









Strand 6: Composition (Compose with the Song / Create a Graphic Score)

	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	Pulse Rhythm Pitch Tempo Dynamics	 Begin to understand that composing is like writing a story with music. To explore sounds and create their own melodies. To perform their simple composition/s using two, three, four or five notes. Use simple notation if appropriate: To create a simple melody using crotchets and minims 	Experiment with, create, select and combine sounds using the interrelated dimensions of music.
Year 2	Pulse Rhythm Pitch Tempo Dynamics	 To perform their simple composition/s using two, three, four or five notes. To start and end their tune/s on note one. Continue to understand that composing is like writing a story with music. To explore and create graphic scores: To create musical sound effects and short sequences of sounds in response to music and video stimuli. To use graphic symbols, dot notation and stick notation, as appropriate, to keep a record of composed pieces. To create a story, choosing and playing classroom instruments. 	Experiment with, create, select and combine sounds using the interrelated dimensions of music.

		 To create and perform their own rhythm patterns with stick notation, including crotchets, quavers and minims. To use music technology, if available, to capture, change and combine sounds. To create a simple melody using crotchets and minims 	
Year 3	Composing Notation Pulse Rhythm Pitch Tempo Dynamics Notation	 To successfully create a melody in keeping with the style of the backing track. This could be to: ● Compose over a simple chord progression. ● Compose over a simple groove. ● Compose over a drone. To include a home note to provide a sense of an ending; coming home. To perform their simple composition/s using their own choice of notes. To give the melody a shape. To describe how their melodies were created. To start to use simple structures within compositions, eg introduction, verse, chorus or AB form. To use simple dynamics. To create a tempo instruction. To compose song accompaniments on tuned and untuned percussion, using known rhythms and note values. To use simple rhythmic combinations of minims, crotchets and paired quavers with their corresponding rests to create rhythm patterns. 	Improvise and compose music for a range of purposes, using the interrelated dimensions of music. Use and understand staff and other musical notations.
Year 4	Composing Notation Pulse	 To compose over a simple chord progression. To compose over a groove. 	Improvise and compose music for a range of purposes, using the interrelated dimensions of music.

	Rhythm Pitch Tempo Dynamics Notation	 To use music technology, if available, to capture, change and combine sounds. To start to use simple structures within compositions, eg introduction, verse, chorus or AB form. To use simple dynamics. To create a tempo instruction. To compose song accompaniments on tuned and untuned percussion, using known rhythms and note values. To create a melody using crotchets, minims, quavers and their rests. To use a pentatonic scale. To explain a composition's musical shape, identifying melodic intervals (a melody that leaps) and melodic steps (a melody that moves to the next note). To include the home note to provide a sense of an ending; coming home. To perform their simple composition/s using their own choice of notes. 	Use and understand staff and other musical notations.
Year 5	Composing Notation Pulse Rhythm Pitch Tempo Dynamics Notation	 To create music in response to music and video stimuli. To use music technology, if available, to capture, change and combine sounds. Start to use structures within compositions, eg introductions, multiple verse and chorus sections, AB form or ABA form (ternary form). To use chords to compose music that evokes a specific atmosphere, mood or environment. 	Improvise and compose music for a range of purposes, using the interrelated dimensions of music. Use and understand staff and other musical notations.

To use simple dynamics. To use rhythmic variety. To compose song accompaniments, perhaps using basic chords. To use a wider range of dynamics, including fortissimo (very loud), pianissimo (very quiet), mezzo forte (moderately loud) and mezzo piano (moderately quiet). To use full scales in different keys. To understand how chord triads are formed and play them on tuned percussion, melodic instruments or keyboards. To perform simple, chordal accompaniments. To create a melody using crotchets, quavers, minims and perhaps semibreves and semiquavers, plus all equivalent rests. To use a pentatonic and a full scale, as well as major and minor tonalities. To understand the structure of the composition. To explain the composition's musical shape, identifying melodic intervals (a melody that leaps) and melodic steps (a melody that moves to the next note). To include a home note to provide a sense of an ending; coming home. To perform their simple composition/s using their own choice of notes. To successfully create a melody in keeping with the style of the backing track.

		To create their composition/s with an awareness of the basic/simple chords in the backing track	
Year 6	Composing Notation Pulse	To plan and compose an eight or 16-beat melodic phrase using the pentatonic scale (eg C, D, E, G, A) and incorporate rhythmic variety and interest.	Improvise and compose music for a range of purposes, using the interrelated dimensions of music.
	Rhythm Pitch Tempo Dynamics Notation	 To play this melody on available tuned percussion and/or orchestral instruments. 	Use and understand staff and other musical notations.
		To notate this melody.	
		Either of these melodies can be enhanced with rhythmic or simple chordal accompaniment.	
		To create a simple chord progression.	
		 To compose a ternary (ABA form) piece; to use available music software/apps to create and record it, discussing how musical contrasts are achieved. 	
		 To use music technology, if available, to capture, change and combine sounds. 	
		To create music in response to music and video stimuli.	
		To use rhythmic variety.	
		 To compose song accompaniments, perhaps using basic chords. 	
		 To use a wider range of dynamics, including fortissimo (very loud), pianissimo (very quiet), mezzo forte (moderately loud) and mezzo piano (moderately quiet). 	
		To use full scales in different keys.	
		 To create a melody using crotchets, quavers, minims, perhaps semibreves and semiquavers, and all equivalent rests. 	