

Music Curriculum Vocabulary 2025 - 2026

At Buckton Vale we use the Kapow Music scheme of work.

Below is a list of the key vocabulary that is covered across the music curriculum.

Each year group is split into the key unit areas of learning with specific language repeated throughout the teaching year.

Year/Units	Exploring Sound	Celebration music	Music and	Musical stories	Transport	Big Band
rear/Onits			movement			
EYFS	voice, voice sounds, sound, instrument, loud, quiet, high, low, squeaky, soft, deep, body sounds, body percussion, sound, tempo, fast, slow, rhythm, beat,	music, dance, tempo, move, Diwali, celebration, traditional, Hanukkah, Hora, kinnor, harp, flute, Jewish, trumpet, cymbals, tambourine, shofar, Kwanzaa, Africa, culture,	actions, action songs, sign language, Makaton, deaf, communication, communicating, understand, lyrics, verse, beat, music, heartbeat, pulse, steady, repeat, constant, drum,	classical music, pitch, high, low, tempo, fast, slow, dynamic, loud, quiet, musical story, lyrics, melody, character, instrument, song, actions, percussion, compose, perform,	car, boat, train, beat, fast, slow, speed, cruise, rowing, water, symbols, slower, faster, stopping, journey, score	music, musical instrument, band, sound, shake, tap, bang, strum, jingle, tempo, dynamic, pitch, beat, orchestra, sound, rhythm, beat, conductor, wind, strings, percussion,
	instrumental sounds, tempo, fast, quickly, slowly, dynamic, loudly, quietly, environmental sounds, pitch, middle, nature sounds	call, response, drum, rhythm, beat, instrument, Christmas, Christian, sleigh bells, actions, action songs, voice sounds, body percussion	piece, composer, tempo, fast, moderate, medium, slow, dance, pitch, high, low, sound, whistle, triangle, siren, cello, perform, performance, audience	performance		brass

Year/Units	Keeping the pulse –	Nativity — Christmas	Tempo —	Dynamics —	Sound Patterns -	Musical symbols –
	My favourite things	songs and	Snail and mouse	Seaside	Fairy tales	Under the Sea
		performance				
1	pulse, singing voice, speaking voice, thinking voice	high, low, pattern, performance, pitch, tempo, sound, performance, instruments, voice, fast, slow,	beat, fast, singing voice, slow, speaking voice, warm up	dynamics, instrument, seaside, soundscape, symbol, volume	character, voice, sound pattern	dynamics, pitch, rest (gap), sound pattern, tempo

Year/Units	Call and Response - Animals	Nativity — Christmas songs and performance	Instruments — Musical storytelling	Singing – On this island	Structure — Myths and legends	Pitch — Musical me
2	call and response, sound pattern, dynamics	high, low, pattern, performance, pitch, tempo, sound, performance, instruments, voice, fast, slow,	dynamics, encore, instrumental sound, sound effect, tempo	composer, composition, dynamics, inspiration, pitch	legend, myth, composition, notation, rest, rhythm, structure, tempo, two half beats, one beat.	dot, low, notation, phrase, pitch, stave

Year/Units	Ballads	Creating	Pentatonic	Developing Singing -	Jazz	Whole class
		Compositions –	composition –	The Vikings		instrumental -
		Mountains	Chinese New Year			Caribbean
	ballad, chorus, compose, dynamics, emotions, ensemble, facial expressions, features, feelings,	atmosphere, compose, composition, dynamics, ensemble, influence, in- time, layers, letter notation, melodic	accuracy, crescendo, control, composition, duration, dynamics, expression, features, fluency, folk	accuracy, backing track, beat, body percussion, call and response, co- ordinated, crotchet, discipline, duration,	call and response, traditional jazz, improvisation, jazz, off- beat, motif, pitch, ragtime, rhythm, scat	calypso, crotchet, kaiso, minim, pentatonic scale, quaver, semibreve, steel pan
3	instrumentals, lyrics, melody, nonsense words, performance, phrases, poem, pop songs, rehearse, rhyme, solo, stanza, story mountain, summarize, tune, verse, vocabulary, volume	pattern, melody, opinion, notation, pitch, repeated rhythm, represent, sound effect, soundscape, story, tempo, timbre, tuned percussion, untuned percussion,	music, glockenspiel, grid notation, harmony, layered melodies, letter notation, melody, musical terminology, notation, notes, octaves, pentatonic melody, pentatonic scale, phrases, scale, timbre, tempo, untuned percussion,	dynamics, in-time, in- tune, layer, lyrics, key change, major key, minim, minor key, notation, part, pulse, quaver, rehearse, rhythm, rhythmic notation, sound effects, stave notation, tempo, tension, tune, vocal warm-up,	singing, straight quaver, strung quaver, swung rhythm, swing music, syncopated rhythm, syncopation, tune,	

