Learning in EYFS: What Music Subject Leaders Need to Know

The EYFS framework is structured very differently to the national curriculum as it is organised across seven areas of learning rather than subject areas. The aim of this document is to help subject leaders to understand how the skills taught across EYFS feed into national curriculum subjects.

This document demonstrates which early years outcomes are prerequisite skills for Music within the national curriculum. The table below outlines the most relevant early years outcomes from Birth to three to ELG, brought together from different areas of the Early Years Foundation Stage, to match the programme of study for Music.

The most relevant Early Years outcomes for Music are taken from the following areas of learning:

- Creating with Materials
- Being Imaginative and Expressive

MUSIC			
Birth to 3 years	Expressive Arts and Design	Creating with Materials	Show attention to sounds and music. Join in with songs and rhymes, making some sounds. Make rhythmical and repetitive sounds. Explore their voices and enjoy making sounds. Enjoy and take part in action songs, such as Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star.'
		Being Imaginative and Expressive	Respond emotionally and physically to music when it changes. Anticipate phrases and actions in rhymes and songs, like 'Peepo'. Explore their voices and enjoy making sounds.
3-4 years			Listen with increased attention to sounds. Remember and sing entire songs. Sing the pitch of a tone sung by another person ('pitch match'). Sing the melodic shape (moving melody, such as up and down, down and up) of familiar songs.
		Being Imaginative and Expressive	Respond to what they have heard, expressing their thoughts and feelings. Create their own songs, or improvise a song around one they know. Play instruments with increasing control to express their feelings and ideas.





Reception	Creating with Materials	Sing in a group or on their own, increasingly matching the pitch and following the melody. Explore and engage in music making and dance, performing solo or in groups.
	Being Imaginative and Expressive	Listen attentively, move to and talk about music, expressing their feelings and responses.
ELG	Creating with Materials	N/A
	Being Imaginative and Expressive	Sing a range of well-known nursery rhymes and songs. Perform songs, rhymes, poems and stories with others, and (when appropriate) try to move in time with music







