

Music Curriculum



Intent

A high-quality musical education should engage and inspire pupils to develop a love of music and their talent as musicians, and in turn, increases their self-confidence, creativity and sense of achievement.

At St. Mary's Bryanston Square, we believe that Music is a vital part of the children's education and we offer a rich and varied curriculum, which not only leads to excellence in Music, but also enables children to build musical foundations that can be built on in throughout school, and beyond. We believe Music is a universal language that embodies one of the highest forms of creativity.

How we teach it

Early Years and KS1 children focus on developing rhythm and pitch as well as an ability to play percussion instruments with care and accuracy. There is a strong focus on singing and encouraging the children to build their own song bank, which includes Nursery Rhymes and simple well-known children's favourites. We use the Sing Up Music curriculum from Nursery to Year 1. In Year 2, all children learn the violin, and a tutor from our partner organisation, The Tri-borough Music Hub teaches these lessons.

Each class receives a weekly lesson covering the National Curriculum objectives where they learn valuable skills in composition, singing and the use of instruments as well as developing an appreciation of classical musical genres and composers.

In KS2, children continue to develop their singing as well as beginning to learn to play as an ensemble as they develop towards playing as a soloist. In Year 3, the children to play the recorder and continue to learn to read stave music as well as percussion notation. From Year 4 onwards, the Sing Up curriculum forms the basis for the teaching and learning of Music.

Every Music lesson in Key Stages 1 and 2 will include listening; the children are taught how to appreciate and interpret a piece or extract of classical music from a range of musical periods or music from different world traditions and from more recent history. Children listen to music from a diverse range of Classical composers. Children enjoy regular opportunities to perform throughout the school year including church services and musical productions.

The school offers children the opportunity to take private instrumental lessons individually and in small groups. The violin and cello are taught by a peripatetic teacher.

To read the rest of our policy on Music – please see our school website: <https://www.stmbs.org.uk/music/>

Music	Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Spring 1	Spring 2	Summer 1	Summer 2
Nursery	Let's be Friends	Travel and Movement	This is Me	Animal Tea Party	I've Got Feelings	Let's Jam
Reception	I've got a grumpy face & The Sorcerer's Apprentice	Which Witch & Row, Row, Row	Bird Spotting & Shake My Sillies Out	Up and Down & Five Fine Bumble Bees	Down There Under the Sea & It's Oh So Quiet	Slap Clap Clap & Bow, Bow, Bow Belinda
Year 1	Menu Song	Colonel Hathi's March & Magical Musical Aquarium	Football	Dawn & Musical Conversations	Dancing and Drawing & Cat & Mouse	Come Dance with Me
Listening	Mendes/Brown – Fanfarra Be Our Guest – Beauty and the Beast Food Glorious Food - Oliver	Ma Rainey – Runaway Blues Saint-Saëns Aquarium- Carnival of the animals	Prokofiev – Peter and the Wolf	Clyne – Night Ferry Handel - Hallelujah from the Messiah	Holst – Mars from the Planets Anna Meredith Nautilus	Mozart – Rondo alla Turca Lebo M/John – Grasslands Chant One by One
Year 2	Whole Class Violin – led by a tutor from the Tri-borough Music Hub					
Listening	Rahman – Jai Ho	Saint-Saëns – Dance Macabre	Ralph Vaughn Williams – The Lark Ascending	Handel - Hallelujah from the Messiah	Mussorgsky – Night on a Bare Mountain	Wonder – Pastime Paradise Beatles – With a Little Help from my Friends
Year 3 (Recorders, Sticks and Songs)	Singing - Call and Response Recorder – Playing B and rests Percussion – Playing and rest positions, 4	Singing – legato and staccato, diction, dynamics Recorders – B, A	Singing – call and response, 2 part articulation Recorders – B, A, G, tonguing, ties	Singing – blues style, syncopation, articulation Recorders – C, B, A, G, multiple rests	Singing – 3 part singing, articulation, staccato, diction, dynamics Recorders –D, C, B, A, G, scalar movement,	Singing – controlled legato phrasing, dynamics, solfa

