Summer 1

Exploring Arrangements

This unit develops children's ability to create, combine and perform their own compositions. They will be assisted to arrange these pieces into separate parts looking at rhythm and melody parts.

As part of this unit children will further develop their knowledge and repertoire of chords and begin to apply this to chordal harmony.

The children will refine and rehearse these pieces to a standard suitable for recording and reproducing on CD within the classroom.

Summer 2

Performing and Analysing - Final Showcase Performance

This unit includes practising and rehearsing previously learned material. Children will discuss and develop a program for performance making their decisions for the validity of pieces being included in a concert/presentation. They will listen to each others playing with a more critical ear and suggest areas for improvement.



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Sandwell Youth Music

Wider Opportunities

Scheme of Work

Ukulele













Autumn 1

Instrumental Work Technique - A Basis for Subsequent Units

In this unit the children learn how to care for the ukulele. They learn good sitting posture for playing the ukulele using a thumb strum.

They develop the ability to maintain a steady pulse by listening and playing together on the open strings. The children will begin to learn simple initial chords.

They begin to develop the necessary skills to use their fingers on the strings to make stopped notes.

Autumn 2

Ongoing Musical Skills

In this unit the children begin to develop an understanding of the musical elements through their playing.

They begin to look at different methods of writing down music for the ukulele using chord and tab notation.

The children will begin to learn 'beginner' chords whilst continuing to develop their posture and technique. The children will look at different strum patterns and techniques in this term. The children will also learn to use a 'held-thumb' technique for picking out individual strings.

They become more aware as a performer and will work towards a recital/ presentation at the end of this term.

Spring 1

Rhythmic Patterns Creating and Performing

This unit develops children's ability to create simple rhythmic patterns and perform them using tab notation as a support.

Children will continue their development as singers/ukulele players by learning to read songs with ukulele chords. They will further their repertoire of chords. Children create their own music and notate it independently. They begin to combine these simple compositions together as a group.

The children will develop their melodic playing.

Spring 2

Exploring Musical Styles

This unit develops children's ability to identify different musical styles. They will be exposed to different styles through listening exercises. They will also learn to play in some of these styles in a simple manner building on previous learning using tab notation as a basis.

Some of the styles of music looked at within this unit include Rock, Blues, Classical, Spanish and Folk.

Video is a major resource for this unit showing contemporary performers from around the world demonstrating the true versatility of the ukulele.





