Key Stage guide	NC	KS1	NC	Lower KS2	NC	Upper KS2
				P-Buzz trumpet		P-Buzz Trumpet
P.1	1b	Enjoys playing and exploring	2a	Confidently explores and creates sounds,	2a	Creates and performs sounds with
Creating and	1d	sounds.	2b	including with music technology.	2b	accuracy including with music technology
Exploring Sound						
P.2	1b	Keeps a steady pulse	2a	Plays a steady beat, internalising pulse.	2a	Plays with others keeping to a common
Controlling			2c		2c	pulse
Sounds on				Indicates steady beat by movement		
Instruments				including in silence		
(keeps beat,						
dynamics,tempo)						
	1b	Controls and demonstrates	2a	Plays instruments with clarity, controlling	2a	Plays instruments with confidence and
		changes in dynamics and tempo	2b	subtle changes in dynamics and tempo	2b	expression
				including crescendo/ diminuendo.	2c	
	1b	Shows control, playing clearly and		accelerando/rallentando		
		with increasing confidence				
				Selects and controls beats, chords or		Selects and controls beats, chords effects
				loops in music technology programs.		and loops effectively in music technology
						programs.
	1b	Selects instrumental timbres to				
	1d	create sound effects				
	1b					

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		Selects high/low ascending/ descending pitches where appropriate.				
P.3 Rhythm Skills (playing a	1b 1c	Responds to sounds of different duration	2a	Performs simple rhythmic patterns and ostinati to an internalised pulse	2a 2b	Performs complex rhythmic patterns to an internalised pulse
pattern, etc)	1b 1b	Recognises difference between long and short sounds Recognises and copies simple patterns of long/short sounds			2a 2c 2a 2c	Recognises a metre of 3 & 4 Recognises a change in metre
P.4 Pitch Skills	1b 1d	Identifies and selects high/low high/low ascending/ descending pitches where appropriate. Plays simple melodic patterns	2a	Performs simple melodies and pitched ostinati to an internalised pulse	2a 2c	Performs complex melodies and pitched accompaniments to an internalised pulse
P.5 Ensemble skills	1b	Follows instructions on when to play	2a 2a 2b 2c	Follows a leader directing changes and start/stops. Maintains own part in a group piece playing rhythm on rhythm and holding a beat	2a 2a 2b 2c	Leads a group and follows a leader directing changes in musical expression Maintains an independent part in an ensemble
			2a 2c	Recognises the melodic line and an accompaniment in a texture	2c	Understands how the texture might vary

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P.6 Playing from Notation	1b	Plays from a picture score	2d	Plays using various notation as support (Graphic scores, rhythm notation e.g. crotchets and quavers)	2d	Plays using notation as support (Staff & rhythm notation, graphic scores)
P.7	1b	Performs in a group with good	2a	Performs with an awareness of a group	2a	Performs confidently in a group and solo,
Performing		sense of pulse and rhythm		and to an audience		with expression and variety.
P.8	1b	Matches selected sounds with	2b	Selects appropriate instruments and	2a	Organises sounds effectively using a
Understanding	1d	their pictured source		plays in a variety of ways	2b	variety of instruments or music technology
instruments and						and styles
how they are	1b	Uses sound words or phrases to				
played	1d	describe selected sounds and the				
		ways in which they are produced				

