









Strand 5: Improvisation (Improvise with the Song)

	Curriculum Skills and Elements	Key Learning The children will learn:	National Curriculum The National Curriculum for Music says that pupils should be taught to:
Year 1	Improvising Pulse	To explore and begin to create personal musical ideas using the given notes for the unit.	Experiment with, create, select and combine sounds using the interrelated dimensions of music.
	Rhythm Pitch Tempo	 To understand that improvisation is about making up your own very simple tunes on the spot. 	
		To follow a steady beat and stay 'in time'.	
		 To improvise simple vocal patterns using question-and- answer phrases. 	
		To understand the difference between creating a rhythm pattern and a pitch pattern.	
Year 2	Improvising Listening	Begin to create personal musical ideas using the given notes.	Experiment with, create, select and combine sounds using the interrelated dimensions of music.
	Pulse Rhythm	To follow a steady beat and stay 'in time'.	
	Pitch Tempo	 To understand that improvisation is about making up your own very simple tunes on the spot. 	
Year 3	Improvising Listening	To follow a steady beat and stay 'in time' when improvising.	Improvise and compose music for a range of purposes using the interrelated dimensions of music.
	Pulse Rhythm Pitch	 To become more skilled in improvising; perhaps trying more notes and rhythms, Including rests or silent beats. 	
	Tempo Dynamics	 To think about creating music with 'phrases' made up of notes, rather than just lots of notes played one after the other. 	

Year 4	Improvising Listening Pulse Rhythm Pitch Tempo Dynamics	 To explore improvisation within a major scale, using more notes. To improvise on a limited range of pitches on the instrument they are learning, making use of musical features, including smooth (legato) and detached (staccato) articulation. To improvise over a simple chord progression/groove. 	Improvise and compose music for a range of purposes using the interrelated dimensions of music.
Year 5	Improvising Listening Pulse Rhythm Pitch Tempo Dynamics Structure	 To explore improvisation within major and minor scales, using the following notes: C, D, Eb, F, G C, D, E, F, G C, D, E, G, A F, G, A, Bb, C D, E, F, G, A To improvise over a simple groove, responding to the beat and creating a satisfying melodic shape. To experiment with using a wider range of dynamics, including very loud (fortissimo), very quiet (pianissimo), moderately loud (mezzo forte) and moderately quiet (mezzo piano). To follow a steady beat and stay 'in time'. To become more skilled in improvising, perhaps trying more notes and rhythms. To become more skilled in improvising, perhaps trying to use melodic jumps that get higher and lower. To explore rhythm patterns created from quavers, crotchets, semiquavers, minims and their rests. To include rests or silent beats. To use some loud and quiet dynamics. To think about creating music with 'phrases' made up of notes, rather than simply lots of notes played one after the 	Improvise and compose music for a range of purposes using the interrelated dimensions of music.

		other. To include smooth (legato) and detached (staccato) articulation when playing notes.	
Year 6	Improvising Listening	• To explore improvisation within a major scale, using the notes: C, D, E, F, G G, A, Bb, C, D G, A, B, C, D F, G, A, C, D	Improvise and compose music for a range of purposes using the interrelated dimensions of music
	Pulse Rhythm Pitch Tempo	 To improvise over a groove, responding to the beat and creating a satisfying melodic shape with varied dynamics and articulation. 	
	Dynamics Structure	To follow a steady beat and stay 'in time'.	
		To become more skilled in improvising; perhaps trying more notes and rhythms. To include rests or silent beats.	
		 To think about creating music with 'phrases' made up of notes, rather than just lots of notes played one after the other. 	
		To challenge themselves to play for longer periods, both as a soloist and in response to others in a group	