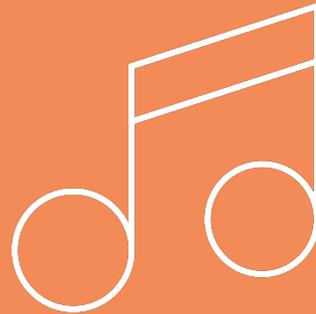


Music



*Kapow
Primary™*

National curriculum
coverage

Curriculum support

Kapow Primary's curriculum access is being improved to make resources more searchable, user-friendly and sustainable.

Curriculum information pages and curriculum portals bring together content that was previously only available across multiple PDF documents. This allows quicker access to key information and ensures that the most up-to-date guidance is always available.

Curriculum information pages

These pages outline the intent, implementation and impact of the Kapow Primary curriculum, including the rationale behind the approach. They act as a central hub for curriculum guidance, with links to related resources, embedded media and FAQs to support understanding.

Curriculum portals

The curriculum portals provide an online view of each subject's long-term plan and progression. They bring together key unit information, including national curriculum links, British values and SMSC, knowledge and skills, vocabulary and cross-curricular connections, allowing easy navigation between whole-school and unit-level views.

MENU

- Intent
- Curriculum aims
- Statutory and non-statutory guidance
- Curriculum balance
- Progression
- Types of knowledge
- Wider knowledge and skills
- Personal development in Music
- Transition from EYF5 to KS1
- Inclusion and diversity
- Implementation
- Impact

1. Intent

This section outlines the overall curriculum plan, including its structure, sequencing and the specific knowledge and skills students are expected to acquire.

Curriculum aims

The Kapow Primary Music scheme is designed to help pupils recognise themselves as musical and to nurture a lifelong love of music.

Visit the Music curriculum information pages online.

Kapow Primary

Help? Close

Music curriculum overview

Music

Long-term plan Standard - Current (2025/26)

Long-term plan Progression of Skills & knowledge Vocabulary progression

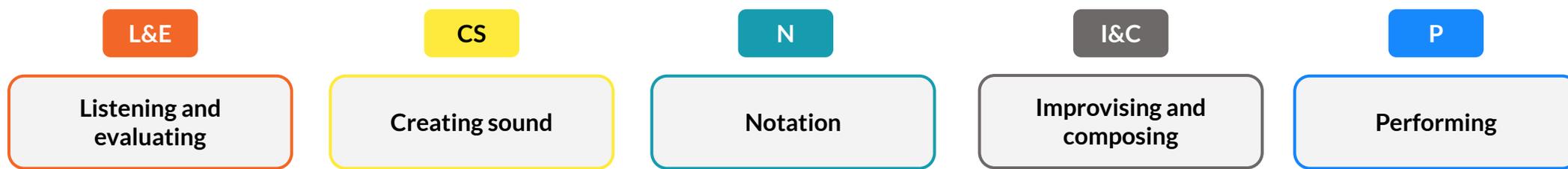
Standard Mixed-age Condensed Download

	Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Spring 1	Spring 2	Summer 1	Summer 2
EYF5	Exploring sound	Celebration music	Music and movement	Musical stories	Transport	Big band
Year 1	Keeping the pulse (Theme: My favourite things)	Tempo (Theme: Snail and mouse)	Dynamics (Theme: Seaside)	Sound patterns (Theme: Fairytales)	Pitch (Theme: Superheroes)	Musical symbols (Theme: Under the sea)
Year 2						
Year 3						
Year 4						
Year 5						
Year 6						

Visit the Music curriculum portal online.

Introduction

Kapow Primary offers full coverage of the KS1 and KS2 Music curriculum. We have categorised our content into five strands, with opportunities to recognise and apply the **inter-related dimensions** of music throughout.



This document is regularly updated to reflect changes to our content. This version was created on 05.03.26. Please click [here](#) to access the latest version.

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Development matters across Kapow Primary's units - EYFS (Reception)

Development matters statements: Communication and language Children in reception will be learning to:	<u>Exploring sound*</u>	<u>Celebration music</u>	<u>Music and movement*</u>	<u>Musical stories</u>	<u>Transport</u>	<u>Big Band</u>
Understand how to listen carefully and why listening is important.	✓				✓	
Listen to and talk about stories to build familiarity and understanding.	✓			✓		
Listen carefully to rhymes and songs, paying attention to how they sound.		✓		✓		
Learn rhymes, poems and songs.		✓		✓		✓
Learn new vocabulary.				✓		
Retell the story, once they have developed a deep familiarity and understanding.				✓		

