

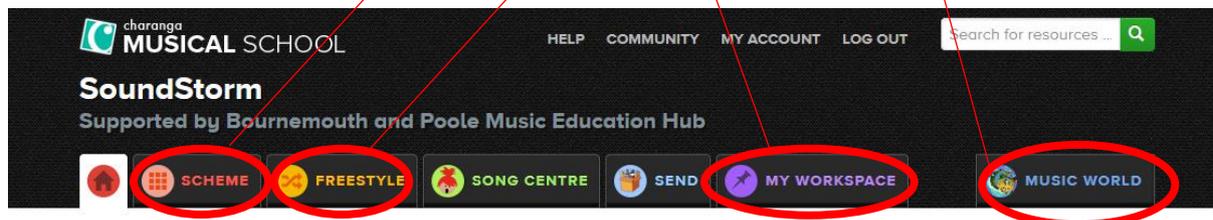
# Introduction to Charanga

## Overview

Charanga is an easy-to-use, modern online resource to support primary music teaching. It holds approx. 17,000 resources including lesson plans, games, activities, songs and videos. Charanga can be integrated into your music teaching as much or as little as you wish; whether you wish to use it as your main scheme of work, or simply to access topic-centred music resources.

## Where to begin?

Whilst there's a wealth of resources throughout Charanga; the main four sections we'd advise starting with would be Music Scheme, Freestyle, My Workspace and Music World.



## Help!

There are help and instruction videos throughout the Charanga site. However, if you ever get stuck then the "Help" function is a great tool for step-by-step guidance about the various sections of the website. If you get really stuck, you can always contact the Charanga helpdesk: Email [helpdesk@charanga.com](mailto:helpdesk@charanga.com) or call 01273 823 909

## Need something specific?

The search function in the top right-hand corner of the screen has also been recently updated and is a great tool to navigate all 17,000 resources. Give it a go: if there's a topic, artist or genre that would support your lesson, why not give it a search? For example: searching "India" brings up 33 resources....

### Search for resources

## More guidance:

Scroll to the bottom of the homepage to find the below articles. Each of these will link to another resource, video or page to support you in navigating your way around Charanga.

### 2014 Curriculum, Ofsted and Musical School

- Curriculum FAQs
- Musical School and the new curriculum
- Sample Music Plan
- New Scheme is now here

### Getting started

- Musical School video
- Try a unit with your class
- Other popular resources
- Songs, Topics and Courses
- Contact an advisor

### Personalising Musical School

- Give your colleagues a login
- Build your own lessons
- Share lessons with colleagues
- Help children learn online

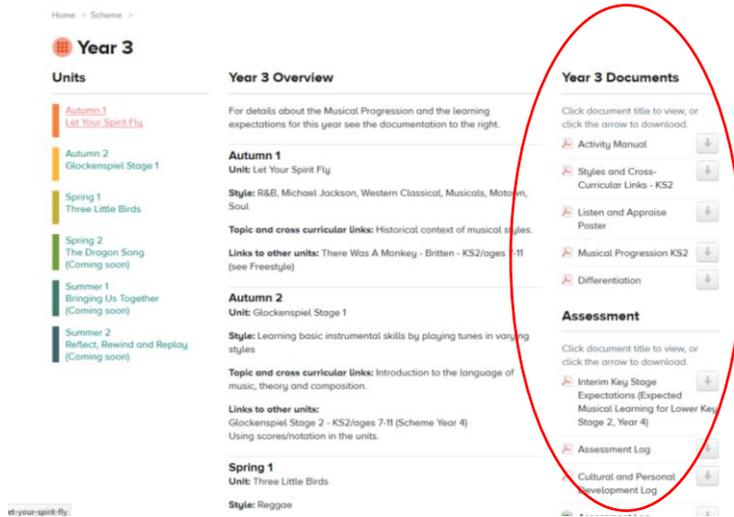
### Content blocked and other challenges

- Don't panic!** — There are over 3000 schools across 119 different Local Authorities using Musical School and any difficulties are easily solvable.
- [How to overcome initial technical challenges](#)

# Musical School Scheme

*Useful Resource:* Scroll towards the bottom of the Charanga homepage for a “Getting Started with the Scheme” instruction video. New videos will be added throughout the term through the “Help” section.

The Charanga Musical School Scheme provides teachers with week-by-week lesson support for each year group in the school. It is ideal for specialist and non-specialist teachers and provides lesson plans, assessment, clear progression, and engaging and exciting whiteboard resources to support every lesson. The Scheme supports all the requirements of the national curriculum.

