

CURRICULUM INTENT: PREP SCHOOL MUSIC

At NLPS, in the music department, we aim to provide a broad range of experiences for students at all levels from Years 3 to Year 6. Our curriculum is designed to offer challenge through excellent musical experiences via performing, composing and listening, building on the basic skills learned in KS1 through singing and rhythm-making. Through our curriculum, we aim to provide our students with experiences that combine creative skills with practical skills including a heavy focus on vocal work and developing vocabulary through singing. We believe that our curriculum will not only help students to understand the world around them but, also provide valuable transferable skills for future education. We recognise the importance music plays in providing students with a range of cultural experiences and the impact it has on equipping students with cultural capital. We also have a variety of extra-curricular opportunities and one-to-one lessons available for those who want to take music one step further.

CURRICULUM IMPLEMENTATION: PREP MUSIC

	AUTUMN TERM		SPRING TERM		SUMMER TERM		TRIPS AND EVENTS
	Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Spring 1	Spring 2	Summer 1	Summer 2	
Year 3 and 4 Knowledge (First Year – 2 Year Curriculum)	Singing	Singing for Christmas	Recorders	Recorders	End of Recorders/ Woodwind Instruments/	Production Preparation	Christmas Carol Concert (Autumn 2)
	Learning simple warm ups. Learning about posture. Learning simple nursery rhymes. Learning a more complex song. Adding percussion to songs.	Learning Christmas music for concert including solos and percussion	Learning to read duration, rhythm and pitch in notation. How to hold and play a recorder. The notes B, A and G and melodies using those notes.	Learning to read rests. The note C. Melodies using B, A, G and C.	The note D. Melodies using B, A, G, C and D. Introduction to other woodwind instruments. Learning songs for the end of year production	Learning songs for the end of year production.	Voice in a Million (Prep Choir) (Spring 2) Soloist Concert (Music Week Summer 2)
Year 3 and 4 Skills	Literacy: Reading of lyrics. Subject specific skills: Posture, breath control and diction in singing. Ensemble performance skills. Staying in time.	SMSC: Christmas music and its purpose. Literacy: Reading of lyrics. Subject specific skills: Posture, breath control and diction in singing. Ensemble performance skills. Solo performance skills.	Literacy: Learning to read music and how it compares to learning other languages. Subject specific skills: Recorder technique. Breath control. Musical literacy through standard Western notation. Ensemble performance skills.	Literacy: Learning to read music and how it compares to learning other languages. Numeracy: Basic addition, adding 50% and fractions as part of notation reading. Subject specific skills: Recorder technique. Breath control.	SMSC: Appreciation of Western Classical Traditional Music through listening. Literacy: Learning to read music and how it compares to learning other languages. Numeracy: Basic addition, adding 50% and fractions as part of notation reading. Subject specific skills:	SMSC: whole prep school contribution to production performance. Opportunities to teach about different cultures and times/events depending on chosen show. Subject specific skills:	Production (Summer 2)

		Staying in time.	Improvisation skills. Staying in time.	Musical literacy through standard Western notation. Ensemble performance skills. Improvisation skills. Staying in time.	Recorder technique. Breath control. Musical literacy through standard Western notation. Ensemble performance skills. Improvisation skills. Staying in time. Listening skills through identification of orchestral instruments and the use of musical elements. Posture, breath control and diction in singing.	Posture, breath control and diction in singing. Ensemble performance skills. Solo performance skills. Staying in time.	
Year 3 and 4 Knowledge (Second Year – 2 Year Curriculum)	Singing	Singing for Christmas	Body Percussion	World Music Project	World Music Project/Production Preparation	Production Preparation	Christmas Carol Concert (Autumn 2)
	Learning simple warm ups. Learning about posture. Learning simple nursery rhymes in rounds. Changing the words to nursery rhymes – autumn theme and our theme.	Learning Christmas music for concert including solos and percussion.	Learning what body percussion is. Learning graphic notation to enable performance. Learning to perform body percussion to different familiar songs. Composing our own body percussion rhythm.	Learning about traditional music from around the world focused on music from our own cultures. Students to present music from their chosen country including instrumentation, audience, purpose and an example. Composition task using pentatonic scale.	Finishing previous topic as necessary. Learning songs for the end of year production.	Learning songs for the end of year production	Voice in a Million (Prep Choir) (Spring 2) Soloist Concert (Music Week Summer 2) Production (Summer 2)