	beat rhythm patterns/rhythmic accuracy	Percussion – Percussion rests, repeat signs	Percussion – Sticks, counting rests, repeat signs Bossa Nova pattern.	Percussion – 2 and 4 offbeat, developing reading skills	legato tonguing, steady airflow Percussion – rhythmic accuracy	Recorders –D, C, B, A, G, E, breath control, slurs, Percussion – 2 bar rhythm patterns, body percussion, co-ordination and alternating LH/RH
Listening (Music History - Classical Period)	Mozart – Clarinet Concerto Magic Flute Purcell – The Fairy Queen	Beethoven – Ode to Joy Moonlight Sonata Schubert – Ave Maria	Rossini – The Barber of Seville Schubert – Trout Quintet	Joseph Bologne - Sonata for Flute and Piano Sonata for Flute and Harp	Mozart – Requiem Rossini – William Tell Overture	Hayden – Trumpet Concerto Marley – Three Little Birds
Performance:	High Standards of playing and singing reflecting the style and genre of music and ensemble playing					
Year 4	This Little Light of Mine	The Pink Panther Theme Composing with Colour	The Doot Doot Song	Fanfare for the Common Man Spain	Global Pentatatonics The Horse in Motion	Favourite Song
Listening (Music History - Romantic Period)	Wagner – Ride of the Valkeries Chopin – Variations for flute and piano Verdi - Requiem	Tchaikovsky – Nutcracker Suite Chopin – Nocturnes Gipps – Clarinet Sonata	Wagner - Bridal Chorus Mahler - Piano Quartet Baker – Clarinet Sonata	Tchaikovsky – Swan Lake Chopin – Nocturnes Schuman - Carnaval	Mahler – Symphony No 2 Samuel Coleridge-Taylor - Deep River Summer is Gone	Tchaikovsky – 1812 Overture Schumann – Piano Concerto
Year 5 and 6 2025-26	What Shall We Do (Sea Shanties)	Why We Sing Introduction to Songwriting	Madina tun Nabi	Building a Groove Época	Balinese Gamelan Composing in Ternary Form	Kisne Banaaya
Listening (Music History - Baroque Period)	Vivaldi – Four Seasons Purcell – The Fairy Queen	Handel - Messiah Vivaldi - Gloria	Albinoni – Oboe Concerto Vivaldi – Four Seasons	Handel - Water Music	Pachabel – Canon	Telemann – Concertos

				John Williams – Imperial March	Correlli – Concerti Grossi	Bach – St Matthew's Passion
Year 6 (2026-27)	Hey Mr Miller	Shadows Composing for Protest	Dona Nobis Pacem	You to me are Everything Twinkle Variations	Race! Exploring Identity through Song	Ame sau vala tara bal
Listening (Music History- 20th and 21st Century)	Copland – Fanfare for the Common Man Steve Reich - Six Pianos	Lin Manuel Miranda – Moana score, In the Heights, Hamilton Taverner – The Lamb Siffre – Something Inside so Strong	William Grant Still- Troubled Island Errollyn Wallen – Mighty River	Copland – Billy the Kid Ladysmith Black Mambozo – Inkanyezi Nezazi Ravel - Bolero	Gershwin – Summertime John Williams – Harry Potter Theme	William Grant Still- A Bayou Legend Bhujhangy Group - Bhabiye Akh Larr Gayee

Progression of skills

The progression of skills can be found [here](#) and is available on the Sing Up website.

Domain Specific Vocabulary – This list is not exhaustive but an indication of the words that children should become familiar with over time. Some words will be revisited continuously during lessons and in addition to the words below, children will add to their musical lexicon, vocabulary related to composers, instruments and orchestras and their wider listening.

EYFS	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
song, tune, percussion, tambourine, triangle, percussion, drum, fast, slow, cymbal, shaker, conduct, conductor, high, low listen, audience	body percussion, duration, score, claves, ostinato, melodic phrase, beater, timbre, dynamics, loud, instrument, drone, notation	pizzicato, violin, strings, treble clef, stave lines, acoustic, accompaniment, body percussion, notation, tempo, call and response, ostinato, texture, chord, phrase, timbre, tuned/untuned percussion, duration, arrhythmic, pulse and beat, improvisation, score	pitch, rhythm, timbre, dynamics, tempo, duration, accompaniment, body percussion, tuned/untuned percussion, call and response, conductor, improvise, rest, notation, ostinato, score, structure, recorder, sticks, treble clef, stave lines, repeats, Classical Period, composer, concerto	accompaniment, flute, clarinet, body percussion, call and response, conductor, duet, duration, dynamics, timbre, embouchure, reeds, keys, tempo, rhythm, pitch, structure, improvise, internalise, lyrics, notation, ostinato/ostinati, pentatonic, pulse, beat, rest, scale, score, Romantic Period, composer, articulation	pitch, rhythm, timbre, dynamics, tempo, duration, texture, accompaniment, body percussion, tuned/untuned percussion, motif, call and response, composer, arrangement, lyrics, chord sequence, chord, notation, ostinato, phrase, score, accent, articulation, cue, harmony, concerto, sonata, Baroque Period, unison, choral, counter melody, round, canon, film score, syncopation	pitch, rhythm, timbre, dynamics, tempo, duration, texture, accompaniment, body percussion, tuned/untuned percussion, call and response, composer, arrangement, lyrics, notation, ostinato, phrase, score, accent, articulation, descant, coda cue, harmony, concerto, sonata, Baroque Period, unison, choral, counter melody, round, canon, film, score, diction, choreograph, syncopation, 20 th and 21 st Century, musical theatre