

# MMC Vocabulary Years 1–6

This document lists all of the musical vocabulary introduced in each year of the Charanga Model Music Curriculum Scheme. The Elements of Music feature across all years:

## Elements of Music (Western Music)

**Pulse** – The regular heartbeat of the music; its steady beat.

**Rhythm** – A combination of notes and rests; long and short sounds/silences or patterns that happen over the pulse.

**Pitch** – High and low sounds/notes.

**Tempo** – The speed of the music; fast, slow or somewhere in between.

**Dynamics** – How loud or quiet the music is.

**Timbre** – The character or colour of a particular instrument or sound. All instruments, including voices, have a certain sound quality, eg the trumpet has a very different sound quality to the violin.

**Texture** – Layers of sound in music. Layers of sound working together make music very interesting to listen to.

**Structure and Form** – The shape of a piece of music and how it's put together. Every piece of music has a structure, eg an introduction, verse, chorus and ending.

**Notation** – The link between sound and symbol; how we write music down.

## Vocabulary by Year

All the musical words introduced in Years 1 and 2 are included in the lists below. Most of these words are revisited in Years 3–6, so only new and important musical words are listed for later years. In Year 1, bold text indicates the most important words to learn, while in Years 2–6, only newly introduced words are in bold.

Please use the **Glossary** with definitions (found in the Music Theory section on the Model Music Curriculum homepage) for further support.

### Year 1

**Actions, audience**, backing singers/backing vocals, ballet, **band**, bass, bass guitar, bassline, **beat**, beaters, bells, big band, **brass instruments**, celeste, cello, chimes, **chorus, clap**, Classical music, **compose, composer**, composition, **concert**, conga drums, **copy back, count, count in**, Country music, cymbals, **dance**, double bass, drum kit, drums, drumsticks, electric guitar, electric organ, electronic, **fast and slow**, film, flute, Funk, **glockenspiel**, Gospel, groove,

guitar, harpsichord, **high and low sounds**, Hip Hop, **imagination, improvise, instrument, introduction**, Jazz, keyboard, **listen**, Lullaby, **loud and quiet sounds**, maracas, **march**, marching band, marimba, **melody**, Musicals, **musician, note, nursery rhyme**, octobass, **orchestra**, orchestral, **outro, percussion, perform**, piano, piano keys, **pitch, play, player**, Pop, **pulse, question and answer, rap**, rattle, Reggae, **rhythm**, Rock, saxophone, section, **singer**, sleigh bells, **smooth and spiky sounds**, solo, **song, songwriter**, Soul, **sound, steady**, steel pans, **string instruments**, structure, musical style, Swing, synthesizer, **tempo**, trumpet, tuba, **verse**, viola, violin, **vocals, voice**, Waltz, **warm up, words of the song**, xylophone.

## Year 2

**Accordion**, actions, audience, backing singers/backing vocals, ballet, band, bass, **bass drum**, bass guitar, bassline, **bassoon**, beat, beaters, bells, **brass band**, brass instruments, **Calypso, canon**, cello, **choir, Choral music**, chorus, clap, **clarinet**, Classical music, compose, composer, composition, concert, **conductor**, copy back, **cornet**, count, count in, cymbals, dance, double bass, drum kit, drums, drumsticks, **dynamics**, electric guitar, electric organ/**Hammond organ**, electronic, **euphonium**, fast and slow, film, **Film Music**, flute, **Folk music, French horn**, Funk, glockenspiel, Gospel, groove, guitar, high and low sounds, Hip Hop, **horn section** (trumpets and trombones), **hymn**, imagination, **improvisation**, improvise, instrument, instrumental, introduction, Jazz, keyboard, **Kwela, layers of sound, lead singer/vocals**, listen, Lullaby, loud and quiet sounds, **lyrics, major**, maracas, march, marching band, melody, **minor, mouthpiece**, Musicals, musician, noise, note, **oboe, off-beat rhythms, one-man band, opera**, orchestra, orchestral, outro, **penny whistle**, percussion, perform, **performance, performer**, piano, **piano accompaniment**, piano keys, **pianola, piccolo**, pitch, play, player, Pop, production, pulse, question and answer, **Ragtime**, rap, rattle, **recorder, records, reeds**, Reggae, rhythm, Rock, **Rock 'n' Roll, round, Romantic music**, saxophone, **scat singing**, section, **side drum (or snare drum)**, singer, smooth and spiky/**detached** sounds, solo, song, songwriter, Soul, sound, steady, steel pans, string instruments, **structure and form, musical style, sustain pedal**, Swing, **symphony**, synthesizer, **tambourine**, tempo, **time signature, timpani, trio, trombone**, trumpet, tuba, verse, **vibraslap**, viola, violin, vocals, voice, warm up, **woodblock, woodwind instruments**.

