
UkeSteps

by SoMi Academy

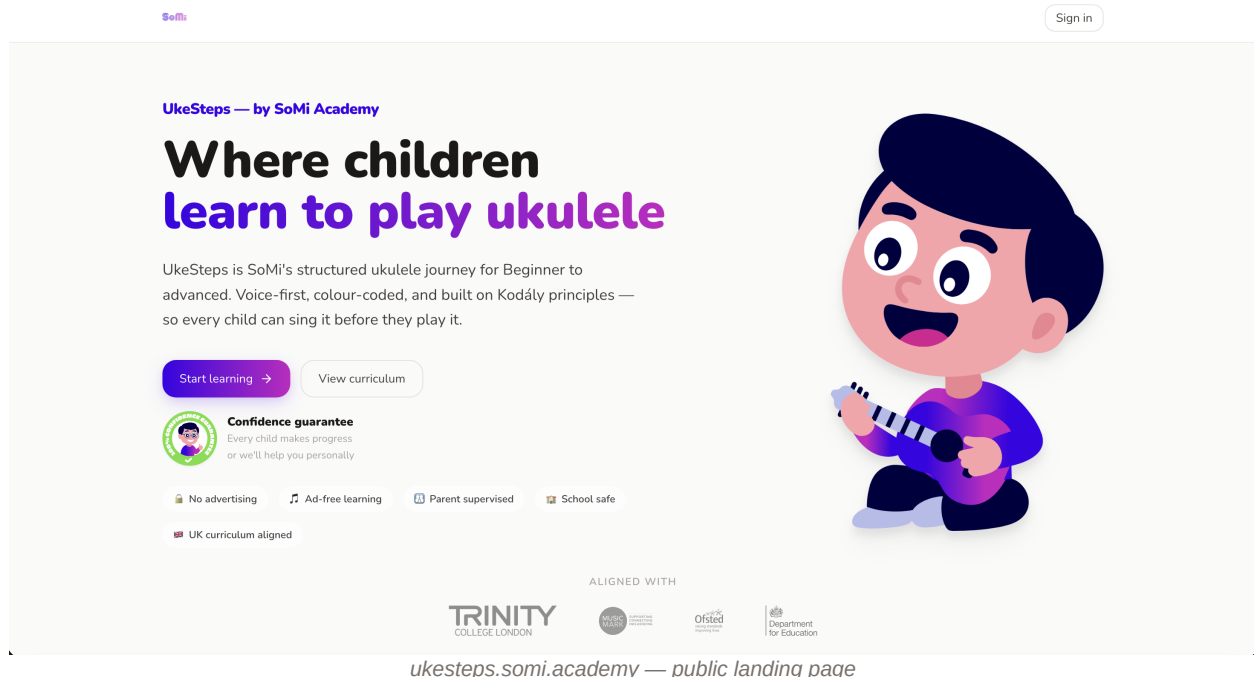
Platform Tour & Feature Overview

A structured, Kodály-informed digital ukulele learning platform for primary-aged children. Voice-first, colour-coded, and built to support independent home learning alongside in-school delivery.

ukesteps.somi.academy

Confidential — Prepared for funding and partnership review

1. Landing Page



Child-Safe by Design

The landing page immediately communicates five safety commitments: no advertising, ad-free learning, parent supervised, school safe, and UK curriculum aligned. These are not aspirational — they are enforced in the codebase.

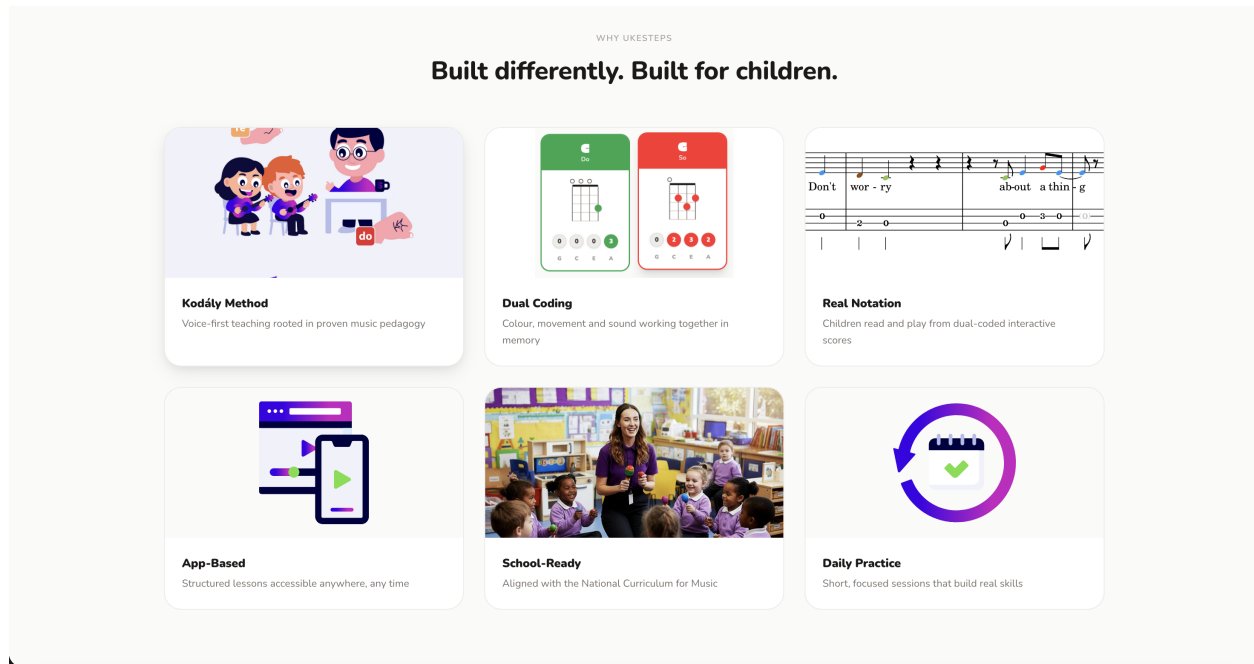
Curriculum Alignment

Aligned with Trinity College London progression, Music Mark framework, Ofsted music expectations, and the Department for Education Model Music Curriculum. Logos displayed for credibility.

Confidence Guarantee

Every child makes progress or we help personally — a commitment to the learner that reflects the Kodály principle of meeting children where they are.

