

Ukulele Curriculum Guidelines 2019-20

Essentials	Abs Beginners Gordon	Class 2 Steve	Class 3 Amy	Class 4 Ross	Class 5 Ian	Class 6 Finlay
Instrument	Holding instrument posture,grip, strumming finger(s).	Improving control of instrument and posture.	Awareness of posture; hold on neck and body position to overcome difficulties playing	Continuing work on strumming hand, relaxed, smooth, use of damping. Swing strumming	Standing and sitting postures for performing Swing and syncopated strumming	Damping left hand in Closed chords Swing and syncopated strumming
Chords	C, Am, F, G7,C7 moving later to D7	A7,Dm,D7, Em	Changing key within a song 1,4,5 Nashville system Em-B7, G-Em	Moveable chords. maj,min, 7th,maj7th,m7th,dim	Moveable chords. maj,min, 7th,maj7th,m7th,dim Role of diminished and augmented passing chords, some Altered chords	Flat keys(F,Bb,),wider use of minor keys and chords, CLOSED CHORDS More complexity and Harmony and Rhythm. Alternate voicings
Keys	C (moving to G later)	C (moving to G,D later)	Keys G, D,	Key A	Key F	F, Bb,Bm,Gm, diminished, augmented passing chords
Strumming	Using back of 1st finger nail for Down, soft pad for Up. Down, down Down, up, down, up	Variety in strumming	3/4 and 4/4 Missing some Downs or Ups to change emphasis on rhythm Damping with right hand.	Fills and more elaborate strums Damping with right hand.	Fills and more elaborate strums Damping with right hand. Fingerpicking	Fingerpicking Simple solo pieces incorporating melody and chords. Damping with left hand closed chords. More elaborate strums
Additional skills	Remembering some chord shapes without ref. to chord windows	Remembering some chord shapes without ref. to chord windows	Trying to remember chord fingering and sequences without paper	Remembering chord shapes and sequences without chord windows	basics of TABLATURE	Arranging songs, intros, breaks and outros TABLATURE
Musical knowledge/ understanding	Listening for cues to change chord	Chord substitution C, Am, F, G7 C, Am, Dm , G7 C, A7 , Dm, G7 C, A7 , D7 , G7 etc	Chord substitution within patterns (as with key C)	Relationships between chords (Nashville) I,II(m),IV,V(7th)VI(m)	Finding suitable alternate fingerings for familiar chords.	Recognising chords-ear skills Counting frets to establish what chord the moveable shape will make
Development	Building confidence singing and playing	Moving to key of G	Moving to key of G,D Alternate fingerings Practising Slow Session	Working on a key change within a song using 1,4,5 Nashville system	Arranging songs; intros, breaks	Arranging and performing instrumentals; Improvisation
All students	Learning about GFW Taking part in social music making	Learning about GFW Taking part in social music making Listening for chord changes	Learning basic chords for Slow Sessions tunes to become part of sharing GFW repertoire.	Working on trad tune repertoire with a view to playing along with other classes.	Working on popular songs from all eras. Learning distinctions between Marches, Reels, Jigs,Strathspeys	Learning to remember patterns and leaving paper behind
Performance	Playing and singing simultaneously	Playing and singing simultaneously Starting and ending together	Starting and ending together Encourage attendance at Warm ups, Slow Sessions etc	Playing intros + fills Encourage attendance at Warm ups, Slow Sessions etc	Encourage attendance at Warm ups, Slow Sessions etc	Encourage attendance at Warm ups, Slow Sessions etc