## Year 3

**20th and 21st Century Orchestral music, Appalachian music, articulation**, backing singers/backing vocals, **backing track, Ballad, bar, barline, Baroque music**, bass, **Blues**, chorus, **clef**, compose, composition, Country music, **crotchet, Disco, dotted crotchet**, dynamics, **expression, Film & TV Soundtracks**, Folk music, **forte** (Italian musical term for 'loud'), Gospel, Hip Hop, **hook**, imagination, improvise, **intro/introduction, key signature**, lead singer/vocals, **legato** (Italian musical term for 'smooth'), **major**, melody, **minim, minor**, Musicals, musical style, **Native American music, New Orleans Jazz, notation, ostinato, pentatonic scale**, piano (instrument), **piano** (Italian musical term for 'quiet/soft'), pitch, Pop, pulse, **quaver**, Reggae, **repeats, rests**, rhythm, **rhythm patterns, riff**, Rock, Romantic music, **semibreve, semiquaver, scale, Sea Shanty, staccato** (Italian musical term for 'detached'), Soul, **stave**, structure and form, synthesizer, tempo, **texture** (layers of sound), **time signature, tune**, verse.

## Year 4

20th and 21st Century Orchestral music, **acoustic guitar**, **alto clef**, articulation, backing singers/backing vocals, backing track, Ballad, bar, barline, bass, **bass clef**, **by ear**, Choral music, **choreography**, Classical music, compose, composition, **Contemporary R&B**, **crescendo** (Italian musical term for 'gradually getting louder'), crotchet, **digital/electronic sounds**, **diminuendo** (Italian musical term for 'gradually getting quieter'), Disco, dotted crotchet, **dotted quaver**, dynamics, **Electronic Dance Music (EDM)**, Folk music, forte (loud), **fortissimo** (Italian musical term for 'very loud'), Funk, Gospel, hook, improvisation, improvise, Jazz, key signature, legato (smooth), lyrics, major, **Medieval music**, melody, **mezzo forte** (Italian musical term for 'medium-loud'), **mezzo piano** (Italian musical term for 'medium-quiet'), minim, minor, Musicals, musical style, notation, ostinato, pentatonic scale, **pianissimo** (Italian musical term for 'very quiet/soft'), piano (quiet/soft), pitch, Pop, pulse, quaver, rap, Reggae, repeats, rests, rhythm, rhythm patterns, riff, Rock, Romantic music, semiquaver, solo, Soul, staccato (detached), stave, structure and form, tempo, texture, **timbre (sound quality)**, time signature, **tonality**, **treble clef**, tune, **turntables**, **unison**.

## Year 5

20th and 21st Century Orchestral music, alto clef, **amplifier**, articulation, **backbeat**, backing track, **loops**, Ballad, bar, bass, bass clef, bassline, big band, **brass section**, **bridge**, **chords**, chorus, compose, composition, **Contemporary Jazz**, Contemporary R&B, **cover**, crescendo, crotchet, **deck**, diminuendo, dotted crotchet, **dotted minim**, dotted quaver, dynamics, Film & TV Soundtracks, forte, fortissimo, Funk, groove, Gospel, **harmony**, Hip Hop, hook, improvisation, improvise, **interlude**, key signature, legato (smooth), major, melody, mezzo forte, mezzo piano, minim, **Minimalism**, minor, notation, **note names**, **note values**, ostinato, pianissimo, piano, pitch, Pop, pulse, quaver, rap, Reggae, repeats, rests, rhythm, rhythm patterns, riff, Rock, Rock 'n' Roll, Romantic music, **scratching**, semiquaver, solo, Soul, **South African Pop**, staccato (detached), stave, **strings**, structure and form, Swing, **syncopation** (playing on the off-beat), **tag ending**, tempo, texture, timbre, time signature, tonality, treble clef, **triplet quaver**, **tune/head**, unison, verse.

## Year 6

20th and 21st Century Orchestral music, alto clef, articulation, bar, bass clef, bassline, Blues, brass section, by ear, chords, compose, composition, Contemporary R&B, cover, crescendo, crotchet, **Dimensions of Music**, diminuendo, Disco, dotted crotchet, dotted minim, dotted quaver, dynamics, **Elements of Music/Musical Elements**, Film & TV Soundtracks, Folk music, forte, fortissimo, Gospel, groove, harmony, Hip Hop, hook, improvisation, improvise, Jazz, key signature, legato, major, melody, mezzo forte, mezzo piano, minim, minor, **Motown**, Musicals, notation, note names, note values, ostinato, **phrases**, pianissimo, piano, pitch, Pop, **producer**, pulse, quaver, Reggae, repeats, rests, rhythm, rhythm patterns, riff, Rock, Rock 'n' Roll, Romantic music, **Salsa music**, semibreve, semiquaver, solo, Soul, staccato, stave, structure and form, **Style Indicators**, Swing, syncopation, tempo, texture, timbre, time signature, tonality, treble clef, **triplet crotchet**, triplet quaver, unison, **Zimbabwean Pop**.