	MUSIC VOCABULARY MAP					
ΤΟΡΙϹ	EYFS	YEAR ONE	YEAR TWO			
Performing	• Chant • Fast •	• beat • beater •	accompany •			
	Follow • High •	cymbal • drum •	body percussion •			
	Instrument • Low	high (sound) •	chime bar • chord			
	• Loud • Quiet	listen • loud • low	• claves •			
	(use instead of	(sound) • perform	compose •			
	'soft') • Repeat •	• quiet • shaker •	duration •			
	Rhythm • Sing •	steady beat •	ostinato •			
	Slow • Song •	tambourine •	percussion •			
	Sounds, some	tempo • triangle •	phrase • pitch			
	instrument names	tune • voice,	pulse • recorder •			
	and where they	some instrument	score • tuned			
	come from	names and where	percussion •			
		they come from	untuned			
			percussion •			
			volume			
			•			
Composing	Conductor, voice,	Compose,	Notation,			
	instrument,	composer				
	picture/symbol,					
	create					
Appraising	I liked/I didn't like	I liked the part	I would change			
	because	when	this part			
	It made me feel	It sounds like	I could hear			

Vocabulary list and definitions

A capella - Without accompaniment from musical instruments, i.e. voices only.

Appraising - Listening carefully.

Arrangement - How voices and instruments are used in a song; where they occur within the song.

Back beat - Beats 2 and 4 in a drum-line or if we are clapping along with the music. Backing - The accompaniment to a song.

Balance - The level of volume at which players sing or play; if the balance is good then everyone can be heard.

Ballad - A gentle love song

Band - Playing/singing/performing together.

Bridge/ middle 8 - Contrasting section which leads back to main material.

Chord - More than one note played at the same time.

Chorus - A repeated section in a song which gives the main message.

Coda - Short section which brings the song or piece to an end.

Cover - A version of a song performed by someone other than the original artist that might sound a bit – or very – different.

Composing - Creating and developing musical ideas and 'mixing' these.

Crossover - Can be a mixture of different styles which introduces new music to different audiences.

Decks - Equipment used by DJs, MCs and Rappers to mix sounds from different records and to make effects like scratching. First used in the late 1970s.

Drum loops - A loop is a sequence of sounds/music that is recorded, maybe sampled, and reproduced digitally or electronically.

Dynamics - How loud or quiet the music is.

Ending - Short section which brings the song or piece to an end.

Ensemble - A French word used to describe playing/singing/performing together. Groove - The rhythmic part of the music that makes you want to move and dance.

Harmony - Different notes sung or played at the same time, to produce chords. Hook - A term used in pop music to describe a short catchy phrase or riff that we can't stop singing; the bit that 'hooks' us in; the main musical idea from a song that we remember. Improvise - To make up a tune and play it on the spot; there is an assumption that it can never be recreated.

Interlude - A passage of music played between the main themes

Introduction - Music heard at the beginning of a song or piece of music-bridge; a section of music that can take us from a verse to a chorus, just as a bridge over a river takes us from one place to another. Lyrics - The words of a song.

Melody - Another name for a tune.

Melodic - Melody or tune.

Notation - Ways to visually represent music.

Offbeat - If a piece of music has 4 beats in a bar i.e. 1 2 3 4, to clap on the

offbeat you would clap on beats 2 and 4 not 1 and 3.

Original - The first ever version of a song.

Ostinato - A short repeated pattern.

Outro - Short section which brings the song or piece to an end. Pentatonic scale

- A fixed five-note pattern e.g. the five black keys on a piano.

Performing - Singing and playing instruments.

Phrase - A musical sentence.

Pitch - The range of high and low sounds.

Pre-chorus - A short section in a song, before the chorus. Pulse/beat - The heartbeat or steady beat of a song/piece of music.

Recurring theme - A tune that repeats again and again in a piece of music.

Rhythm - The combination of long and short sounds to make patterns.

Riff - A short repeated phrase, often played on a lead instrument such as guitar, piano or saxophone.

Roots reggae - Music that deals with social and racial issues and brings in elements of Rastafari.

Sampling - Record a sample of music, a small section, and re use it in another piece of music or song. Used frequently in hip hop and other pop music.

Secular - Non religious

Solo - An Italian word used to describe playing/singing/performing on our own. Structure/form/shape - How the sections (verses and choruses etc.) of a song are ordered to make the whole piece.

Style - The type of music e.g. blues or rock.

Style indicators - Identifiers that show us the genre of the music.

Syncopation - Music with lots of rhythmic variety, often quite difficult. The strong beats occur in unexpected places.

Tag - (Usually) a short ending, tagged on to the main part of the song.

Tempo - An Italian word used to describe how fast/slow the music goes.

Texture - Layers of sound in music.

Timbre - The quality and character of the sound.

Urban contemporary - Modern music that uses elements of soul, hip hop, funk, jazz, R&B that appeals to young people.

	PERFO	PERFORMING KNOWLEDGE		
Objective	EYFS	Year one	Year two	needed and
				cross curricular
				links.
Children	Can they use	Can they use	Can they	Knowledge of:
sing	their voice to	their voice to	follow the	Counting/patter
songs,	speak/sing/chan	speak/sing/chan	melody	ns in maths
make	t? • Do they	t? • Do they	using their	Science – how
music and	join in with	join in with	voice or an	sounds are
dance,	singing? • Can	singing? • Can	instrument	made
and	they clap short	they clap short	? • Can	Movement - PE
experimen	rhythmic	rhythmic	they sing	
t with	patterns? • Can	patterns? • Can	songs as	
ways of	they experiment	they use	an	
changing	with creating	instruments to	ensemble	
them.	sounds with	perform a	following	
EYFS	different	simple piece? •	the tune	
	instruments?	Can they	(melody)	
use their		respond to	well? •	
voices		musical	Can they	
expressivel		indications	perform in	
y and		about when to	an	
creatively		play or sing? •	ensemble	
by singing		Can they	with	
songs and		respond	instructions	
speaking		musically with	from the	

Verse - A section in a song which has the same tune but different words.

