

The development of subject vocabulary is cumulative, building on previous knowledge. This list provides core vocabulary which teachers can extend in lessons as they see appropriate. Many untuned percussion instruments are known by more than one name; the names listed below are the ones we commonly use.

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drum	steady beat	song
shaker	high (sounds)	tune
cymbal	low (sounds)	play
triangle	quiet	listen
tambourine	loud	perform
jingle bells	fast	audience
percussion	slow	applause
beater		
body percussion		

Year 1

rhythm	graphic notation
long (sounds)	symbols
short (sounds)	sequence
pulse	
pitch	
higher	
lower	
tempo	
faster	
slower	
	long (sounds) short (sounds) pulse pitch higher lower tempo faster

Year 2

tuned percussion chime bars Boomwhackers	timbre sound quality structure	repeat layers/layering call and response
two-tone block clikit	melody	compose solo
guiro		

2021-22 Yr1/2 African drumming will include related vocabulary.

Year 3

Glockenspiel (metal bars) Xylophone (wooden bars) Indian bells wooden agogo	dynamics crescendo (getting louder) diminuendo (getting quieter) texture	composer phrase chant ostinato drone melody improvise composition
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Year 4		
bass bar metallophone	Piano = p = quiet pianissimo = pp = very quiet forte = f = loud mezzo forte = mf = moderately loud fortissimo = ff = very loud crotchets (one beat) crotchet rest (one beat silence) quavers (half beats) minims (two beats) minim rest dotted minim (three beats) four four time (four crotchet beats in a bar)	pentatonic scale (CDEGA) motif stick notation rhythm notation

Year 5 As for Yr4. Additionally:

acoustic guitar electric guitar	strong beat (e.g. first beat in a bar)	Chord major/minor chord
	texture	chord sequence
	structure	accompaniment
	duration	harmony
		duet

2021-2022 Yr5 Whole class guitar tuition will include related vocabulary.

Year 6

Sections of the orchestra: strings, woodwind, brass and	staff notation bar lines	Warm tone (singing) voice control
percussion.	time signature	articulation
violin	three four time (three crotchet	diction
cello	beats in a bar)	enunciate
flute	semibreves (four beats)	melodic shape (high/low/same)
clarinet		
trumpet		
timpani		

Musical elements are also referred to as 'dimensions'.

They are: **pitch** (high/low), **tempo** (speed), **dynamics** (variations in loudness), duration (length of sounds), **rhythm** (pattern of long and short sounds), **timbre** (quality of a sound e.g. metallic), **texture** (layers of sound/harmony) and **structure** (organisation of the music, e.g. verse/chorus).