2. How It Works



Public onboarding section

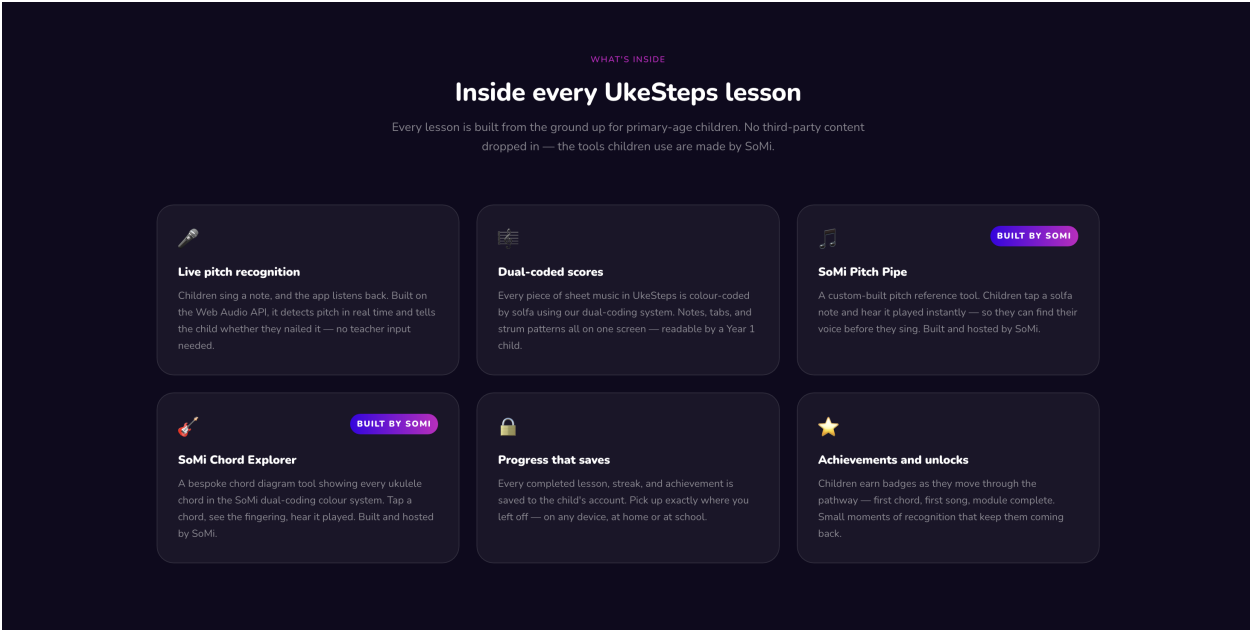
Three-Step Onboarding

The platform communicates a clear learning model to parents and practitioners before sign-up: watch, play, and progress. Each step maps directly to the block types inside lessons (video, interactive tools, quizzes).

Dual-Coding Methodology

SoMi's pedagogy uses colour, solfa, and body mapping simultaneously — the same note is always the same colour, the same hand sign, and the same body position. This multi-modal approach accelerates retention and is grounded in Kodály research.

3. Dual-Coding in Action



Dual-coding explainer section

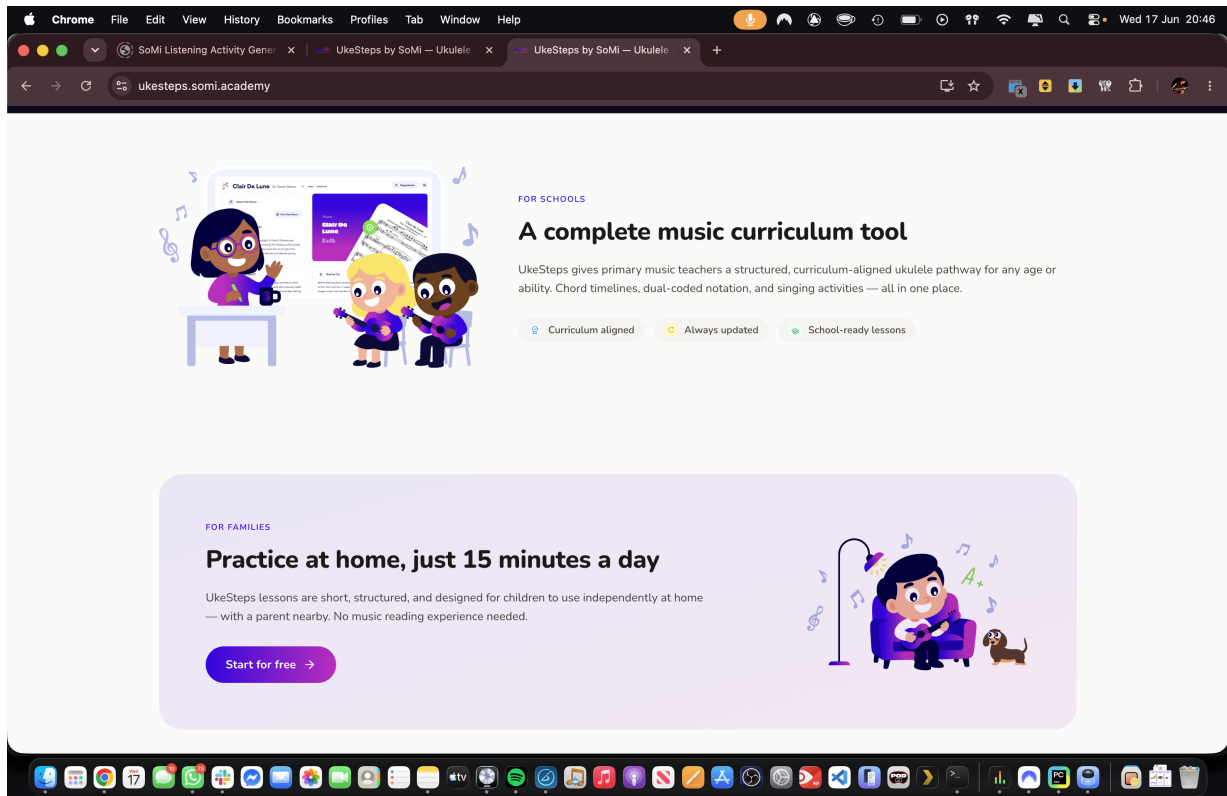
Colour-Coded Chord System

Every chord is assigned a permanent colour: Green (C), Yellow (Am), Orange (F), Red (G). This mapping persists across the ukulele (physical dot stickers), the app interface, the chord timeline, and the curriculum — never broken.

Voice Before Instrument

Following Kodály principles, children sing before they play. Solfa syllables (Do, Re, Mi, Fa, So, La, Ti) are colour-coded and mapped to body positions, creating three simultaneous encoding pathways.

4. The SoMi Ukulele



Product integration section

Hardware + Software Integration

The SoMi ukulele has physical colour-coded dot stickers that match the app's chord colours exactly. This bridges the digital and physical learning experience — a child sees the same Green dot on their ukulele fretboard and on screen.