	• •		
chants	increasing	leader (e.g.	
and	accuracy to a	hand	
rhymes 🐥	call (high/low,	signals to	
play tuned	loud/soft,	indicate	
and	fast/slow) and	pitch and	
untuned	keep a steady	duration of	
instrument	pulse?	notes)? •	
s musically		Can they	
Y1/Y2	Listening •	play simple	
	Respond to	rhythmic	
	different moods	patterns on	
	of music, in	an	
	different way	instrument	
		? • Can	
		they	
		sing/clap a	
		pulse	
		increasing	
		or	
		decreasing	
		in tempo?	
		• Do they	
		have	
		control	
		when	
		playing	
		instruments	
		? • Can	
		they	
		perform	
		musical	
		patterns	
		keeping a	

	steady	
	pulse?	

	COMPOSING KNOWLEDGE			Knowledge
Objective	EYFS	Year One	Year Two	needed and
				Cross
				curricular
				links
Children sing	Can they	Can they	Can they order	Knowledge
songs, make	make a	make a range	sounds to create a	of:
music and	range of	of sounds	beginning, middle	Science –
dance, and	sounds with	using their	and end? • Can	how sounds
experiment	their voice?	voice? • Can	they represent	are made
with ways of	<ul> <li>Can they</li> </ul>	they make a	sounds pictorially	Structure of
changing	make a	range of	with increasing	stories/music
them. EYFS	range of	sounds with	relevance? • Can	– b/m/e
	sounds with	instruments?	they choose	
Experiment	instruments?	• Can they	sounds to achieve	
with, create,	<ul> <li>Can they</li> </ul>	identify	an effect (including	
select and	represent	changes in	use of	
combine	sounds	sounds? •	technology)? •	
sounds using	pictorially?	Can they tell	Can they begin to	
the inter-		the	compose short	
related		difference	melodic patterns	
dimensions		between long	using two or three	
of music.		and short	notes (tuned	
Y1/Y2		sounds? •	instruments/voice)?	
		Can they	Can they create	
		represent	short, rhythmic	
		sounds	patterns –	
		pictorially? •	sequences of long	

	Can they	and short sounds?	
	make a	<ul> <li>Are they selective</li> </ul>	
	sequence of	in the control used	
	sounds for a	on an instrument	
	purpose	in order to create	
		an intended effect?	
		Can they create	
		their own symbols	
		to represent	
		sounds? • Can	
		they choose	
		sounds to create	
		an effect on the	
		listener?	

	APPR	Knowledge		
Objective	EYFS	Year One	Year Two	needed
				and Cross
				Curricular
				Links
Children use	Can they say	Can they	Can they form	Links to
what they have	if they like or	form an	an opinion to	PSHE/PSED
learnt about	dislike a piece	opinion to	express how	and feelings
media and	of music? •	express how	they feel	Links to
materials in	Can they	they feel	about a piece	maths –
original ways,	identify and	about a piece	of music? •	patterns
thinking about	distinguish	of music? •	Can they	Links to
uses and	environmental	Can they	recognise	science –
purposes. They	sounds? •	recognise	repeated	high and
represent their	Can they	repeated	patterns? •	low sounds
own ideas,	begin to	patterns? •	Can they tell	
thoughts and	describe the	Can they tell	the difference	
feelings	sounds? (e.g.	the difference	between a fast	

loud quiat	hatwoon a	and clow	
-			
-			
		-	
they begin to	and quiet, and	high and low	
express how	high and low	sounds? •	
music makes	sounds? •	Can they hear	
them feel	Can they hear	the pulse in a	
	the pulse in a	piece music?	
	piece music?	<ul> <li>Can they tell</li> </ul>	
	<ul> <li>Can they tell</li> </ul>	the difference	
	the difference	between loud	
	between loud	and quiet	
	and quiet	sounds? •	
	sounds? •	Can they	
	Can they	describe how	
	describe how	sounds are	
	sounds are	made and	
	made and	changed? •	
	changed? •	Can they	
	Can they	respond to	
	respond to	different	
	different	moods in	
	moods in	music and say	
	music and say	how a piece	
	how a piece	of music	
	of music	makes them	
	makes them	feel?	
	feel?		
	music makes	high, low, fast,fast and slowslow) • Cantempo, loudthey begin toand quiet, andexpress howhigh and lowmusic makessounds? •them feelCan they hearthe pulse in apiece music?• Can they tellthe differencebetween loudand quietand quietsounds? •Can they tellthe differencebetween loudand quietsounds? •Can theydescribe howsounds aremade andchanged? •Can theyrespond todifferentmoods inmusic and sayhow a pieceof musicmakes them	high, low, faxt, slow) • Canfast and slowtempo, loudslow) • Canand quiet, andhigh and lowexpress howhigh and lowsounds? •music makessounds? •Can they hearthem feelCan they hearthe pulse in apiece music?• Can they tell• Can they tell• Can they tell• Can they tellbetween loudand quietand quietand quietsounds? •between loudand quietand quietsounds? •sounds? •Can they tell• Can they tellbetween loudbetween loudand quietand quietsounds? •sounds? •Can theyCan theydescribe howsounds aresounds aresounds aremade andmade andchanged? •Changed? •Can theyCan theycan theyCan theymoods inmoods inmoods inmoods inmusic and sayhow a pieceof musicof musicof musicof musicmakes themfeel?feel?