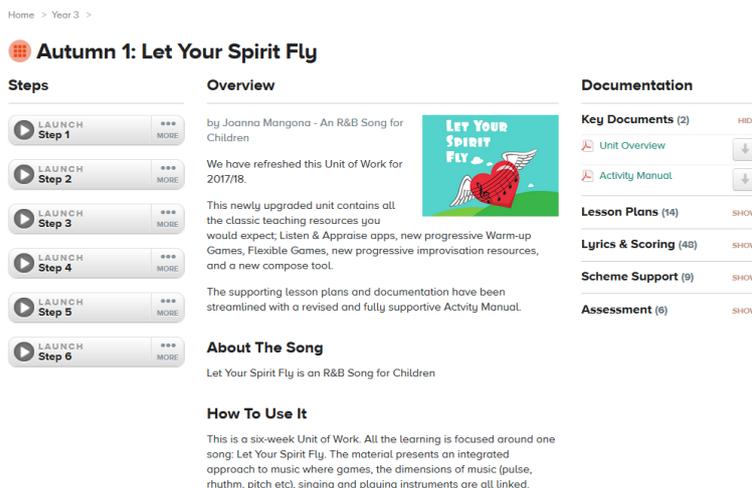


Each academic year is broken into 6 units of work (1 per half term), each divided into 6 progressive steps. Once you click on “Musical Scheme” you can then click on your year group to be taken through to the units of work.

This page will provide with an overview of the units throughout the year, to help with your planning. On the right-hand side you can download all your resources for the year including an interactive assessment framework, additional

resources and activity manual.

Once you click on the unit of work (left-hand side) you’ll be taken to the unit’s homepage. Each unit is designed to take approximately six weeks, often focused around a specific song or piece of music. The material presents an integrated approach to music where games, the dimensions of music (pulse, rhythm, pitch etc), singing and playing instruments are all linked.



The documentation on the right-hand side should provide you with all the resources you need for this unit including; scores, lesson plans, assessment and additional support.

The unit is broken down into six “steps”. Although units can vary, the steps are generally themed as follows:

Step 1	Step 2	Step 3	Step 4	Step 5	Step 6
Introduction to song/topic, musical activities	Beginning to use instruments	Improvisation	Composition	Rehearsals and performance	Rehearsals and performance

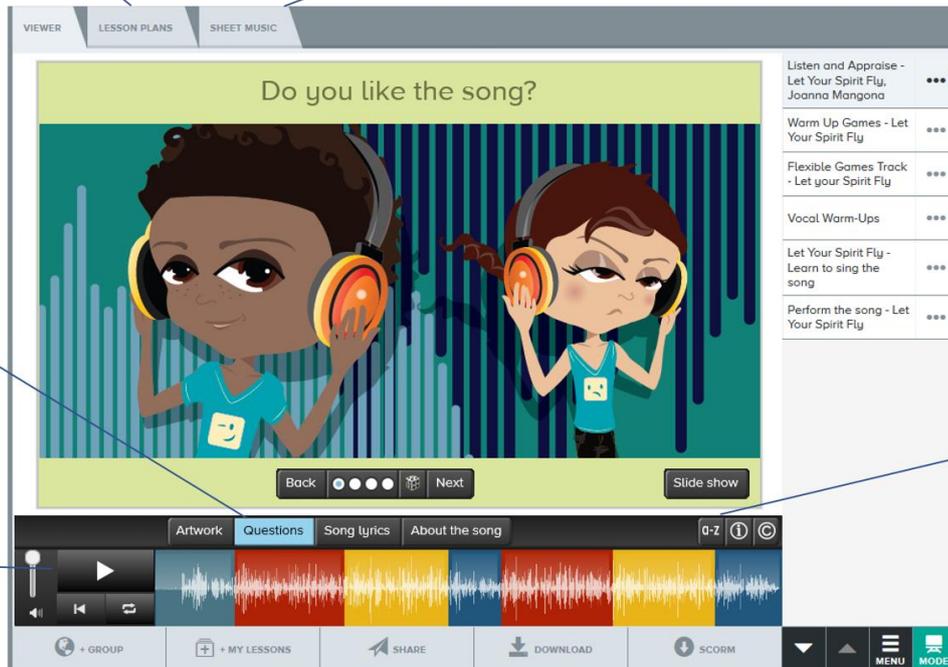
## Example unit: Musical Scheme

There's a huge amount of potential activities and variations within each of the progressive steps. We would recommend spending some time exploring ahead of your lessons; however, here's a few tips and tricks to help you with your lessons:

Handouts and lesson plans, with integrated assessment, can be downloaded for each step here

Sheet music is available for a variety of instruments (woodwind, brass, percussion etc) and is divided by level (easy, medium, hard)

Each "Step" is made up of 6 activities/games



Whilst the song is playing, you can click on these tabs here to change the screen. The "Questions" provides thought-provoking questions for students as they listen

This activity breaks down the song into sections; allowing students to both listen and practise singing the songs in parts and together

This provides an A-Z of musical vocabulary for your reference

Play the song here; the colours represent the different sections of the song

Click on "+My Lessons" to add this activity to your own Charanga workspace, to return to later if you're putting together a lesson

You can share any of these activities with your colleagues (within the school).