Designed for Independent Use

The combination of colour-coded hardware and structured digital lessons means a child can learn at home without a teacher present — the dual-coding does the instructional work.

6. The SoMi Ukulele — Hardware Meets Software



The SoMi dual-coded ukulele with colour-coded chord dots on the fretboard

Colour-Coded Fretboard

The physical SoMi ukulele has coloured dot stickers on the fretboard that correspond exactly to the chord colours in the app: Green (C major, fret 3 on A string), Yellow (A minor, fret 2 on G string), Orange (F major, frets 1 and 2), Red (G major, frets 2 and 3). When a child sees a Green block on the Chord Timeline, they look at their ukulele and find the Green dot. No translation needed.

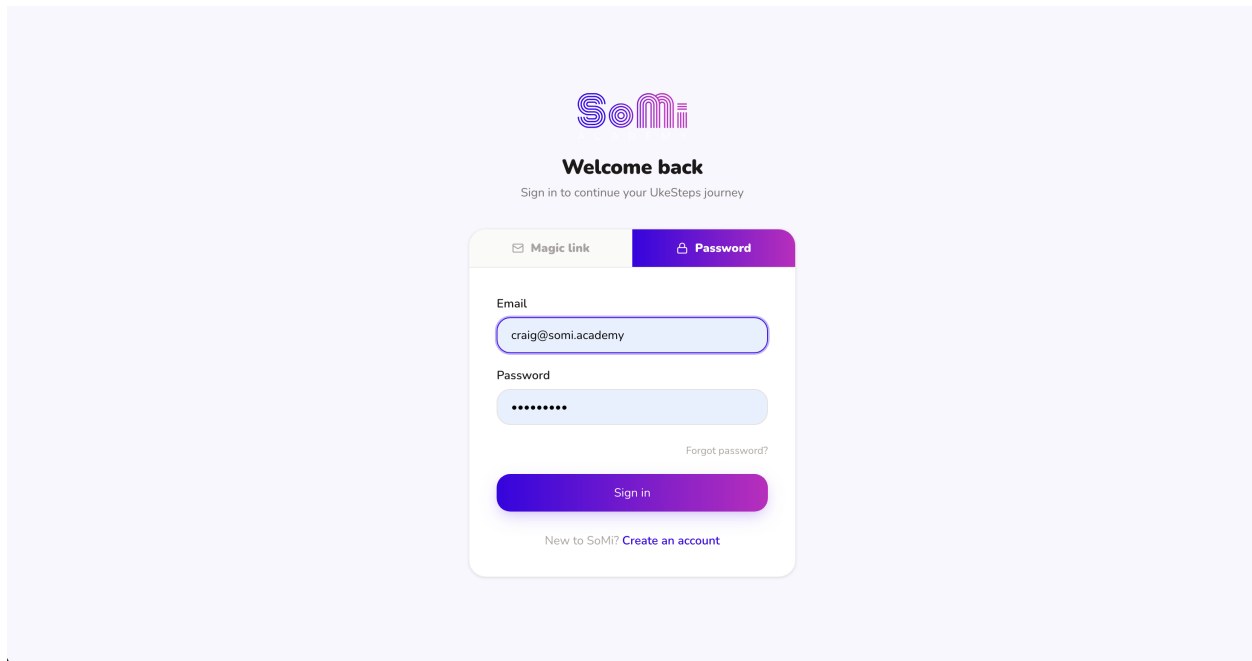
Bridging Digital and Physical

This is the core innovation of UkeSteps: the same dual-coding system runs through the hardware (dot stickers), the software (colour-coded interface), and the pedagogy (solfa colours). A child learning at home without a teacher present can use the colour mapping to self-correct. The ukulele itself becomes the teaching aid.

SoMi Branding

The distinctive purple and white spiral design makes the SoMi ukulele instantly recognisable in a school setting — children identify it as theirs and associate it with the learning experience.

6. Secure Authentication



Protected authentication flow

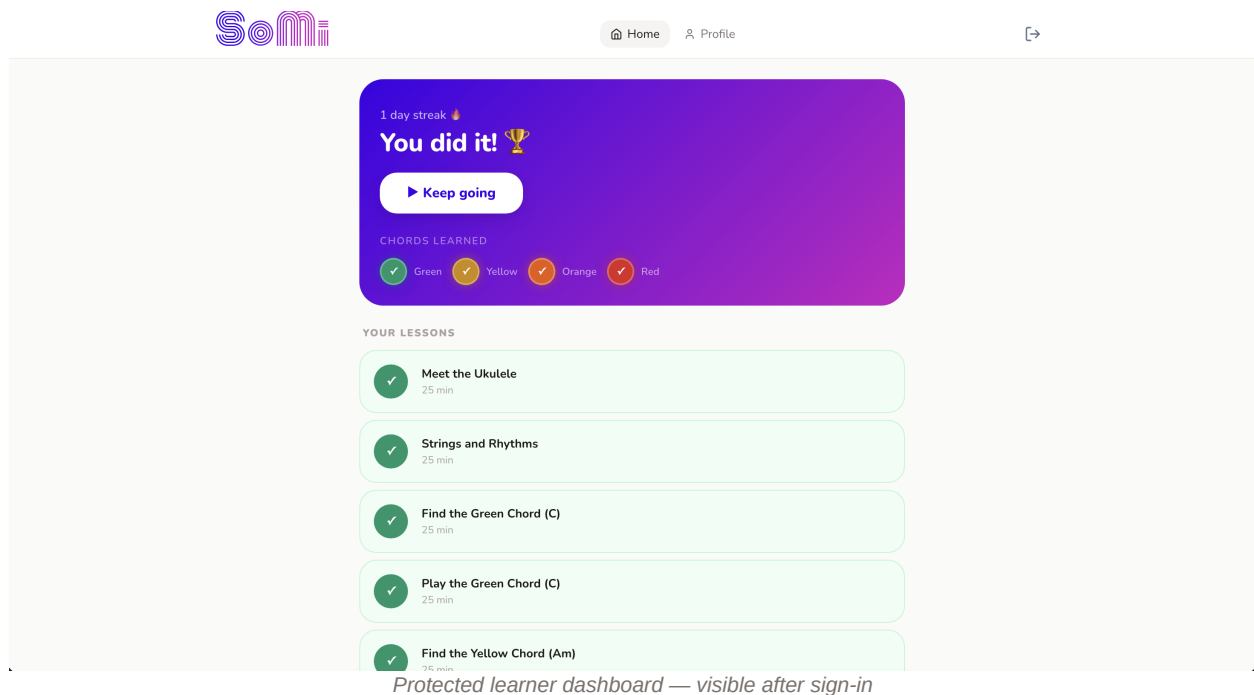
Invite-Only Access

Children cannot self-register. Access is granted by the SoMi team via email invitation (magic link or password). This ensures only enrolled children access the platform.