*Units that are included in the condensed curriculum

Development matters across Kapow Primary's units - EYFS (Reception)

Development matters statements: Expressive arts and design Children in reception will be learning to:	<u>Exploring sound</u> *	<u>Celebration music</u>	<u>Music and movement</u> *	<u>Musical stories</u>	<u>Transport</u>	<u>Big Band</u>
Listen attentively, move to and talk about music, expressing their feelings and responses.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Explore and engage in music making and dance, performing solo or in groups.	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓
Watch and talk about dance and performance art, expressing their feelings and responses.		✓				
Sing in a group or on their own, increasingly matching the pitch and following the melody.		✓	✓		✓	✓
Explore, use and refine a variety of artistic effects to express their ideas and feelings.				✓		✓
Create collaboratively, sharing ideas, resources and skills.				✓	✓	✓
Return to and build on their previous learning, refining ideas and developing their ability to represent them.						✓

*Units that are included in the condensed curriculum

Development matters across Kapow Primary's units - EYFS (Reception)

Development matters statements: Personal, social and emotional development Children in reception will be learning to:	<u>Exploring sound*</u>	<u>Celebration music</u>	<u>Music and movement*</u>	<u>Musical stories</u>	<u>Transport</u>	<u>Big Band</u>
Think about the perspectives of others.						

Development matters statements: Understanding the world Children in reception will be learning to:	<u>Exploring sound*</u>	<u>Celebration music</u>	<u>Music and movement*</u>	<u>Musical stories</u>	<u>Transport</u>	<u>Big Band</u>
Explore the natural world around them.						
Recognise that people have different beliefs and celebrate special times in different way.						

*Units that are included in the condensed curriculum

Early Learning Goals across Kapow Primary's units - EYFS (Reception)

Early Learning Goals: Communication and language Children at the expected level of development will:	<u>Exploring sound*</u>	<u>Celebration music</u>	<u>Music and movement*</u>	<u>Musical stories</u>	<u>Transport</u>	<u>Big Band</u>
Listening, Attention and Understanding> Listen attentively and respond to what they hear with relevant questions, comments and actions when being read to and during whole class discussions and small group interactions.	✓				✓	

Early Learning Goals: Expressive arts and design Children at the expected level of development will:	<u>Exploring sound*</u>	<u>Celebration music</u>	<u>Music and movement*</u>	<u>Musical stories</u>	<u>Transport</u>	<u>Big Band</u>
Being Imaginative and Expressive: Sing a range of well-known nursery rhymes and songs.		✓	✓		✓	✓
Being Imaginative and Expressive: Perform songs, rhymes, poems and stories with others, and- when appropriate - try to move in time with music.		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

*Units that are included in the condensed curriculum

National Curriculum by Kapow Primary's themes and units

Key stage 1 - National Curriculum music subject content:	Kapow Primary's music strands	Kapow Primary topics Key stage 1 - Year 1					
		* <u>Keeping the pulse (My favourite things)</u>	<u>Tempo (Snail and mouse)</u>	<u>Dynamics (Seaside)</u>	* <u>Sound patterns (Fairytale)</u>	* <u>Pitch (Superheros)</u>	<u>Musical symbols (Under the sea)</u>
Use their voices expressively and creatively by singing songs and speaking chants and rhymes	P CS	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Play tuned and untuned instruments musically	P CS	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Listen with concentration and understanding to a range of high-quality live and recorded music	L&E	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Experiment with, create, select and combine sounds using the inter-related dimensions of music	I&C CS	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

*Units that are included in the condensed curriculum

National Curriculum by Kapow Primary's themes and units

Key stage 1 - National Curriculum music subject content:	Kapow Primary's music strands	Kapow Primary topics Key stage 1 - Year 2					
		<u>*Call and response (Animals)</u>	<u>*Instruments (Musical storytelling)</u>	<u>Contrasting dynamics (Space)</u>	<u>Singing (On this island)</u>	<u>*Structure (Myths and legends)</u>	<u>*Pitch (Musical Me)</u>
Use their voices expressively and creatively by singing songs and speaking chants and rhymes	<div style="background-color: #007bff; color: white; padding: 2px 5px; border-radius: 5px; display: inline-block; margin-bottom: 5px;">P</div> <div style="background-color: #ffc107; color: white; padding: 2px 5px; border-radius: 5px; display: inline-block;">CS</div>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Play tuned and untuned instruments musically	<div style="background-color: #007bff; color: white; padding: 2px 5px; border-radius: 5px; display: inline-block; margin-bottom: 5px;">P</div> <div style="background-color: #ffc107; color: white; padding: 2px 5px; border-radius: 5px; display: inline-block;">CS</div>	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓
Listen with concentration and understanding to a range of high-quality live and recorded music	<div style="background-color: #fd7e14; color: white; padding: 2px 5px; border-radius: 5px; display: inline-block;">L&E</div>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Experiment with, create, select and combine sounds using the inter-related dimensions of music	<div style="background-color: #dc3545; color: white; padding: 2px 5px; border-radius: 5px; display: inline-block; margin-bottom: 5px;">I&C</div> <div style="background-color: #ffc107; color: white; padding: 2px 5px; border-radius: 5px; display: inline-block;">CS</div>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