## Freestyle

Freestyle is a useful resource for music teachers to create their own, bespoke music plans with an extensive library of resources including: Units of Work, themed Topics, instrumental courses and much more. Freestyle is ideal for specialist and experienced class teachers, whether you're collating a set music lesson or looking to integrate music activities into your set topics. Freestyle is best discovered through exploring, however here's an overview of some of the resources available:

**Units of Work:** These are structured much the same as the "Music Scheme" units (with six progressive steps in each). Select each unit throughout the year to create your own scheme of work. As before, you can "save" each lesson activity through the "+My Lessons" section at the bottom of each activity.

**Topics:** Each topic contains a range of songs and related resources linked to popular primary themes. Use the Topics as an exciting song bank to support and enhance learning right across the curriculum. Topics range from Ancient Egypt to Mathematics, and are divided into KS1 and KS2.

**Productions:** Looking for your next school show? Each production contains all the documents, resources, songs and rehearsal plans for your school to put on a full production. Please note: included within each production is information on how to obtain a reduced Public-Performance License.

**Listening centre:** Use this section create your own playlists for every situation; whether that be music to listen to in assemblies, when connecting different areas or simply for fun and enjoyment. Each piece of music includes questions to ask children, history and facts about the tune.

**Courses:** These courses will enrich, enhance and extend your curriculum delivery. Perhaps incorporate them as part of a custom-built scheme or use them as stand-alone courses. Courses include blues, recorder, ukulele and hip hop.

**Creative apps:** Access to a selection of creative apps to deepen musical knowledge and understanding.

## My workspace

My Workspace is personal to you and a place to do the following:

- Access your favourite resources and upload your own resources
- Build, edit, and share your lessons
- Provide pupils with access to Music World and track their progress

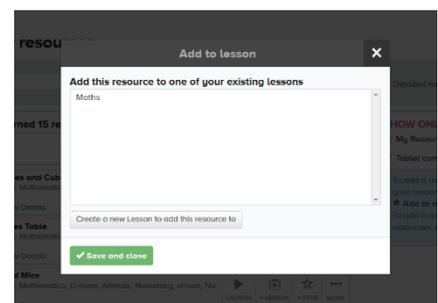
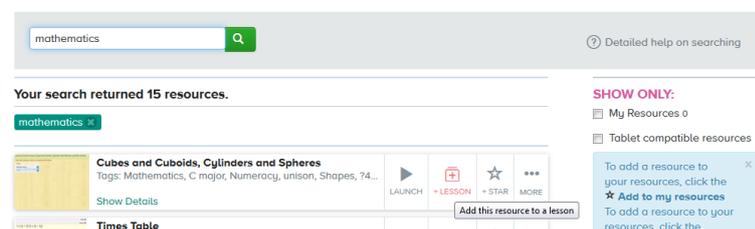
### My Resources:

My Resources is your personal library of resources for you to use throughout your teaching. Whenever you see a resource on the site that you like you can star it to add it to your “My Resources” library. You can also upload your own resources.

### My Lessons:

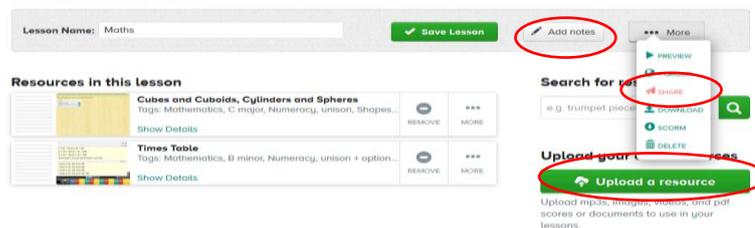
You can start with a ready-made lesson and then add or remove resources, or you can build new lessons from scratch. Whenever you see an activity you’re interested in; click “+MyLessons” and it will appear in this section. You can then add elements and resources as you wish.

#### Search for resources



You can also add notes for your lesson, share your lesson with your colleagues and upload your own resources.

