



St Barnabas

Church of England Primary Academy

A member of **CDARI**

**'That they shall have life,
life in all its fullness!' John 10:10**

**'Achieving great things through
learning and growing together in a
love-filled Christian family'**

Music Curriculum Overview 2025-26

Music is taught to Years 1-6 each Wednesday by a Music specialist teacher from Junior Jam. Children throughout school are able to have Rocksteady Music Tuition each week. Music in EYFS is woven through Expressive Arts and Design and continuous provision.

Year	Autumn 1	Autumn 2-	Spring 1-	Spring 2-	Summer 1-	Summer 2-
EYFS	Nursery Rhymes	Rhyme Time, performance skills (Nativity), using percussion	Rhyme Time, expressing feelings through music, performance	Rhyme Time, percussion	Rhyme Time, learning new songs	Rhyme Time, performing songs with confidence
Year 1	Songwriting with Glockenspiels - Life L1 Pupils in year 1 will focus on how they can create sound with their bodies, their voices and with instruments using ostinati. They will learn the difference between lyrics and instrumentals and look into the sounds of different instruments before creating soundscapes. Pupils will investigate body	Singing Life L1 Pupils will learn the importance of warming up and cooling down before and after singing. They will learn how to breathe within a song without 'snatching' breath and how posture can help with our breathing. Pupils will also learn the keyword diction and see how useful it is; they will also investigate	Music Theory with Keyboards - Life L1 This is a basic introduction to Music Theory. Throughout these lessons the children will be introduced to basic musical symbols as well as learning what importance they have within music; they will be taught different styles of World music and be encouraged to ask analytical questions. The	Ukuleles Life L1 During this course, pupils will learn to play the Ukulele. Pupils will learn the correct names of the different parts of the instrument and the notation values of the strings. Pupils will be shown how to correctly hold the instrument, the correct playing technique when plucking and strumming the strings, and how to hold down the	African Drums Life L1 Pupils are taught the basic individual strokes used when playing the djembe and they are encouraged to put these together to play rhythms of varying complexity. This is achieved by playing 'Call and Response' rhythms with the workshop leader increasing the drum patterns' difficulty.	Electric Drums Life L1 Over this course the pupils will be able to name the different parts of a drum, understand what the word tempo means and how to use word phrases to practice their rhythms. They will be able to read and create drum grids, improve their dexterity and multi-tasking skills, and

