



UJS Music Curriculum

Overview

Updated September 2026

The curriculum is divided into a number of Key Areas: **Performance, Composition, Theory, Recording & Culture**. These key areas help create an emphasis on developing a range of musical skills. Students in Year 3 learn to play as part of an ensemble, study the building blocks of music and begin to create their own songs. In Year 4, students continue to develop their keyboard skills and begin learning the violin. They also study world music and create a class orchestra. In Year 5, students focus on music History & Theory whilst also creating their own film music. In Year 6, students have the opportunity to apply their musical skills and knowledge through a final performance. They also learn about recording techniques and different technical equipment.

	YEAR 3	YEAR 4	YEAR 5	YEAR 6
T1	FIRST PERFORMANCE	EXPRESSION & EMOTIONS	HISTORY OF MUSIC	COMMERCIAL MUSIC
T2	ELEMENTS OF MUSIC	RHYTHMS ACROSS THE WORLD	FILM MUSIC	MODERN TECHNOLOGY
T3	SONGWRITING STARTS	MUSICAL FAMILIES	MUSIC THEORY	FINAL PERFORMANCE

Module Code	Overview	Key Area	National Curriculum Codes	Instruments Used
YEAR3T1	Students learn their first song and perform as an ensemble.	P	NC A1, A2 - SC1, SC3, SC4	Ukulele
YEAR3T2	Students learn the building blocks of music.	P-C-T	NC A3 - SC1, SC2, SC3, SC4	Piano, Ukulele, Percussion
YEAR3T3	Students learn what makes a good song and write their own.	P-C-T-R	NC A1, A2, A3 - SC1, SC2, SC3, SC4, SC5	Various (Chosen by Students)
YEAR4T1	Students learn that emotions play a big part in music and understand how emotions can affect music.	P-R-CL	NC A1, A2, A3 - SC1, SC2, SC3, SC6	Violin, Ukulele, Drums, Piano
YEAR4T2	Students learn about how music (especially rhythm) is used across varied cultures.	T-CL	NC A1, A2 - SC1, SC3, SC4, SC5, SC6	Drums, Percussion
YEAR4T3	Students learn the differences between the families of musical instruments.	P-T	NC A1, A2, A3 - SC1, SC2, SC3	Clarinet, Trumpet, Trombone, Percussion
YEAR5T1	Students learn from Baroque through to modern day music.	T-CL	NC A2, A3 - SC3, SC4, SC5, SC6	Various (Chosen by Students)
YEAR5T2	Students learn about the impact music has on how we enjoy films.	C-T-CL	NC A1, A2, A3 - SC1, SC2, SC3, SC4, SC5, SC6	Piano
YEAR5T3	Students learn about the impact music has on how we enjoy films.	P-T	NC A1, A2, A3 - SC1, SC2, SC3, SC4	Boomwhackers, Piano
YEAR6T1	Students learn about current music trends and how music is made in the modern age.	P-T-CL	NC A1, A2, A3 - SC1, SC2, SC3, SC4, SC5, SC6	Various (Chosen by Students)
YEAR6T2	Students get an introduction to recording techniques and different technical equipment.	C-R-CL	NC A1, A2, A3 - SC1, SC2, SC3, SC4, SC5, SC6	Various (Chosen by Students)
YEAR6T3	Students learn one final performance before moving on to secondary school.	P-T-R-CL	NC A1, A2, A3 - SC1, SC2, SC3, SC4, SC5, SC6	Various (Chosen by Students)

Key Areas:
P - Performance
C - Composition
T - Theory
R - Recording
CL - Culture



UJS Music Curriculum

Key Aims

Updated September 2026

YEAR 3

Y3 T1: First Performance

- Play an instrument or sing in a performance.
- Work as an ensemble in a recorded performance.
- Learn to sing or play from a notated score sheet.
- Recognise the importance of Ensemble work.

Y3 T2: Elements Of Music

- Understand Tonality, Texture & Timbre.
- Understand Rhythm, Melody & Harmony.
- Understand Form & Dynamics.
- Identify all 8 Elements of Music in a song.

Y3 T3: Songwriting Starts

- Create a simple chorus melody.
- Create simple 2 or 3 note chords.
- Perform in groups to the class..
- Understand how melody and harmony can be used in songwriting.

YEAR 4

Y4 T1: Expression & Emotions

- Recognise expressive and non-expressive sound.
- Play a piece of music with expression.
- Understand the elements of music that create emotion.
- Recognise how music and art can be used to create each other.

Y4 T2: Rhythms Across The World

- Understand & Participate in Taiko Drumming.
- Understand & Participate in Samba Drumming.
- Understand & Participate in Djembe Drumming.
- Learn how different cultures use music.

Y4 T5: Musical Families

- Recognise the Wind Family.
- Recognise the String Family.
- Recognise the Brass Family.
- Recognise the Percussion Family.

YEAR 5

Y5 T1: History Of Music

- Introduce the Classical Period. Inc Baroque & Romantic
- Introduce the 20th Century. Inc Jazz, R'n'B, Rock, Hip-hop.
- Recognise key composers from different eras of music.
- Understand how music history influences current trends.

Y5 T2: Film Music

- Understanding Diagetic & Non Diegetic Music.
- Understanding the use of Motifs
- Understand what a Pentatonic Scale is.
- Be able to create a Diegetic Motif for a film.

Y5 T3: Music Theory

- Understand the basic theory of Rhythm.
- Understand the basic theory of Pitch.
- Understand the basic theory of Harmony.
- Understand the basic theory of notation.

YEAR 6

Y6 T1: Commercial Music

- Understand current trends in popular music.
- Understand musical elements to create pop music.
- Recognise pop vocal styles.
- Perform a pop chord sequence.

Y6 T2: Modern Technology

- Understand how basic recording functions work.
- Understand post production techniques in songs.
- Recognise the use of PP techniques in all forms of music.
- Understand the impact of music tech on the music world.

Y6 T3: Final Performance

- Play an instrument or sing in a performance.-
- Understand how tech setups work for recording.
- Work as an ensemble to record a performance.
- Analyse the performance and review as a class.