*Units that are included in the condensed curriculum

National Curriculum by Kapow Primary's themes and units

Key stage 2 - National Curriculum music subject content:	Kapow Primary's music strands	Kapow Primary topics Lower key stage 2 - Year 3					
		* <u>Ballads</u>	<u>Creating compositions in response to animation</u>	* <u>Developing singing technique and keeping in time</u>	* <u>Pentatonic melodies and composition</u>	<u>Jazz</u>	* <u>Traditional instruments and improvisation</u>
Play and perform in solo and ensemble contexts, using their voices and playing musical instruments with increasing accuracy, fluency, control and expression	P CS	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Improvise and compose music for a range of purposes using the inter-related dimensions of music	I&C CS	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Listen with attention to detail and recall sounds with increasing aural memory	L&E	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Use and understand staff and other musical notations	P I&C N			✓	✓	✓	✓
Appreciate and understand a wide range of high-quality live and recorded music drawn from different traditions and from great composers and musicians	L&E	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Develop an understanding of the history of music	L&E					✓	✓

*Units that are included in the condensed curriculum

National Curriculum by Kapow Primary's themes and units

Key stage 2 - National Curriculum music subject content:	Kapow Primary's music strands	Kapow Primary topics Lower key stage 2 - Year 4					
		* <u>Body and tuned percussion</u>	<u>Rock and roll</u>	* <u>Changes in pitch, dynamics and tempo</u>	<u>Haiku, music and performance</u>	* <u>Samba and carnival sounds and instruments</u>	* <u>Adapting and transposing motifs</u>
Play and perform in solo and ensemble contexts, using their voices and playing musical instruments with increasing accuracy, fluency, control and expression	P CS	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Improvise and compose music for a range of purposes using the inter-related dimensions of music	I&C CS	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Listen with attention to detail and recall sounds with increasing aural memory	L&E	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Use and understand staff and other musical notations	P I&C N	✓	✓				✓
Appreciate and understand a wide range of high-quality live and recorded music drawn from different traditions and from great composers and musicians	L&E	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Develop an understanding of the history of music	L&E		✓			✓	

*Units that are included in the condensed curriculum

National Curriculum by Kapow Primary's themes and units

Key stage 2 - National Curriculum music subject content:	Kapow Primary's music strands	Kapow Primary topics Upper key stage 2 - Year 5					
		* <u>Composition notation</u>	* <u>Blues</u>	* <u>South and West Africa</u>	* <u>Composition to represent the festival of colour</u>	<u>Looping and remixing</u>	<u>Musical theatre</u>
Play and perform in solo and ensemble contexts, using their voices and playing musical instruments with increasing accuracy, fluency, control and expression	P CS	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Improvise and compose music for a range of purposes using the inter-related dimensions of music	I&C CS	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Listen with attention to detail and recall sounds with increasing aural memory	L&E	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Use and understand staff and other musical notations	P I&C N	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Appreciate and understand a wide range of high-quality live and recorded music drawn from different traditions and from great composers and musicians	L&E	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Develop an understanding of the history of music	L&E	✓	✓	✓			✓

*Units that are included in the condensed curriculum

National Curriculum by Kapow Primary's themes and units

Key stage 2 - National Curriculum music subject content:	Kapow Primary's music strands	Kapow Primary topics Upper key stage 2 - Year 6					
		* <u>Dynamics, pitch and texture</u>	<u>Songs of World War 2</u>	<u>Film music</u>	* <u>Theme and variations</u>	* <u>Baroque</u>	* <u>Composing and performing a leavers' song</u>
Play and perform in solo and ensemble contexts, using their voices and playing musical instruments with increasing accuracy, fluency, control and expression	P CS	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Improvise and compose music for a range of purposes using the inter-related dimensions of music	I&C CS	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
Listen with attention to detail and recall sounds with increasing aural memory	L&E	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Use and understand staff and other musical notations	P I&C N	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Appreciate and understand a wide range of high-quality live and recorded music drawn from different traditions and from great composers and musicians	L&E	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Develop an understanding of the history of music	L&E		✓		✓	✓	

