### Uplands Manor Year 4 Knowledge Organiser - Ukulele



# UKULELE CHORDS





#### Ukulele Facts/info:

The ukulele (pronounced youka-lay-lee), is an acoustic stringed instrument very similar to a guitar, but much smaller and with fewer strings (4 rather than 6).

It originated in Hawaii. A typical ukulele has four strings made of nylon, though in the past they were made of gut. Traditionally, a ukulele is made of wood, with the least expensive being laminate.

In the language of Hawaii Ukulele means "Jumping Flea"

#### **Skill-check Questions**

• Am I holding the ukulele correctly? (Back on Belly/Diagonally)

• Are the strings in tune?

• Am I picking/strumming with the correct fingers?

• Are my wrists nice and relaxed?

• Am I in time with the pulse/other musicians?

Ukulele – Key Vocabulary		
frets	Vertical strips of metal on the neck of a ukulele which represent a semi-tone of pitch change	
plucking	Playing 1 string at a time	
pulse	The heart-beat of music which every singer or player uses to make music	
sound hole	This amplifies the sound (makes it louder)	
strings	Stretched horizontally along the instrument that can be strummed or picked	
strum	Playing all 4 strings together with a sweeping movement of the thumb	
tuning pegs	Pegs that change the pitch of a note	
chord	More than one note played together	

## Ukulele Tuning:

The Ukulele is tuned to the notes G-C-E-A from the 4<sup>th</sup> string (closest to your chin) down to the 1<sup>st</sup> string (closest to your knees)



Songs we learn in Year 4:

- 123 Shush, Click, Pop, Yay!
- My Dog Has Fleas
- A Sailor went to Sea, Sea, Sea (C,C,C)
- The Chill Out Walk
- Rock Those Chords!
- The Cowboy Stroll

Element	Description
Duration	The length of the musical note
Dynamics	The volume – loud or soft
Melody	A sequence of notes that makes a tune
Pitch	How high or low a sound is
Pulse	The beat of the music
Rhythm	Short and long sounds put together
Structure	How the music is organised
Tempo	The speed of the music – fast or slow
Texture	The layers of sound – thick or thin
Timbre	The type of sound (voice/instrument)