GDPR by Design

Minimal personal data collected — email only. No child names stored in the learning database. All data processed under GDPR Article 6(1)(a) with parental consent. Data deletion available on request via the profile page.

7. Learner Dashboard



Child-Friendly Home Screen

The dashboard presents lessons as a visual pathway — each lesson card shows its number, title, and completion status. Children always know where they are and what comes next.

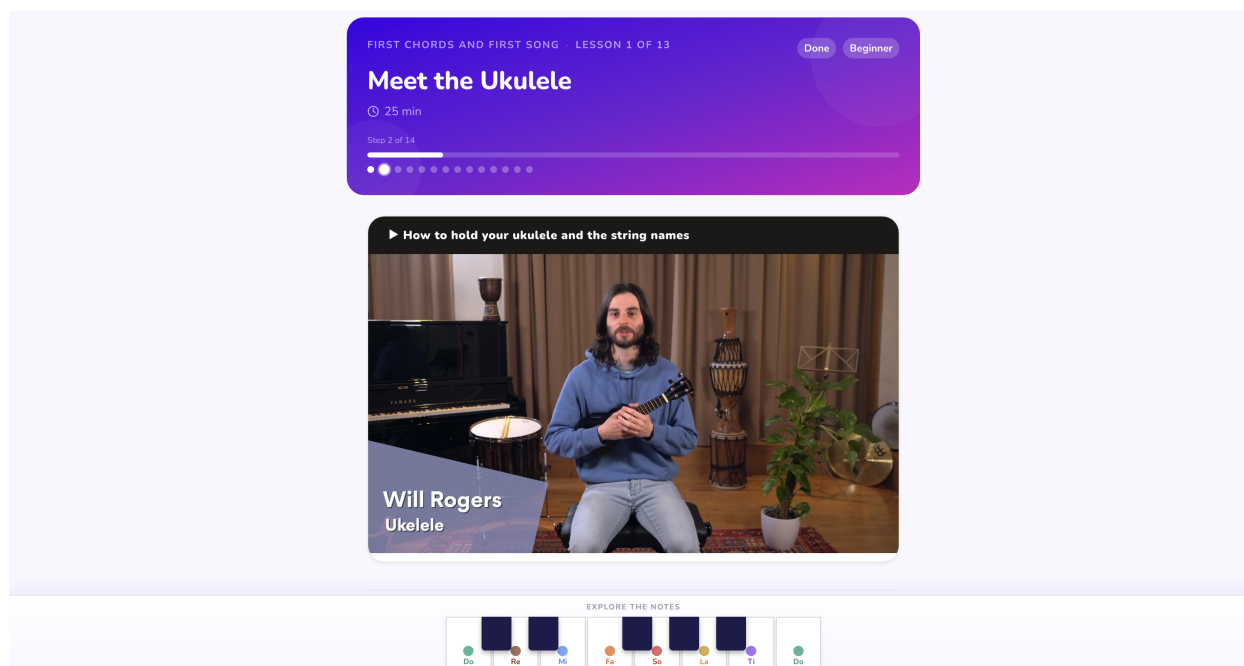
Chord Progress Indicators

Coloured dots at the top track which chords have been unlocked (Green, Yellow, Orange, Red). This gives children a tangible sense of their musical vocabulary growing.

Sequential Unlocking

Lessons unlock in order. This prevents children jumping ahead to content they lack the prerequisite skills for — a common problem with unstructured music apps.

8. Lesson Structure



Lesson view with video and interactive piano

Multi-Modal Blocks

Each lesson is a sequence of pedagogically ordered blocks: introduction, video instruction, interactive tools, practice activities, quizzes, and reflection. A child works through them step by step.

Embedded Video with Overlays

Instructional videos from the SoMi practitioner are embedded with timed overlays (e.g. chord diagrams appearing at the right moment). Videos are clipped to precise timestamps — no wasted time.

Playable Solfa Piano

A persistent piano at the bottom of the screen lets children play Do-Re-Mi-Fa-So-La-Ti at any time. Notes are colour-coded to match the SoMi solfa system, reinforcing the dual-coding.

9. Dual-Coded Video Embed

The screenshot shows a video player interface for a lesson titled "Find the Green Chord (C)". At the top, it says "FIRST CHORDS AND FIRST SONG · LESSON 3 OF 13" and "Beginner". Below the title, it says "Shotgun" and "25 min". A progress bar indicates "Step 3 of 13". The video frame shows a man playing a ukulele. An overlay in the top left of the video frame shows a chord diagram for the Green chord (C) with the notes G, C, E, and A. Below the video frame, there is a section titled "EXPLORE THE NOTES" with a piano keyboard diagram showing the notes Do, Re, Mi, Fa, So, La, Ti, and Do.

Video embed with timed chord overlay

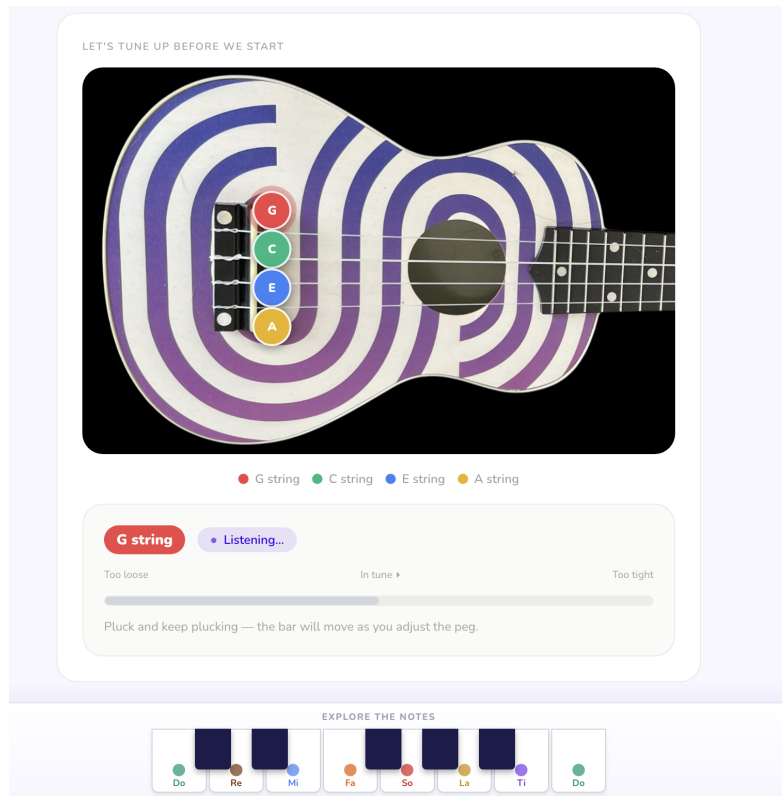
Timed Content Overlays

Chord diagrams, finger positions, and instructional images appear at precise moments during the video. This is not a static overlay — each overlay has a start time, duration, and position, synchronised to the teaching content.