Progression Scheme for Improvising and Composing

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STAGES		STAGE B		STAGE C		STAGE D
Key Stage guide	NC	KS1	NC	Lower KS2	NC	Upper KS2
				P-Buzz Trumpets		P-Buzz Trumpets
IC.1	1a	Explores sounds with voice, body	2a	Explores and improvises sounds or	2b	Selects and use instruments, creative
Exploring Sounds	1b	or instruments	2b	musical patterns with voice, body or		sound-makers <mark>and music technology</mark> or
	1d			instruments <mark>and music technology</mark> .		playing techniques to improvise sounds
						or patterns.
IC.2	1d	Selects sounds to represent	2b	Selects and orders sounds effectively to	2a	Selects, orders, combines and changes
Choosing and		ideas and feelings.		represent ideas or feelings, or to tell a	2b	sounds, imaginatively and with
Organising				story.		expression, to represent ideas, moods or
Sounds						feelings, or tell a story.
IC.3 Creating	1a	Improvises within given songs,	2a	Creates rhythms, melodies, lyrics, loops	2a	Creates and combines rhythms,
music within	1d	chants or ostinati.	2b	or accompaniments within simple or	2b	melodies, harmonies or lyrics within
structures				given musical structures.		own musical pieces effectively.
1C.4	1b	Improvises to demonstrate a	2a	Improvises, with growing confidence	2a	Improvises imaginatively and
Improvising to	1d	simple musical idea (loud/quiet,	2b	and control with voice, instruments or	2b	expressively with voice, instruments or
demonstrate		fast/slow, high/low).		music technology to demonstrate		music technology using inter-related
musical ideas				musical changes or contrasts.		dimensions of music.
IC.5	1b	Improvises or composes to	2a	Improvises and composes effectively to	2b	Improvises and composes imaginatively
Communicating	1d	communicate ideas or moods.	2b	communicate ideas or moods		to communicate ideas & moods
ideas or moods						
IC.6	1b	Improvises simple rhythms or	2a	Improvises with growing confidence	2a	Improvises rhythms and tunes within
Improvising	1d	tunes	2b	rhythms or simple tunes within musical	2b	musical structures (e.g. a beat, ostinato
rhythms & tunes						

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				structures (e.g. a beat, ostinato or chord sequence)		or chord sequence) confidently and imaginatively.
IC.7 Creating and	1d	Contributes ideas to a composition and perform this	2a 2b	Composes and performs solo or with class or group, contributing ideas to	2a 2b	Composes and perform solos and with others effectively and imaginatively to
Performing own music in a group		solo or as a class or group.	20	create songs, chants or pieces.	20	create songs, chants or pieces
IC.8 Using Notation	1d	Uses pictures, graphic symbols or rhythm notation as support to improvise, compose or record own music.	2b 2d	Uses given or own notation (graphic symbols or rhythm notation) to improvise, compose and record compositions.	2b 2d	Uses notation (graphic scores, rhythm or staff notation) to support & record composition to improvise, compose and record own compositions.

Progression Scheme for Critical Engagement (Listening and Appraising)

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STAGES	STAGE B			STAGE C		STAGE D		
Key Stage	NC	KS1	NC	Lower KS2	NC	Upper KS2		
guide				P-Buzz Trumpets		P-Buzz Trumpets		
CE.1 Listening to a Range of Live, Recorded and own Music.	1c	Listens with growing focus to a range to high quality live and recorded music.	2c 2e 2f	Listens to, and comments on, high quality live and recorded music from different traditions, genre, styles and times with increasing focus and attention to detail.	2c 2e 2f	Listens to and evaluates a range of high quality live and recorded music from different traditions, genre, styles and times with concentration and discernment, and share opinions, using musical language.		
CE.2 Differentiating between Sounds	1c	Listens out for, and responds to, sounds that differ, e.g. in dynamics, pitch, timbre, tempo, etc.	2c	Listens to several layers of sound, identifying musical elements or features and discussing their effect.	2c	Listens to several layers of sound, identifying musical elements or features, discussing their effect and justifying ideas.		
CE.3 Recognising and Recalling	1c	Recalls simple rhythmic and melodic phrases.	2c	Listens and recalls simple tunes, played or notated rhythms with increasing accuracy	2c	Listens and accurately recalls melodies, rhythms, notated music or separate parts in a group.		
CE.4 Responding through movement	1c	Responds to sounds or music through physical movements.	2c	Responds to music through movement to show understanding of mood, ideas, or musical features (e.g. beat, crescendos).	2c	Responds to music through movement to show understanding of mood, ideas, or musical features (e.g. beat, crescendos).		

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CE.5	1c	Listens and shares comments and	2c	Listens to own music, commenting on it	2c	Listens to own work and others with
Describing		opinions about music, including to		in order to improve it.		discernment, and share opinions, using
and		own work.				these ideas to improve own work.
appraising						