Year/Units	Body and tuned	Rock and Roll	Changes in pitch,	Haiku	Samba and carnival	Whole class
	percussion –		tempo and dynamics	Hanami festival	sound and	instrumental –
	Rainforests		– Rivers		instruments	South America
4	Rainforests body percussion, combine, compose, contrasting rhythms, dynamics, inspiration, layers, loop, organisation, repeated melodies, melody line, pitch, record, rhythm, sections, structure, tempo, texture, tune, tuned percussion	bass line, beat, chorus, dynamics, flat notes, hand jive, in-time, in-tune, notation, originate, pitch, rhythm, rhythmic patterns, rock and roll, sections, sequence, sharp notes, style, tempo, untuned percussion, verse, vocals, walking bass line	- Rivers a capella, breath control, cue, diction, directing, dynamics, expression, harmony line, layer, melody, mood, notation, opinion, ostinato, percussion, in the round, parts, rhythm, staff notation, tempo, texture, vocal ostinato	composing, col legno, descriptive, dynamics, duration, effect, forte, glissando, haiku, inspiration, inter-related dimensions of music, melody, piano, pitch, pizzicato, represent, silent, sliding pitch, sound, sound effects, staccato, structure, syllable, tempo, texture, timbre, verse, vocabulary	instruments agogo, bateria, caixa, carnival, chocalho, composition, crescendo, cowbell, dynamics, ensemble, features, ganza, influenced, metronome, off-beat, percussion, pulse, repique, rhythm, rhythmic break, samba, samba breaks, structure, surdo, syncopated rhythms, tamborim, texture,	cha-cha-cha, latin music, melody, pitch, rhythm, rumba, salsa, samba, scale, son cubano, tango
					unison, untuned percussion	

Year/Units	Composition	Victorious Voices and	South and West Africa	Whole Class	Looping and remixing	Musical theatre
	notation –	Parkhill Carol Concert		instrumental -		
	Ancient Egypt			South Africa		
5	accuracy, backing track, balance, composition, control, crotchet, dotted minim, ensemble, expression, features, fluency, lyrics, minim, minor key, notation, parts, pitch, pitch notation, quaver, repeating, rhythm, semibreve, sheet music, staff notation, stave,	Accuracy, backing track, balance, expression, repeating, tempo, lyrics, tone, rhythm, pitch, melody	a capella, break, call and response, chords, chord progression, diction, djembe, duo, dynamics, eight-beat break, ensemble, expression, improvisation, major chord, master drummer, metronome, performance, polyrhythms, pronunciation, pulse, ostinato, rests, rhythm, soloist, syncopation, tempo, tuned percussion, naccompanied, vocals	South Africa beater, body percussion, bouncing, compose, crotchet, dynamics, grip, gumboot dance, harmonic ostinato, lines, minim, music notation, ostinati, rest, rhythm, semibreve, south africa, spaces, staff notation, staff/stave, traditional, treble clef, tuned percussion	accuracy, backbeat, body percussion, fragment, layers, loop, looped rhythm, melody, melody line, notation, ostinato, remix, rhythm, riff, structure	action song, backdrop, book musical, character song, choreographer, composer, comic opera, costumes, designer, dialogue, director, duet, ensemble, hip-hop musical, jukebox musical, librettist, libretto, lyricist, musical director, musical theatre, opera, operetta, performers, props, rock musical, scene, solo, tempo, timbre, transitions
	structure, tempo, tune, tuned					
	percussion, unison, vocal warm- ups					

Year/Units	Film Music	Whole class	Dynamics, pitch and Tempo - Fingal's Cave	Baroque	End of Year
		instrumental -			Production / Leavers
		North America			song
	chromatics, conversation, evoke,	cha-cha-cha, latin music, melody, pitch, rhythm,	classical, characterise, composition, conductor, depict, dynamics, ensemble, graphic score,	Baroque, bass clef, bass instrument, canon,	allegro, arrangement, backing track, chorus,
	graphic score, imagery,	rumba, salsa, samba,	improvisation, notation, orchestra, pitch, texture	counter melody, counter-	chord progression,
	improvise, interval, major, minor, modulate,	scale, son cubano, tango		subject, fugue, ground bass, improvise, melodic	compose, crescendo, diminuendo,
	notate, pitch, sound effects, soundtrack,			ostinato, melody, musical structure, opera,	dynamics, evaluate, forte, largo, lyrics,
6	tremolo, unison			ostinato part, pitch,	melody, mood, musical
				polyphonic, oratorio, recitative, a round,	features, notation, piano, poetic
				rhythmic ostinato, sharp	structure, repetitive,
				note, staff notation,	rhyme, ritardando,
				subject, texture	tempo, sequence, stave
					notation, structure,
					upbeat, verse