Skip and Clip Logic

Videos are programmed with skip sections (e.g. tuning segments that are not relevant on repeat viewings) and end times, so children only see the content they need. This respects attention span and keeps sessions focused.

10. Custom Tooling — Chromatic Tuner



Embedded chromatic tuner — uses device microphone

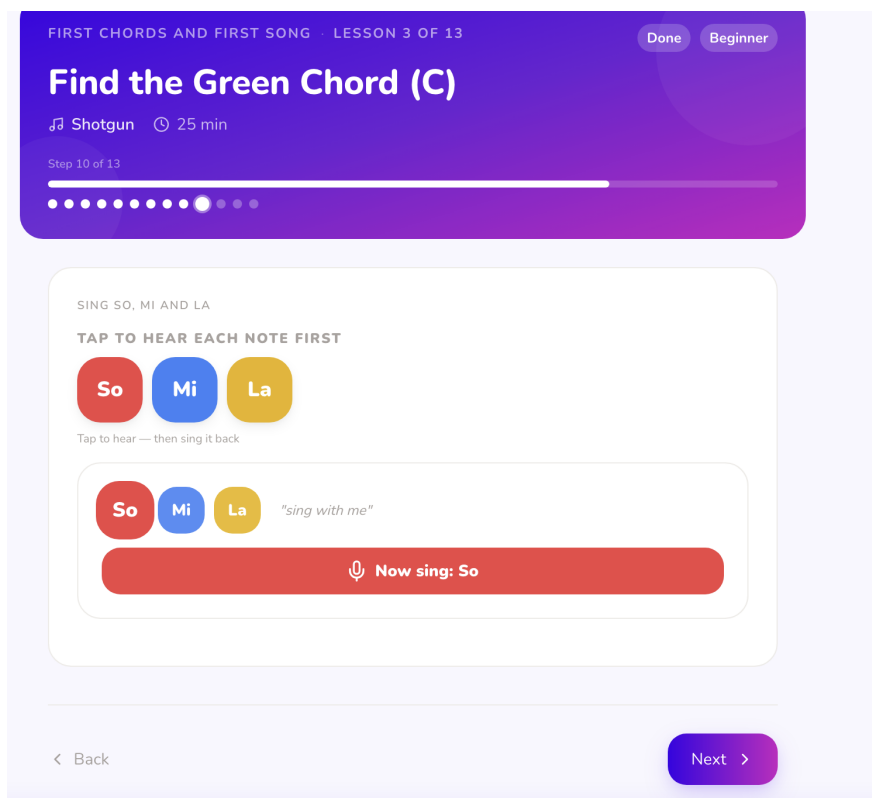
Built-In Instrument Tuner

An FFT-based pitch detection tuner is embedded directly in the lesson flow. Children tune their ukulele as part of the lesson — not as a separate app. The tuner uses the device microphone and provides real-time frequency analysis.

No External Dependencies

Unlike apps that link out to third-party tuners, this is native to UkeSteps. The child never leaves the learning environment.

11. Custom Tooling — Sing Check



Sing Check — pitch detection for vocal assessment

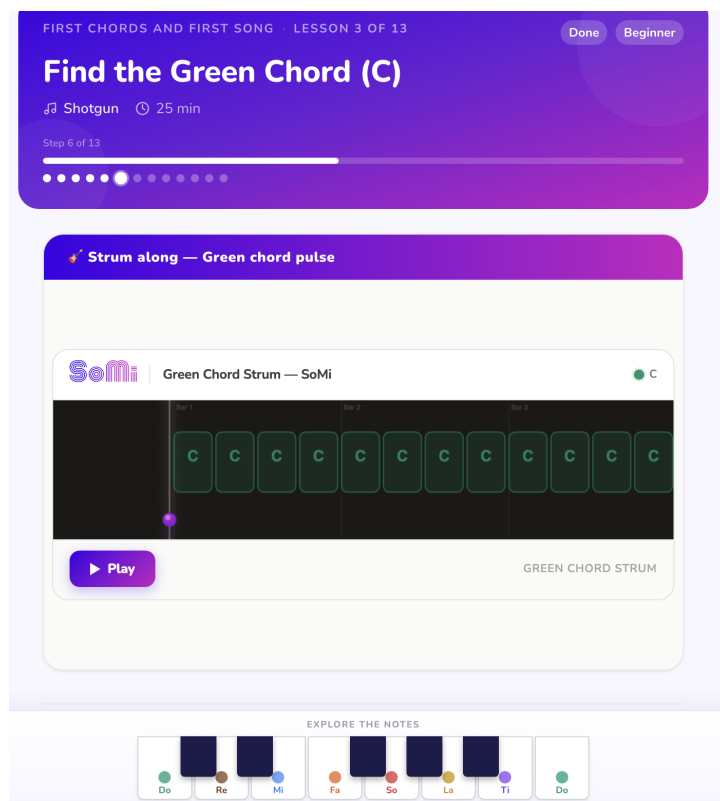
Voice-First Assessment

The Sing Check tool asks children to sing a specific solfa note and uses pitch detection to assess accuracy. This is the Kodály principle in action — if you can sing it, you can play it.

Encouraging Feedback

Feedback is always positive and encouraging. The tool does not penalise mistakes — it celebrates attempts and invites children to try again.