<p>Year 3 and 4 Skills</p>	<p>Literacy: Reading of lyrics. Writing our own lyrics, rhyming schemes. Subject specific skills: Posture, breath control and diction in singing. Ensemble performance skills. Staying in time.</p>	<p>SMSC: Christmas music and its purpose. Literacy: Reading of lyrics. Subject specific skills: Posture, breath control and diction in singing. Ensemble performance skills. Solo performance skills. Staying in time.</p>	<p>Literacy: Learning to read graphic notation and how it compares to learning other languages. Subject specific skills: Body percussion technique. Musical literacy through graphic notation. Ensemble performance skills. Staying in time.</p>	<p>SMSC: Music in our own cultures and those of others. Literacy: Presentation skills. Subject Specific Skills Listening skills. Composition skills – melody writing.</p>	<p>SMSC: whole prep school contribution to production performance. Opportunities to teach about different cultures and times/events depending on chosen show. Subject specific skills: Posture, breath control and diction in singing. Ensemble performance skills. Solo performance skills. Staying in time.</p>	<p>SMSC: whole prep school contribution to production performance. Opportunities to teach about different cultures and times/events depending on chosen show. Subject specific skills: Posture, breath control and diction in singing. Ensemble performance skills. Solo performance skills. Staying in time.</p>	
<p>Year 5 Knowledge (First Year – 2 Year Curriculum)</p>	<p>Singing</p> <p>Learning simple warm ups. Learning about posture. Singing rounds and partner songs</p>	<p>Singing for Christmas</p> <p>Learning Christmas music for concert including solos and percussion.</p>	<p>Keyboards</p> <p>Learning to read duration, rhythm and pitch in notation. Learning where the notes are on the keyboard. Learning to play simple exercises and melodies.</p>	<p>Instruments of the Orchestra</p> <p>Learning about the families of instruments and listening to how each instrument sounds.</p>	<p>Composition/ Production Preparation</p> <p>Writing simple rhythms and then using the pentatonic scale to write melodies. Learning songs for the end of year production.</p>	<p>Production Preparation</p> <p>Learning songs for the end of year production.</p>	<p>Christmas Carol Concert (Autumn 2)</p> <p>Voice in a Million (Prep Choir) (Spring 2)</p> <p>Soloist Concert (Music Week Summer 2)</p>

Year 5 Skills	<p>Literacy: Reading of lyrics.</p> <p>Subject specific skills: Posture, breath control and diction in singing. Ensemble performance skills. Staying in time. First steps of harmony singing – rounds and partner songs.</p>	<p>SMSC: Christmas music and its purpose.</p> <p>Literacy: Reading of lyrics.</p> <p>Subject specific skills: Posture, breath control and diction in singing. Ensemble performance skills. Solo performance skills. Staying in time.</p>	<p>Numeracy: Using duration in practice with basic maths.</p> <p>Subject specific skills: Notation in practice through playing music on keyboards. Keyboard technique. Ensemble performance skills. Practise skills, working on sections to get them accurate over time.</p>	<p>SMSC: Appreciation of Western Classical Traditional Music through listening</p> <p>Literacy: Instrument key words</p> <p>Subject specific skills: Listening skills through identification of orchestral instruments.</p>	<p>Numeracy: Using duration to write down music.</p> <p>Subject specific skills: Using standard notation to write down music. Composition skills – melody writing.</p>	<p>SMSC: whole prep school contribution to production performance. Opportunities to teach about different cultures and times/events depending on chosen show.</p> <p>Subject specific skills: Posture, breath control and diction in singing. Ensemble performance skills. Solo performance skills. Staying in time</p>	Production (Summer 2)
Year 5 Knowledge (Second Year – 2 Year Curriculum)	Singing	Singing for Christmas	Blues Project	Blues Project	Blues Project/Production Preparation	Production Preparation	Christmas Carol Concert (Autumn 2) Voice in a Million (Prep Choir) (Spring 2) Soloist Concert (Music Week Summer 2) Production (Summer 2)
	Learning simple warm ups. Learning about posture. Learning partner songs/rounds and songs in harmony.	Learning Christmas music for concert including solos and percussion.	History of the blues. 12-bar blues chords. Shuffle beat. Blues scale.	Improvisation. Lyric writing. Putting it all together as a song.	Finishing previous topic as necessary. Learning songs for the end of year production.	Learning songs for the end of year production	
Year 5 Skills	<p>Literacy: Reading of lyrics</p> <p>Subject specific skills: Posture, breath control and diction in singing Ensemble performance skills</p>	<p>SMSC: Christmas music and its purpose</p> <p>Literacy: Reading of lyrics</p> <p>Subject specific skills: Posture, breath control and diction in singing</p>	<p>SMSC: Cultural context of blues</p> <p>Literacy: Learning of keywords for blues</p> <p>Lyric writing</p>	<p>SMSC: Cultural context of blues</p> <p>Literacy: Learning of keywords for blues</p> <p>Lyric writing</p>	<p>SMSC: whole prep school contribution to production performance</p> <p>Opportunities to teach about different cultures and</p>	<p>SMSC: whole prep school contribution to production performance. Opportunities to teach about different cultures and times/events</p>	

