

The Blues	Music	Years 5 & 6, Term 3	Year A
Key vocabulary: Blues, folk, chords, lyrics, melody, scale, blues scale, major minor tonality, key			
Knowledge and skills: Understand how pulse, rhythm and pitch work together. (C1) Appropriately discuss the dimensions of music and recognise them in music heard. (C2) Create a simple composition and record using appropriate notation. (C4) Develop an understanding of formal, written notation which includes staff, semibreves and dotted crotchets. (C5) Develop understanding of the history and context of music. (C6) Appreciate a wide range of live and recorded music from different traditions and different composers. (C7) <i>Songs have been written in response to historical events such as Ring o Roses (Black Death) London Bridge is falling down (Great Fire of London) also Protest Songs about wars or injustice.</i> <i>Twelve bar blues is structured around three chords. Originated in America in the early part of 20th Century. It is recognised by the chords it uses, and forms the basis of many rock songs. Hard Times Blues was written during the Depression in America.</i>		Possible activities: Listen to Danny Boy and The Bluebell of Scotland. Both these songs represent sadness but in different ways- the lyrics are about sad events, but the melody makes you feel differently about the songs. Think about how different songs make you feel. If you are sad, what sort of music do you listen to? Introduce major and minor tonality. List songs about different events that you know of. Consider the subject of most modern songs - love, heartbreak. Listen to Hard Times Blues. Discuss the mood, the historical, cultural, and social meaning of the lyrics. Why was it written and recorded? From this, work out the characteristics of a Blues Song. Learn the chords needed for blues. Build up from a bass note, 3 rd and 5 th . Use a keyboard or glockenspiel to see the pattern of the ‘triad’. Write a Blues Song. What awful things can you find to be sad about? Use the structure given for 12 bar blues (Music Express 6 p30) Perform a 12 bar blues with a group playing a chord sequence; a group singing or humming the melody; individual taking turns to perform rhythmic or melodic improvisations in the instrumental breaks; everyone else finger clicks or taps a steady beat quietly.	
Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural Education, and Promotion of British Values: Spiritual: Moral: Should music be used for political purposes? Social: Singing together can create a feeling of togetherness. Cultural: Music has played in important role in many different cultures. British Values: Equalities:			