12. Custom Tooling — Chord Timeline



Chord Timeline — interactive play-along tool

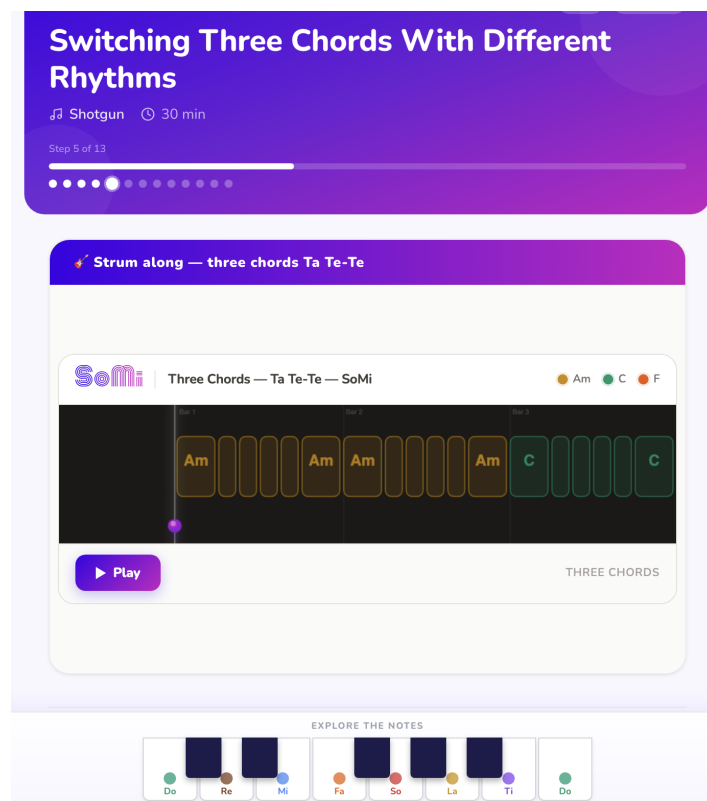
Interactive Play-Along Tool

The Chord Timeline is a custom-built, scrolling chord chart that moves in real time with an audio track. Children see colour-coded chord blocks approaching a play line and strum the correct chord when it arrives.

Multiple Modes

Chords mode (strum along with the song), Pulse mode (bounce a ball on the beat), and Rhythm mode (play specific rhythm patterns). Each mode targets a different musical skill.

13. Chord Timeline — Multi-Song Support



Chord Timeline with filtered chords and beat-synced audio

Progressive Chord Filtering

In early lessons, only the chords the child has learned are visible. As they progress, more chords appear. This prevents cognitive overload and ensures the tool always matches the child's current ability.

Beat-Synchronised Audio

Audio tracks are pre-analysed for beat positions. The chord blocks are mathematically aligned to the beats — they don't just look right, they are right. This precision is essential for developing rhythmic accuracy.

14. Chord Timeline — Shotgun (Full Song)

MORE CHORDS, MORE FLOW · LESSON 9 OF 13 Done Challenge

Switching Three Chords With Different Rhythms

Shotgun 30 min

Step 9 of 13

Play along — Shotgun

SoMi | Shotgun — George Ezra C F Am G

C F Am

II Stop SHOTGUN

EXPLORE THE NOTES

Do Re Mi Fa So La Ti Do

Shotgun at full speed — all four chords active

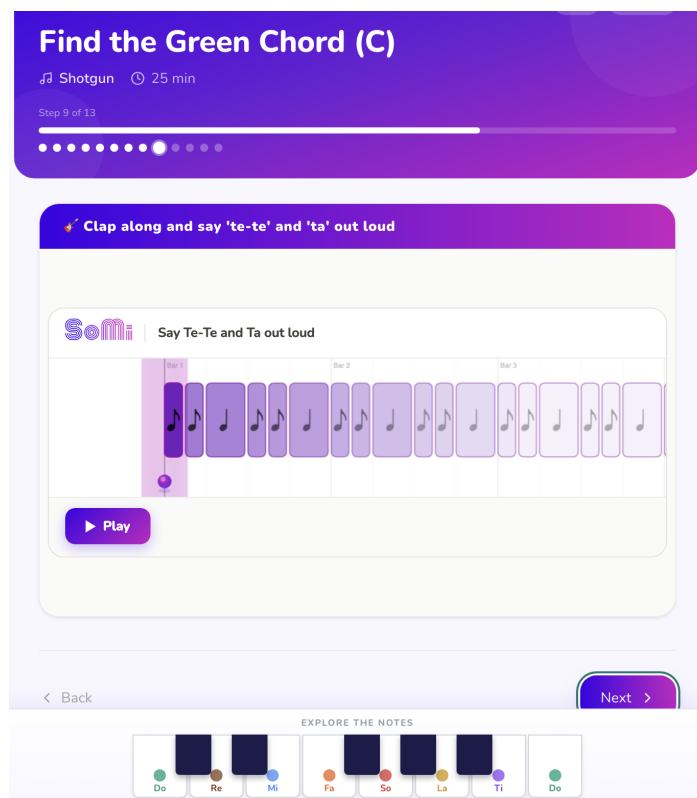
Real Repertoire

Children play along with real songs they know and love. Shotgun by George Ezra uses all four chords (C, Am, F, G) and is the primary study piece across the curriculum.

Speed Control

Songs are available in Slow, Medium, and Full Speed versions, allowing children to build confidence at a comfortable tempo before increasing the challenge.