#### Create / Edit lesson



## Music world

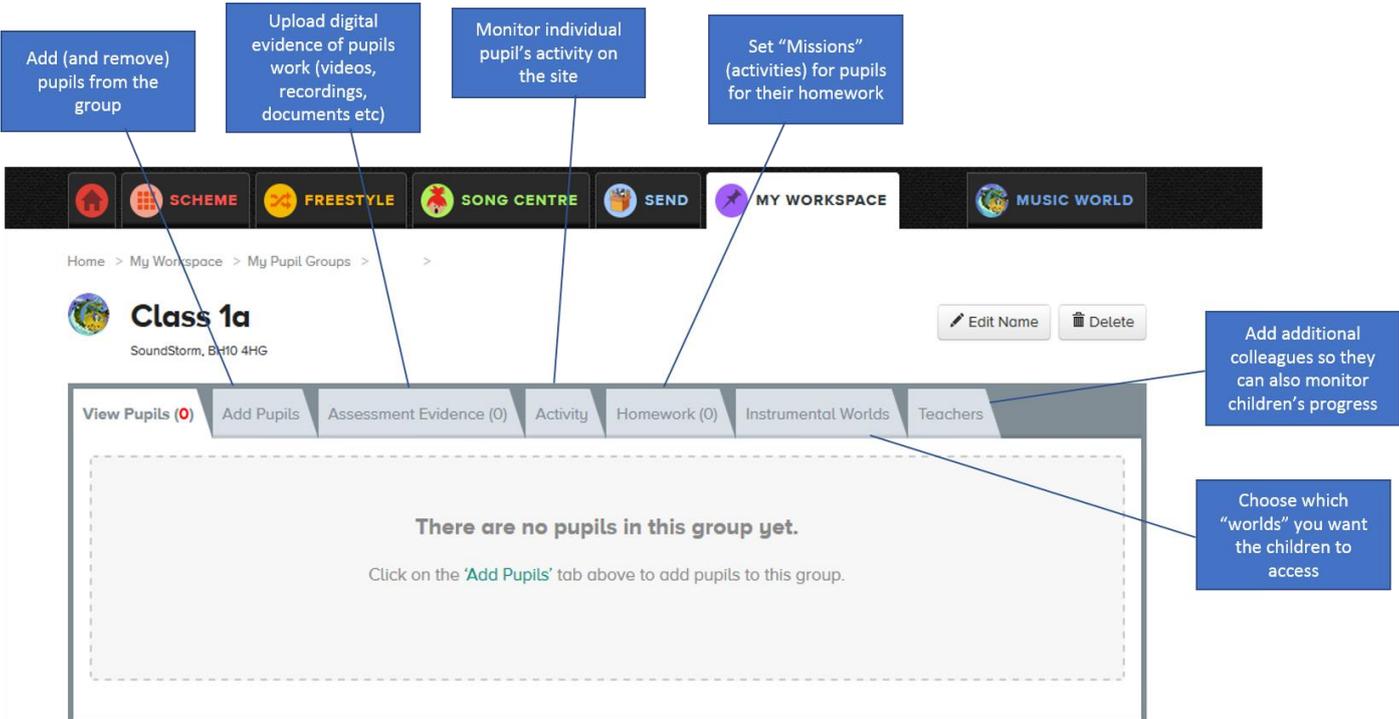
*Useful Resource:* Click on “Music World” and you’ll be taken to an introductory video. This can be used to show the children (and their parents/carers perhaps) how Music World works.

Music World offers a safe, online learning environment through which children can improve their instrumental learning and musical engagement and understanding. Through this interactive “world”, children progress through a “path” with various activities ranging from composition and improvisation, to notation and music theory.

As their teacher, you can assess their progress, set them specific tasks (for homework or individual learning) and generally curate their journey through your management tools. Charanga suggests three main ways to use Music World:

### Provide simple independent learning for the children:

Create pupil groups through “My Workspace”. You will have the option to add pupils manually (with a login letter being generated automatically), transfer pupils already on Charanga from one group to another, or provide a “Take Home” letter with instructions for logging in at home. Once you’ve created your Pupil Group you will be able to monitor their activity and progress:



### Create Moon Missions:

If there are resources you would like the children to work on at home, create a Moon Mission to add to their Music World. You can create this through the *Homework* section of the *My Pupil Groups*. Simply click “Add one of my lessons” and select one of your previously created lessons from My Workspace. You can then view how it will appear to your students in their “Music World”.

### Integrate Music World into your own teaching:

Select the instrument that you wish to focus on and use Music World’s activities for delivering instrumental tuition.