*Units that are included in the condensed curriculum

National Curriculum by Kapow Primary's themes and units

Key stage 2 - National Curriculum music subject content:	Kapow Primary's music strands	Kapow Primary topics Key stage 2 - Instrumental scheme					
		* <u>South Africa</u>	* <u>Caribbean</u>	<u>South America</u>	<u>Indonesia</u>	<u>India</u>	<u>America</u>
Play and perform in solo and ensemble contexts, using their voices and playing musical instruments with increasing accuracy, fluency, control and expression	P CS	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Improvise and compose music for a range of purposes using the inter-related dimensions of music	I&C CS	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Listen with attention to detail and recall sounds with increasing aural memory	L&E	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Use and understand staff and other musical notations	P I&C N	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Appreciate and understand a wide range of high-quality live and recorded music drawn from different traditions and from great composers and musicians	L&E	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Develop an understanding of the history of music	L&E	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

*Units that are included in the condensed curriculum

Cross-curricular links - Year 1

Keeping the pulse (My favourite things)	Kapow Primary topics Key stage 1 - Year 1					
	<u>*Keeping the pulse</u>	<u>Tempo</u>	<u>Dynamics</u>	<u>*Sound patterns</u>	<u>*Pitch</u>	<u>Musical symbols</u>
Theme	My favourite things	Snail and mouse	Seaside	Fairytales	Superheroes	Under the sea
English	Writing - clapping the syllables in their name and other words	Spoken language - repeating a section of a song from memory, justifying choices Reading - making music to 'tell' a story	Writing - describing the environment using expanded noun phrases	Reading - recognising and joining in with predictable phrases from the Three Little Pigs Writing - clapping out syllables in words	Imagining a story behind their music	Imagining a story behind their music
Maths						
Science						
Art and design			Creating a picture (graphic score) to describe music			
Geography			Understanding that music can be used to represent different environments and weather conditions			
PE	Dancing in response to music	Moving like certain animals	Matching their movements to music			Performing dances using simple movement patterns.

Cross-curricular links - Year 2

National curriculum subjects	Kapow Primary topics Key stage 1 - Year 2					
	<u>* Call and response</u>	<u>* Instruments</u>	<u>Contrasting dynamics</u>	<u>Singing</u>	<u>* Structure</u>	<u>* Pitch</u>
Theme	Animals	Musical storytelling	Space	On this island	Myths and legends	Musical me
English		<p>Reading - using music to explore Jack and the beanstalk, choosing appropriate sounds to match events, characters and feelings.</p> <p>Spoken language - performing a story script.</p>			<p>Reading - Discussing the legend of St George and the dragon and King Arthur.</p>	<p>Spoken language - Maintaining attention and participate actively in collaborative conversations, staying on topic and initiating and responding to comments.</p>
Science	<p>Animals, including humans - naming animals and matching with sounds, recreating the animal sounds.</p>		<p>Discussing planets- what they are and what they look like, considering the sounds that may be heard in space.</p>			
Art and design						
Geography				<p>Locational knowledge - Naming and locating the four countries and capital cities of the United Kingdom and its surrounding seas.</p>		
History						
RSE/PSHE		<p>Using language related to emotion when discussing events in a story.</p>	<p>Using feelings vocabulary to discuss the mood of music.</p>			

Cross-curricular links - Year 3

National curriculum subjects	Kapow Primary topics Key stage 2 - Year 3					
	* <u>Ballads</u>	<u>Creating compositions in response to animation</u>	* <u>Developing singing technique and keeping in time</u>	* <u>Pentatonic melodies and composition</u>	<u>Jazz</u>	* <u>Traditional instruments and improvisation</u>
Theme		Mountains	The Vikings	Chinese new year		India
English	<p>Reading - listening to Space Oddity by Bowie and summarising the story in the lyrics</p> <p>Writing - considering the structure of ballads using a story mountain, selecting language carefully to write lyrics</p>	<p>Spoken language - using actions/ movements to 'tell' a story</p> <p>Reading - creating a rhythm to accompany a story, considering setting, atmosphere and mood.</p>		<p>Reading - Listening to the story of Nian and retelling it</p>		
Art and design				Colouring a dragon mask template		
Geography		Considering the different sounds in the rainforest, city, seaside, mountains		Learning about other cultures	Learning about other cultures	Finding India on a world map
History			Learning about the Vikings and their army		Learning about how musical tastes change and develop and famous Jazz singers from the past	
Languages						Singing Anile vaa
PE			Performing movements in synchronisation	Performing dances, matching movements to music		Moving in response to music
RSE/PSHE	Using feelings words to describe the effect of music					Being respectful and appreciative of differences in music