	<p>percussion and begin composing using these sounds. The class will learn about graphic scores and explore the different ways of interpreting them, as everyone is unique in their way of thinking. Pupils will improvise question and answer phrases and link this with their compositional skills.</p>	<p>when it's used and when it's dropped and the reasons behind this.</p>	<p>children will be shown different musical instruments commonly used nationally and internationally. Finally, basic notation is the last thing to be taught, introducing the children to crotchets, minims and semibreves.</p>	<p>strings correctly on the neck to change the pitch. Keystage 1 pupils will be shown how to play different rhythms and songs both as a class and individually. Pupils will also spend time within the lesson to understand the difference between pitch and rhythm.</p>	<p>Individual pupils will be encouraged to assume the role of drum leader and invent their own rhythms that the class will then imitate.</p>	<p>make decisions on different sounds they can use. A final performance will see them use all the skills they have acquired to play along to a song whilst thinking about tempo, accuracy and timing.</p>
Year 2	<p>Songwriting with Glockenspiels - Lite L2</p> <p>Pupils within year 2 will begin to compose with purpose following briefs and guidance. In this advanced level, year 2 will begin to look at writing lyrics using rhyming words; these words will be added to word boards and be used to help create lyrics in future tasks. Pupils will create music and lyrics to non-musical stimuli such as pictures, poems and stories, as well as writing</p>	<p>Singing Lite L2</p> <p>Pupils will use their knowledge from Lite Level 1 to combine their keywords into musical phrasing. Pupils will perform vocal exercises to build on their pitch matching skills and their responses to changes in dynamics and tempo within a song. Pupils will also learn more technical keywords such as crescendo and diminuendo and be taught how to perform these using visual cues. Visual cues will also be brought into</p>	<p>Music Theory with Keyboards - Lite L2</p> <p>This is a continuation of Music Theory Lite Level 1. This course focuses on three main areas of music and music theory: Film Composition, Genre, and Improvisation and Creativity. Each week pupils will be tasked with analysing and responding to a film score taken from Disney's Fantasia. Pupils will then analyse a specific genre of music relating to an alternative score to Fantasia, learning about instrumentation, the</p>	<p>Ukuleles Lite L1</p> <p>During this course, pupils will learn to play the Ukulele. Pupils will learn the correct names of the different parts of the instrument and the notation values of the strings. Pupils will be shown how to correctly hold the instrument, the correct playing technique when plucking and strumming the strings, and how to hold down the</p> <p>strings correctly on the neck to change the pitch. Keystage 1 pupils will be shown how to play different rhythms and</p>	<p>African Drums Lite L1</p> <p>Pupils are taught the basic individual strokes used when playing the djembe and they are encouraged to put these together to play rhythms of varying complexity. This is achieved by playing 'Call and Response' rhythms with the workshop leader increasing the drum patterns' difficulty.</p> <p>Individual pupils will be encouraged to assume the role of drum leader and invent their own</p>	<p>Electric Drums Lite L1</p> <p>Over this course the pupils will be able to name the different parts of a drum, understand what the word tempo means and how to use word phrases to practice their rhythms. They will be able to read and create drum grids, improve their dexterity and multi-tasking skills, and make decisions on different sounds they can use. A final performance will see them use all the skills</p>

	lyrics for well-known classical pieces.	performances by the leader to change tempo and overall dynamics.	working parts of popular instruments as well as being given the chance to improvise using a keyboard in a specific style.	songs both as a class and individually. Pupils will also spend time within the lesson to understand the difference between pitch and rhythm.	rhythms that the class will then imitate.	they have acquired to play along to a song whilst thinking about tempo, accuracy and timing.
Year 3	Songwriting with Glockenspiels - L1 Over this course year 3 classes will learn lots of different techniques to make writing a song a simple process. They will choose their own theme and target market and will compose a song to a brief of their own creation. Alongside this the class will look at building their musical lexicon with a musical dictionary that they will add to every week. Pupils will learn different methods to create interest within their songs, such as call and response and echo phrasing. They will also analyse and rewrite songs and be encouraged to draw upon their English	Singing L1 Pupils in Keystage 2 will learn a number of keywords that will help them control their voice, their pitch and their breathing. Whereas in lower levels pupils have been taught the keywords and how they affect your singing, Keystage 2 pupils will be taught how the keywords link together to help with the overall sound and precision of singing. Pupils will learn about different techniques that songs use to keep them interesting such as verses, choruses, and call and response.	Music Theory with Keyboards - L1 This is an introduction to reading and playing music. Pupils will learn basic keyboard skills to help them understand how to play notes and chords. By working through a number of exercises looking at notation, timing and rhythm, pupils will learn how to read music in the treble clef and perform a song to the class.	Ukuleles - L1 During this course, pupils will learn to play the Ukulele. Pupils will learn the correct names of the different parts of the instrument and the notation values of the strings. Pupils will be shown how to correctly hold the instrument, the correct playing technique when plucking and strumming the strings, and how to hold down the strings correctly on the neck to change the pitch. Keystage 1 pupils will be shown how to play different rhythms and songs both as a class and individually. Pupils will also spend time within the lesson to understand the difference between pitch and rhythm. Keystage 2 pupils will learn different	African Drums L1 Three standard playing techniques are introduced through playing 'Call and Response' rhythms with the workshop leader, who increases the difficulty as the class progresses. Groups will focus on advanced performance elements that will enhance their playing such as dynamics and tempo and put these into practice to perform complex polyrhythms. Performers' dexterity and playing stamina will also improve through regular solo performances.	Electric Drums L1 During this course, pupils will learn a brand-new musical instrument, the electric drums. They will learn about the history, types and evolution of the drum kit, as well as the correct techniques used when playing one. With an in-depth dive into different musical genres, drumbeats and technical aspects of the instrument, pupils will build up their skill and dexterity with the aim of performing along to popular styles and songs.

