

Marston Primary School – Music Vocabulary Progression

Musical dimensions	Year 1 / 2		Year 3 / 4		Year 5 / 6	
STAR WORDS	Imagination	Improvise Compose	Repetition	Ensemble Static	Appraise Arrangement	Justification Critique
Rhythm and tempo	Pulse (beat) Fast Slow	Rhythm (pattern/duration) Ostinato (repeated rhythm pattern) Tempo: Faster/slower/ Rest (pause)	Tempo: Fast (allegro) Slow (adagio)	Tempo: <i>Allegro</i> (fast) <i>Adagio</i> (slow)	Getting faster (<i>accelerando</i>) Getting slower (<i>rallentando</i>)	Syncopated (a pattern with notes off the beat)
Pitch	High Low	Pitch: higher/lower	Step (notes next to each other) Leaps (notes with gaps between)	Pentatonic Scale Major and minor	Scales	
Dynamics	Loud Quiet (soft)	Dynamics: louder / softer	<i>Forte</i> (Loud) <i>Piano</i> (Soft)	<i>crescendo</i> (Getting louder) <i>diminuendo</i> (Getting softer)	<i>f</i> (loud) <i>p</i> (quiet) <i>ff</i> (Very loud) <i>pp</i> (Very quiet) <i>mp</i> (moderately quiet) <i>mf</i> (moderately loud)	
Articulation				Diction <i>Legato</i> (smooth) <i>Staccato</i> (detached)		
Instrument names	Body percussion Classroom percussion: <i>drum, tambourine, maracas, bells, triangle, guiro (gw-ear-ro), claves, xylophone, glockenspiel.</i>	Tuned percussion: <i>xylophone, glockenspiel.</i> Untuned percussion Tuned instruments: <i>guitar, piano, violin, cello, trumpet, trombone, saxophone, flute, clarinet</i>	Tuned percussion: <i>xylophone, glockenspiel, piano</i> Untuned percussion Tuned instruments: <i>guitar, violin, cello, trumpet, trombone, saxophone, flute, clarinet</i>	(Vocabulary related to the whole-class instrument)	amplifier	
Notation (duration)	Graphic symbols Long Short	Dot notation Stick notation Crotchets Quavers Crotchets rests	Staff notation Stave (lines and spaces) Clef Start to use dots on the stave for: Crotchets, Quavers, minims, semibreves, Crotchets rests	Time signature (2/4, 3/4, 4/4) Other rests Recognise and play from the stave: Crotchets, Quavers, minims, semibreves, Crotchets rests	Semiquavers Octave	
Form and structure to be used and named	Perform Performance Audience Call and response Song Chant	Structure: (beginning/middle/end) Verse Chorus Echo Phrase	Ostinato Melody Round Repetition Lyrics	Moving and static parts (eg a changing harmony or a repeating note/drone)	Harmony Groove Ternary (ABA) Partner songs (two different melodies sung at the same time creating harmony)	
Texture Timbre	Timbre	Timbre	Unison Accompaniment Texture (Layers of sound)	Melody	Chord	