Cross-curricular links - Year 4

National curriculum subjects	Kapow Primary topics Key stage 2 - Year 4					
	<u>*Body and tuned percussion</u>	<u>Rock and roll</u>	<u>*Changes in pitch, dynamics and tempo</u>	<u>Haiku, music and performance</u>	<u>*Samba and carnival sounds and instruments</u>	<u>*Adapting and transposing motifs</u>
Theme	Rainforests		Rivers	Hanami	South America	Romans
English				Writing - writing haiku poems		
Art and design						Appreciating mosaics.
Geography	Considering the layers of the rainforest and the plants and animals in each layer		Recognising river landforms and vocabulary	Learning about Japanese culture	Finding Brazil on a world map, learning about Brazilian culture and the carnival in Rio	
History		Understanding that rock and roll music was a response to historical events				Learning about the things the Romans did for us
PE		Performing the hand jive in time with the music				
RSE/PSHE				Considering how nature makes us feel		

Cross-curricular links - Year 5

National curriculum subjects	Kapow Primary topics Key stage 2 - Year 5					
	* <u>Composition notation</u>	* <u>Blues</u>	* <u>South and West Africa</u>	* <u>Composition to represent the festival of colour</u>	<u>Looping and remixing</u>	<u>Musical theatre</u>
Theme	Ancient Egypt			Holi festival		
English						Learning about musical theatre, listening to songs and summarising the purpose of the song
Art and design	Creating a visual map of how a song sounds			Considering how colours can reflect mood, looking at abstract art		
Computing					Creating loops of music using software	
History	Learning about Ancient Egypt: the importance of the Nile, how they buried the dead and hieroglyphics	Knowing that blues music started in America in slave plantations				Learning about the history of musical theatre
Languages			Learning about the Xhosa language			
PE			Following choreography			
RE				Learning about Holi festival, the Hindu festival of colour		
RSE/PSHE		Giving emotion words to describe feeling 'blue'				

Cross-curricular links - Year 6

National curriculum subjects	Kapow Primary topics Key stage 2 - Year 6					
	<u>*Dynamics, pitch and texture</u>	<u>Songs of World War 2</u>	<u>Film music</u>	<u>*Theme and variations</u>	<u>Baroque</u>	<u>*Composing and performing a leavers' song</u>
Theme	Coast - Fingal's Cave by Mendelssohn			Pop Art		
English	Spoken language - justifying opinions about music Writing - coming up with descriptive phrases to do a dramatic reading		Considering how music adds to the mood and atmosphere of a plotline		No cross-curricular links	Writing- writing lyrics for a leavers' song
Art and design	Creating a graphic score to represent the music			Looking at the Pop Art movement, creating artwork on a theme		
History		Sharing facts about World War II, considering how the music of the time reflected events and public feeling				
RSE/PSHE		Considering the feelings evoked by the songs of WW2	Considering the emotions evoked by film music			

Cross-curricular links - Instrumental scheme

National curriculum subjects	Kapow Primary topics Key stage 2 - Instrumental scheme					
	<u>*South Africa</u>	<u>*Caribbean</u>	<u>South America</u>	<u>Indonesia</u>	<u>India</u>	<u>America</u>
Science				Learning about sound waves		
History		Understanding the origins of Calypso music and how migration caused it to spread across the world	Understanding the origins of salsa music			
Geography			Locating the South American countries on a map		Exploring photographs to learn about city life in India	
Languages			Knowing some Spanish speaking countries around the world			
PE			Performing Latin American dancing		Performing Bollywood dance moves, using movement to represent an Indian street scene	
RSE/PSHE		Considering the prejudice that Calypsonians suffered				

Version history

This page gives information about recent updates to the document.

Date	Update
12.07.22	Added information on cross-curricular links (p.13–18).
20.09.22	Name change to Y2 unit to reflect changes on the website p.17 and p.14
31.07.23	New EYFS (Reception) unit added: Transport (p.5). New Year 6 unit added: Baroque (p.11).
20.10.23	Changed title of refreshed Year 1 unit (now called 'Tempo' p. 6).
19.08.24	Updated to reflect the refreshed key stage 1 units and progression. (p. 6-7 and p. 13-14). Also updated to show the changes to our strands (p. 2 and pp. 6-12).
05.09.24	Updated links to newly refreshed units.
11.06.25	Made some changes to ensure consistency with NC information in lessons.
05.03.26	Added curriculum support information (p.2).