



Progression of vocabulary and precise terminology at Francis Askew Primary School. This is a working document.

<b>KS1 Music vocabulary</b>			
<p><b>Pitch</b></p> <p>melody, tune high, (getting) higher, going up low, (getting) lower, going down steps – jumps – slides</p>	<p><b>Tempo</b></p> <p>fast, (getting) faster slow, (getting) slower</p>	<p><b>Duration</b></p> <p>pulse, beat start, stop long, longer, sustained short, shorter, staccato rhythm</p>	<p><b>Dynamics</b></p> <p>loud, (getting) louder quiet, (getting) quieter</p>
<p><b>Timbre</b></p> <p>Light, heavy, bright, hollow, dull, cold, warm, smooth, scratchy, chiming, clicking rattling, smooth, tinkling hitting, shaking, scraping</p>	<p><b>Texture</b></p> <p>solo duet ensemble few – many</p>	<p><b>Structure</b></p> <p>beginning – middle – end phrase verse – chorus</p>	<p><b>Techniques</b></p> <p>breathing posture singing, whispering, talking, humming blowing striking, hitting shaking plucking, strumming</p>

KS1 music glossary

Beat: As for pulse.

Chant: Words spoken to a steady beat.

Dynamics: The loudness of the sounds, which generally changes, sometimes dramatically, throughout most pieces of music.

Phrase: A group of sounds that make musical sense.

Pulse: A constant regular beat that can be felt throughout much music – like a heartbeat that brings the music to life. The speed of the beat is related to the tempo of the music.

Rhythm: A sequence of shorter and longer sounds that can fit to a steady beat.

Structure: The way sounds are organised within a composition, eg sounds could be organised with a beginning, middle and end.

Tempo: The speed of the music, which can either be the same throughout the music or change, eg getting faster/slower.

Timbre: Different types of sound, eg different voice sounds, sounds made by different instruments, sounds made using different kinds of beater.



<b>Lower KS2 Music vocabulary</b>			
<p><b>Pitch</b></p> <p>melody, tune melodic phrase/pattern high, (getting) higher, going up low, (getting) lower, going down steps – jumps – slides staying the same, melodic ostinato, drone pentatonic scale note names (A-G)</p>	<p><b>Tempo</b></p> <p>fast, (getting) faster slow, (getting) slower pulse different speeds</p>	<p><b>Duration</b></p> <p>steady pulse, beat start, stop long, longer, sustained short, shorter, staccato rhythm, rhythmic patterns word rhythm, syllables rhythmic ostinato</p>	<p><b>Dynamics</b></p> <p>loud - forte (getting) louder - crescendo quiet - piano (getting) quieter – diminuendo</p>
<p><b>Timbre</b></p> <p>Light, heavy, bright, hollow, dull, cold, warm, smooth, scratchy, chiming, clicking rattling, smooth, tinkling hitting, shaking, scraping</p>	<p><b>Texture</b></p> <p>solo duet ensemble few – many combined</p>	<p><b>Structure</b></p> <p>beginning – middle – end phrase verse – chorus round repetition introduction interlude ostinato bass drone melodic ostinato</p>	<p><b>Techniques</b></p> <p>breathing posture singing, whispering, talking, humming blowing striking, hitting shaking plucking, strumming</p>

Lower KS2 music glossary

Chant: Words spoken to a steady beat.

Dynamics: The loudness of the sounds, which generally changes, sometimes dramatically, throughout most pieces of music.

Ostinato: A repeated pattern that can be melodic and/or rhythmic.

Pentatonic scale: A series of five notes often made by using all the black notes of a keyboard, although it can sometimes be made using white notes, eg C D E G A.

Phrase: A group of sounds that make musical sense.

Pulse/beat: A constant regular beat that can be felt throughout much music – like a heartbeat that brings the music to life. The speed of the beat is related to the tempo of the music.

Rhythm: A sequence of shorter and longer sounds that can fit to a steady beat.

Semitone: The smallest step between two notes on a keyboard using black and white notes. (Note that there are points where the smallest step is from white to white, eg E to F, B to C.)

Structure: The way sounds are organised within a composition, eg sounds could be organised with a beginning, middle and end.

Tempo: The speed of the music, which can either be the same throughout the music or change, eg getting faster/slower.

Timbre: Different types of sound, eg different voice sounds, sounds made by different instruments, sounds made using different kinds of beater



<b>Upper KS2 Music vocabulary</b>			
<p><b>Pitch</b></p> <p>melody, tune melodic phrase/pattern high, (getting) higher, going up low, (getting) lower, going down steps – jumps – slides staying the same, melodic ostinato, drone pentatonic scale note names (A-G) interval unison, harmony, chord</p>	<p><b>Tempo</b></p> <p>fast, (getting) faster slow, (getting) slower pulse different speeds</p>	<p><b>Duration</b></p> <p>steady pulse, beat start, stop long, longer, sustained short, shorter, staccato rhythm, rhythmic patterns word rhythm, syllables rhythmic ostinato rest semibreve (4 beats) minim (2 beats) crotchet (1 beat) quaver (1/2 beat) semiquaver (1/4 beat)</p>	<p><b>Dynamics</b></p> <p>(moderately) loud – (mezzo) forte very loud – fortissimo (getting) louder – crescendo  (moderately) quiet – (mezzo) piano very quiet – pianissimo (getting) quieter – diminuendo</p>
<p><b>Timbre</b></p> <p>Light, heavy, bright, hollow, dull, cold, warm, smooth, scratchy, chiming, clicking rattling, smooth, tinkling hitting, shaking, scraping, attack, decay, accent</p>	<p><b>Texture</b></p> <p>solo duet ensemble few – many combined</p>	<p><b>Structure</b></p> <p>beginning – middle – end phrase verse – chorus round repetition introduction interlude ostinato bass drone melodic ostinato</p>	<p><b>Techniques</b></p> <p>breathing posture singing, whispering, talking, humming blowing striking, hitting shaking plucking, strumming</p>

Upper KS2 music glossary

Accompaniment: Adding rhythmic and/or melodic material to a song or melody.

Chant: Words spoken to a steady beat.

Dynamics: The loudness of the sounds, which generally changes, sometimes dramatically, throughout most pieces of music.

Legato: Full, long and flowing notes leading to a smooth sound.

Ostinato: A repeated pattern that can be melodic and/or rhythmic.

Pentatonic scale: A series of five notes often made by using all the black notes of a keyboard, although it can sometimes be made using white notes, eg C D E G A.

Phrase: A group of sounds that make musical sense.

Pulse: A constant regular beat that can be felt throughout much music – like a heartbeat that brings the music to life. The speed of the beat is related to the tempo of the music.

Rhythm: A sequence of shorter and longer sounds that can fit to a steady beat.

Semitone: The smallest step between two notes on a keyboard using black and white notes. (Note that there are points where the smallest step is from white to white, eg E to F, B to C.)

Staccato: Short, ‘bouncy’ or ‘clipped’ notes.