

Whole School Genre of the Week 2025-2026

To help us to increase our children's experience of music, the whole school focuses on a different genre each week. Please tell the children the name of the genre of music for the week and play one example, or more, every day. You might like to play the music as the children leave or return to the classroom. (Eg: at break, lunch times or at the start or end of the day.)

Many of the styles can be found in the following websites. Please remember to 'vet' examples found on YouTube to ensure the suitability of lyrics, themes and any video content!

ABRSM have created a resource which includes audio clips, videos and lesson plans

<https://www.classroom200.org/>

The 'minute of listening' website. <https://www.minuteoflistening.org/>

The BBC music website is also useful.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/topics/cmjp647k3e8t>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/ten-pieces/all-resources/zdg3t39>

Please see the [Model Music Curriculum Appendices 1,2 and 3.](#)

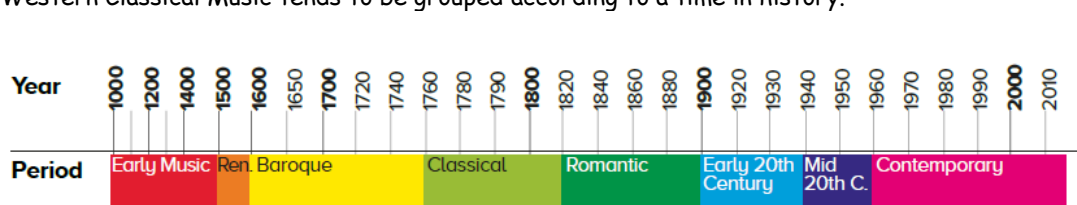
Appendix 1- Key stages 1 and 2 Glossary of Musical Terms

Appendix 2 – Chronology: Repertoire in Context. This lists key pieces (Foundation Listening pieces) and additional pieces recommended for each year group.

Appendix 3- Information about Foundation Listening pieces and example lesson ideas for each year group (Case Studies).

There are many, many types or genres of music. They can be classified by country of origin, a time in history and musical features.

Western Classical Music tends to be grouped according to a time in history.



During that time music was, of course, being played across the world. Each country has its history of its own local music.

Due to the movement of people to different parts of the world, musical styles have been combined over time creating interlinked styles of music.

We have tried to group the genres of music to show some progression of the development of styles. We have included styles and genres to support the learning of key celebrations and traditions. We have chosen some genres which clearly demonstrate a musical feature.

The aim is to provide the children with access to a broad variety of musical styles, to develop recognition of features and instruments heard in the music and to learn musical vocabulary relating to these.

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Autumn 1	Genre	Foundation Listening pieces suggested by Model Music Curriculum	Links with Special Days/ Topics
Week 1	African	Nigeria: Drumming Jin-Go-La-Ba (Drums of Passion) by Babatunde Olatunji South Africa: Choral Inkanyezi Nezazi by Ladysmith Black Mambazo	Black History Month - October. Motown.
Week 2	Jazz and Ragtime	Jazz: Take the 'A' Train by Duke Ellington Orchestra	
Week 3	Big Band and Swing		
Week 4	Soul		
Week 5	Blues and 1940's R n B	Blues: Runaway Blues by Ma Rainey	
Week 6	Calypso and Reggae	Calypso from Trinidad Tropical Bird by Trinidad Steel Band	
Week 7	Rock and Roll	Rock n Roll:- Hound Dog by Elvis Presley	
Week 8	Asian music	India: Indian Classical Sahela Re by Kishori Amonkar Punjab/UK: Bhangra Bhabiye Akh Larr Gayee by Bhujhangy Group Music from Japan.	Diwali- 21 Oct

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Autumn 2	Genre	Foundation Listening pieces suggested by Model Music Curriculum	Links with Special Days/ Topics
Week 1	Classical - Orchestral		Halloween -31 st Oct Fireworks - 5th Nov
Week 2	Music during World Wars 1 and 2.		Remembrance Day- 11 th Nov
Week 3	Wind or Brass Band		
Week 4	Scottish Folk/ Scottish Dance		St. Andrew's Day - 30th Nov
Week 5	String Quartet (Christmas)		Christmas
Week 6	Christmas - Pop/Films/ TV		Christmas
Week 7	Christmas - Choral	This Little Babe from Ceremony of Carols Britten 20th Century	Christmas

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Spring 1	Genre	Foundation Listening pieces suggested by Model Music Curriculum	Links with Special Days/ Topics
Week 1	Charleston/ Lindy Hop/jive		Types of Dances
Week 2	March		
Week 3	Flamenco / Greek dance		
Week 4	Tango/ salsa/ rumba	Argentina:Tango Libertango by Piazzolla	
Week 5	Country		
Week 6	Ballad and Waltz		St. Valentine's Day- 14 Feb
Week 7	Music from around the World	Indonesia: Gamelan Baris by Gong Kebyar of Peliatan Middle East: Folk Sprinting Gazelle by Reem Kelani Poland: Folk Mazurkas Op.24 by Chopin Music from China, Vietnam, South Korea, Singapore, Malaysia and Taiwan.	Lunar New Year- 17 th -19 th Feb

Spring 2	Genre	Foundation Listening pieces suggested by Model Music Curriculum	Links with Special Days/ Topics
Week 1	Welsh Choral music		St. David's Day:- 1st March
Week 2	A cappella and Barbershop		
Week 3	Irish Folk or Irish Dance		St. Patrick's day:- 17th March
Week 4	Jewish music		Passover: 2 nd April 2026
Week 5	Gospel / Spiritual Music		Easter

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Summer 1	Genre	Foundation Listening pieces suggested by Model Music Curriculum	Links with Special Days/ Topics
Week 1	English folk / country dancing music	English Folk Song Suite Vaughan Williams 20th Century Sea Shanties	St. George's Day:- 23 rd April
Week 2	Musical		
Week 3	Film Music	Jai Ho from Slumdog Millionaire- A.R. Rahman	
Week 4	Opera		
Week 5	Rock		

Summer 2	Genre	Foundation Listening pieces suggested by Model Music Curriculum	Links with Special Days/ Topics
Week 1	Pop	Pop: With A Little Help from My Friends by The Beatles 80s Synth/Pop: Smalltown Boy by Bronski Beat Art Pop: Wild Man by Kate Bush	
Week 2	Funk	Funk: Got You (I Feel Good) by James Brown	
Week 3	Disco	Disco: Le Freak by Chic	
Week 4	Rap/ Hip hop/Chant		
Week 5	Indie	90s Indie: Wonderwall by Oasis	
Week 6	Contemporary R 'n' B	90s RnB: Say My Name by Destiny's Child	
Week 7	21 st Century Pupil and Teacher Choice.		