	reading and writing skills throughout the process.			playing techniques such as strumming chords and holding down multiple strings to make playing a succession of notes easier. Pupils will also learn how to read tablature music and use this method to play some popular pieces of music.		
Year 4	<p>Songwriting with Glockenspiels - L2</p> <p>Music and the moving image course focuses on year 4 pupils creating music for non-musical stimuli. Pupils will explore musical components by composing music to create a specific mood – this will be done through composing to a short, animated clip. Pupils will create music using graphic scores and create their own graphic scores for others to play. Pupils will be taught to create keys for their scores and choose to use one or not, so others can</p>	<p>Singing L2</p> <p>From Level 1 'Controlling our voices' pupils know the fundamentals of best singing practice; this level moves on to different types of songs singers can perform such as rounds and partner songs. Pupils will learn to listen to each other when they are singing but must also learn the hard skill of singing something different to the group next to them. This may sound simple, but it is a hard skill to master. Pupils will learn about harmonies and listen to some examples before</p>	<p>Music Theory with Keyboards - L2</p> <p>Throughout this course the pupils will be looking at six key genres from the past 400 years: Classical; Jazz; Motown and Soul; 80's and Britpop; Present day and World. The pupils will get to listen to and analyse examples of musical movements and compare them to the music that went before. At the end of every lesson the pupils will either compose music in the style of a chosen genre or recreate a famous piece of music from that time.</p>	<p>Ukuleles - L1</p> <p>During this course, pupils will learn to play the Ukulele. Pupils will learn the correct names of the different parts of the instrument and the notation values of the strings. Pupils will be shown how to correctly hold the instrument, the correct playing technique when plucking and strumming the strings, and how to hold down the strings correctly on the neck to change the pitch. Keystage 1 pupils will be shown how to play different rhythms and songs both as a class and individually. Pupils will also spend time within the</p>	<p>African Drums L1</p> <p>Three standard playing techniques are introduced through playing 'Call and Response' rhythms with the workshop leader, who increases the difficulty as the class progresses. Groups will focus on advanced performance elements that will enhance their playing such as dynamics and tempo and put these into practice to perform complex polyrhythms. Performers' dexterity and playing stamina will also improve through regular solo performances.</p>	<p>Electric Drums L1</p> <p>During this course, pupils will learn a brand-new musical instrument, the electric drums. They will learn about the history, types and evolution of the drum kit, as well as the correct techniques used when playing one. With an in-depth dive into different musical genres, drumbeats and technical aspects of the instrument, pupils will build up their skill and dexterity with the aim of performing</p>