15. Custom Tooling — Rhythm Timeline



Rhythm timeline with Kodály notation

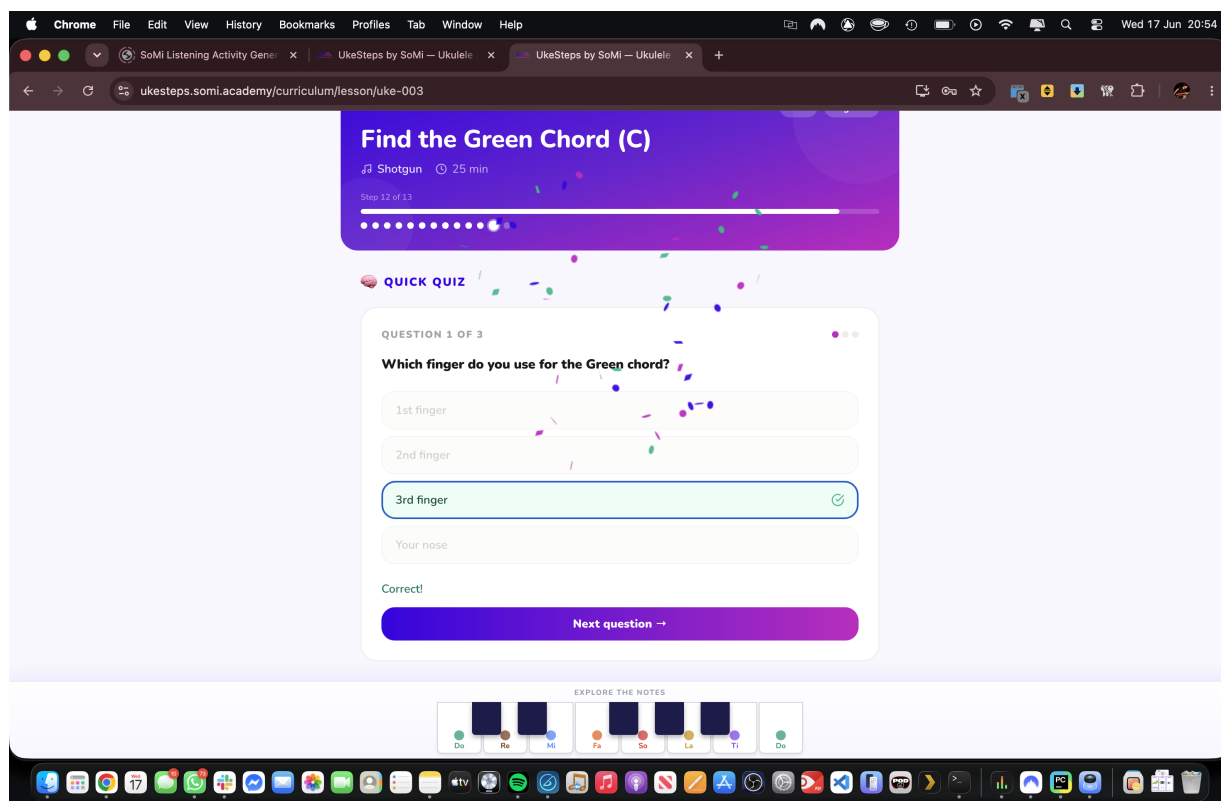
Rhythm Notation

Rhythm exercises use the Kodály rhythm vocabulary: Ta (crotchet), Te-Te (quavers), Ti-ri (semiquavers). Visual note icons above each block reinforce the connection between the symbol and the sound.

Built to Replace Expensive Tools

This replaces the need for external music notation software (e.g. Flat.io at £65/month). The rhythm timeline is purpose-built for the SoMi curriculum and costs nothing to run.

16. In-Lesson Quiz



Quiz with curriculum-aligned questions

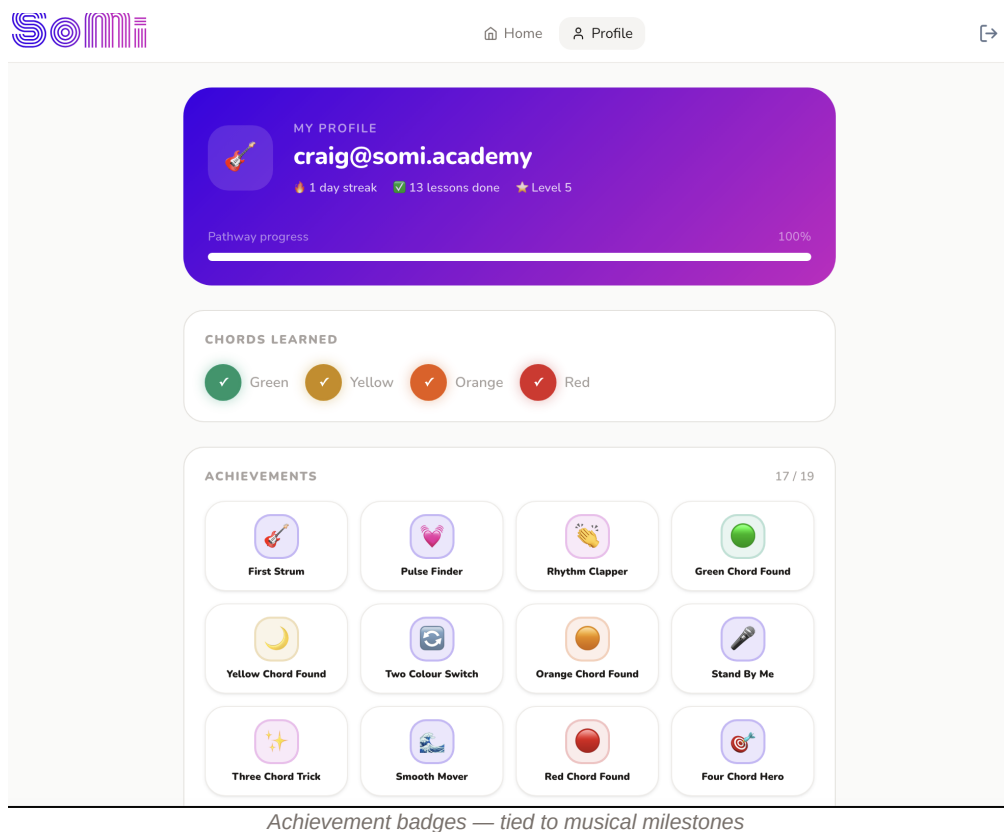
Formative Assessment

Every lesson ends with a short quiz that tests understanding of the concepts covered. Questions are curriculum-aligned and age-appropriate. Wrong answers are highlighted in amber (not red) to avoid discouragement.

Data Capture

Quiz results are logged to the database and inform the admin dashboard's per-learner analytics. Teachers can see which questions children find difficult.

17. Achievement Awards



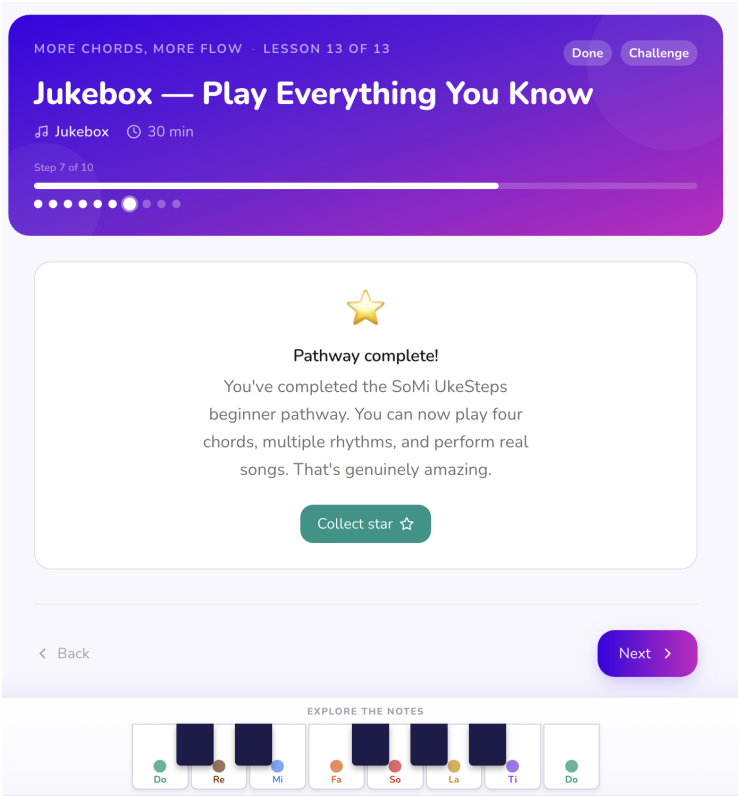
Milestone Badges

Children earn badges for reaching key milestones: finding each chord, completing modules, and mastering specific skills. Each badge is tied to a specific lesson completion event.