	Staying in time First steps of harmony singing – rounds and partner songs – and proper 2- and 3- part singing	Ensemble performance skills Solo performance skills Staying in time	Subject Specific Skills: Listening skills. Ensemble performance. Improvisation. Musical literacy in notation.	Subject Specific Skills: Listening skills. Ensemble performance. Improvisation. Musical literacy in notation.	times/events depending on chosen show Subject specific skills: Posture, breath control and diction in singing. Ensemble performance skills. Solo performance skills. Staying in time.	depending on chosen show. Subject specific skills: Posture, breath control and diction in singing. Ensemble performance skills. Solo performance skills. Staying in time.	
Year 6 Knowledge (First Year – 2 Year Curriculum)	Singing	Singing for Christmas	Keyboards	Instruments of the Orchestra	Composition/ Production Preparation	Production Preparation/ Y6 Graduation	Christmas Carol Concert (Autumn 2)
	Learning simple warm ups. Learning about posture. Singing rounds and partner songs.	Learning Christmas music for concert including solos and percussion.	Learning to read duration, rhythm and pitch in notation. Learning where the notes are on the keyboard. Learning to play simple exercises and melodies.	Learning about the families of instruments and listening to how each instrument sounds.	Writing simple rhythms and then using the pentatonic scale to write melodies. Learning songs for the end of year production.	Learning songs for the end of year production and Y6 graduation.	Voice in a Million (Prep Choir) (Spring 2) Soloist Concert (Music Week Summer 2)
Year 6 Skills	Literacy: Reading of lyrics Subject specific skills: Posture, breath control and diction in singing Ensemble performance skills Staying in time	SMSC: Christmas music and its purpose Literacy: Reading of lyrics Subject specific skills: Posture, breath control and diction in singing Ensemble performance skills	Numeracy: Using duration in practice with basic maths Subject specific skills: Notation in practice through playing music on keyboards Keyboard technique Ensemble performance skills	SMSC: Appreciation of Western Classical Traditional Music through listening Literacy: Instrument key words Subject specific skills: Listening skills through identification of orchestral instruments	Numeracy: Using duration to write down music Subject specific skills: Using standard notation to write down music Composition skills – melody writing	SMSC: whole prep school contribution to production performance Opportunities to teach about different cultures and times/events depending on chosen show Subject specific skills:	Production (Summer 2)

	First steps of harmony singing – rounds and partner songs	Solo performance skills Staying in time	Practise skills, working on sections to get them accurate over time			Posture, breath control and diction in singing Ensemble performance skills Solo performance skills Staying in time	
Year 6 Knowledge (Second Year – 2 Year Curriculum)	Singing	Singing for Christmas	Blues Project	Blues Project	Blues Project/Production Preparation	Production Preparation/Y6 Graduation	Christmas Carol Concert (Autumn 2) Voice in a Million (Prep Choir) (Spring 2)
	Learning simple warm ups Learning about posture Learning partner songs/rounds and songs in harmony.	Learning Christmas music for concert including solos and percussion	History of the blues 12-bar blues chords Shuffle beat Blues scale	Improvisation Lyric writing Putting it all together as a song	Finishing previous topic as necessary Learning songs for the end of year production	Learning songs for the end of year production and Y6 graduation	
Year 6 Skills	Literacy: Reading of lyrics	SMSC: Christmas music and its purpose	SMSC: Cultural context of blues	SMSC: Cultural context of blues	SMSC: whole prep school contribution to production performance	SMSC: whole prep school contribution to production performance	Soloist Concert (Music Week Summer 2) Production (Summer 2)
	Subject specific skills: Posture, breath control and diction in singing Ensemble performance skills Staying in time	Literacy: Reading of lyrics Subject specific skills: Posture, breath control and diction in singing Ensemble performance skills	Literacy: Learning of keywords for blues Lyric writing Subject Specific Skills Listening skills Ensemble performance Improvisation	Literacy: Learning of keywords for blues Lyric writing Subject Specific Skills Listening skills Ensemble performance Improvisation	Opportunities to teach about different cultures and times/events depending on chosen show Subject specific skills:	Opportunities to teach about different cultures and times/events depending on chosen show Subject specific skills:	

	First steps of harmony singing – rounds and partner songs – and proper 2- and 3- part singing	Solo performance skills Staying in time	Musical literacy in notation	Musical literacy in notation	Posture, breath control and diction in singing Ensemble performance skills Solo performance skills Staying in time	Posture, breath control and diction in singing Ensemble performance skills Solo performance skills Staying in time	
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IMPACT: PREP MUSIC

The delivery of the music curriculum at NLPS ensures that all students develop performing, composing and listening skills that will prepare them for KS3 and, ultimately, GCSE music. Students should be aware that the transferable skills they have learned in music lessons will be very valuable to them, such as confidence, resilience, listening, teamwork, and dedication. All students should leave Y6 with a good understanding of a variety of music from different times and places, and prepared for what music will be like in a secondary school classroom.