	interpret their music the correct way or leave their piece open to interpretation. Pupils will compose music on their instruments in pairs, as well as working on whole-class compositions.	trying a simple three-part harmony within their classes. Pupils will also learn about voice classification and what their own vocal range is.		lesson to understand the difference between pitch and rhythm. Keystage 2 pupils will learn different playing techniques such as strumming chords and holding down multiple strings to make playing a succession of notes easier. Pupils will also learn how to read tablature music and use this method to play some popular pieces of music.		along to popular styles and songs.
Year 5	Songwriting with Glockenspiels - L3 Within year 5 pupils will focus on how to write lyrics to existing music. Pupils will write lyrics to a piece of music 'The Lark Ascending' without knowing any information about the piece other than what it sounds like. When finished, pupils will look at the poem that inspired the music to see if they interpreted the themes the same way. Pupils will also learn different techniques to help write lyrics such as word boards and how	Singing L3 Singing Level 3 will focus on pupils singing pieces from different genres following a musical timeline. Singing songs from different musical periods will give pupils an insight into music popular at that time and different characteristics that were utilised within that musical era. It will also help broaden their knowledge and develop an understanding of the history of music.	Music Theory with Keyboards - L3 In Level 3 pupils will learn about key signatures, scales and chord construction. The course will initially start with an introduction to key signatures using the circle of fifths to help establish the sharps and flats within a given key. Pupils will then use this knowledge to construct chords within a specific key signature and analyse common chord progressions used in classical and modern music.	Ukuleles - L2 This course builds on the pupils existing knowledge of ukuleles and encourages them to become confident and rounded performers. The pupils will recall how to read tablature and will learn how to read this across all four strings of the ukulele. The pupils will learn a wider range of chords in order to expand their performance repertoire. This course will also introduce pupils to scales and more complex playing techniques.	African Drums L1 Three standard playing techniques are introduced through playing 'Call and Response' rhythms with the workshop leader, who increases the difficulty as the class progresses. Groups will focus on advanced performance elements that will enhance their playing such as dynamics and tempo and put these into practice to perform complex polyrhythms. Performers' dexterity and playing stamina will also improve through regular	Electric Drums L1 During this course, pupils will learn a brand-new musical instrument, the electric drums. They will learn about the history, types and evolution of the drum kit, as well as the correct techniques used when playing one. With an in-depth dive into different musical genres, drumbeats and technical aspects of the instrument, pupils will build up their skill and dexterity with the aim of performing

	to improve vocal melodies using dot notation. Pupils will learn what 'ternary form' is and why people compose/write songs in this style.				solo performances.	along to popular styles and songs.
Year 6	<p>Songwriting with Glockenspiels - L4</p> <p>During Level 4 year 6 pupils will take a look at the music industry and what happens</p> <p>when a song has been written. Pupils will be given a brief at the beginning of the course to write a single for their new EP. Pupils will be taught what an EP is, be asked to create a band name, name their song, think of a theme for their EP and song and learn about press releases. Alongside creating their brand pupils will learn about key points of the music industry.</p>	<p>Singing L4</p> <p>The focus will be on pupils' stage etiquette, singing as a group, the roles within a choir and singing in parts. This will be the first time the pupils will be singing in harmony. Pupils will practise singing in parts together and singing out of parts to get them used to listening to others whilst focusing on their own melody line. This is a very hard skill but with practice can be achieved.</p>	<p>Music Theory with Keyboards - L4</p> <p>Pupils will further understand how music can be notated to represent pitch and rhythm. Pupils will understand how to read more complex rhythmic ideas and will be able to play music from stave notation within a range of C – C with confidence. Pupils will know the key features of both classical and jazz genres and understand how music has evolved across time.</p>	<p>Ukuleles - L2</p> <p>This course builds on the pupils existing knowledge of ukuleles and encourages them to become confident and rounded performers. The pupils will recall how to read tablature and will learn how to read this across all four strings of the ukulele. The pupils will learn a wider range of chords in order to expand their performance repertoire. This course will also introduce pupils to scales and more complex playing techniques.</p>	<p>African Drums L1</p> <p>Three standard playing techniques are introduced through playing 'Call and Response' rhythms with the workshop leader, who increases the difficulty as the class progresses. Groups will focus on advanced performance elements that will enhance their playing such as dynamics and tempo and put these into practice to perform complex polyrhythms. Performers' dexterity and playing stamina will also improve through regular solo performances.</p>	<p>Electric Drums L2</p> <p>Pupils will learn more advanced drum techniques and will be able to aurally recognise the difference between different drumming styles. They will understand how to read stave notation, in order to play popular drumbeats, as well as compose their own by utilizing different techniques such as rudiments and semiquavers. They will understand the relationship between the hi-hat pedal and the other parts of the drums, as well as confidently play through a final performance whilst</p>