Intrinsic Motivation

Badges celebrate musical achievement, not time spent. A child earns "Green Chord Found" by successfully completing the C chord lesson — not by watching a video passively.

18. Star Collection

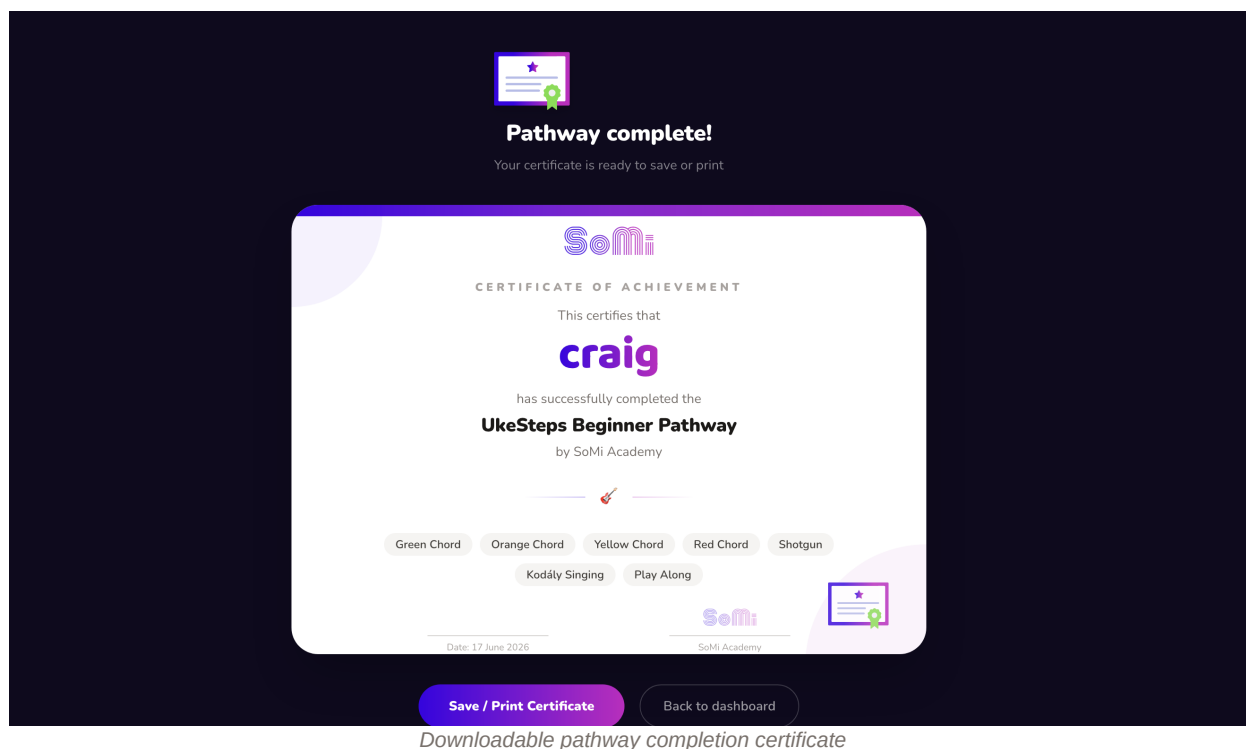


Star collection on lesson completion

Lesson Completion Reward

Each completed lesson awards a collectible star with a brief animation. This provides immediate positive reinforcement and a visual record of progress.

19. Completion Certificate



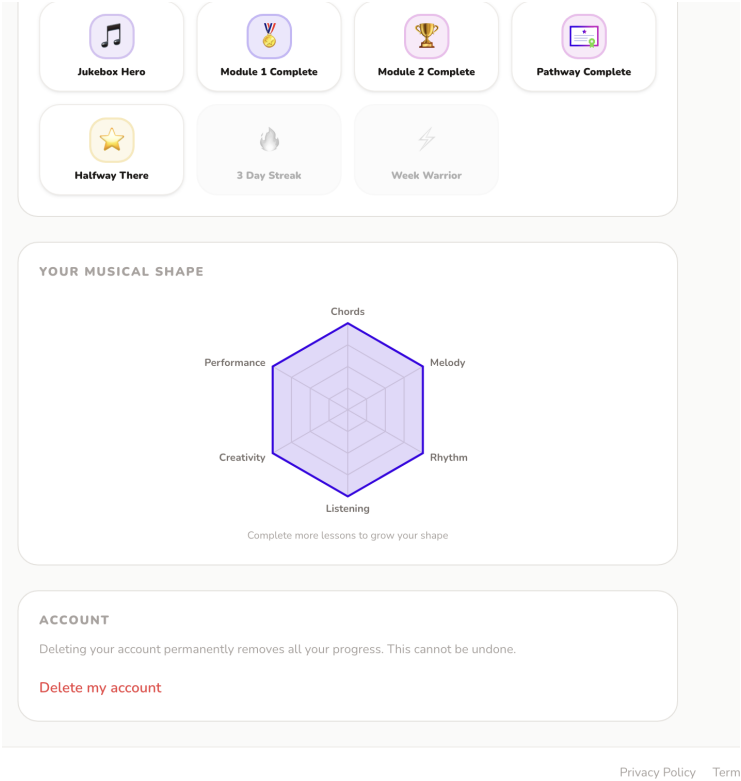
Pathway Certificate

Children who complete the full 13-lesson pathway receive a downloadable certificate listing the skills they have developed. This can be printed, shared with parents, or included in school portfolios.

Skills Summary

The certificate itemises specific musical skills: chords learned, rhythm vocabulary acquired, solfa notes mastered. This maps to National Curriculum attainment descriptors.

20. Profile & Data Management



Profile page with GDPR-compliant data deletion

Musical Shape Visualisation

The profile page shows a visual representation of the child’s progress across different musical dimensions. This is a simple, engaging way for children and parents to see growth over time.

GDPR Data Deletion

A clear data deletion option is available to every user. One click removes all personal data, progress records, and event logs. This complies with GDPR Article 17 (Right to Erasure) and demonstrates the platform’s commitment to data minimisation.

21. Classroom Lesson Guide



[Submit feedback →](#) [← Dashboard](#)

Ukulele Club — Lesson Guide

6 condensed classroom sessions. Add session notes to share with the team.

1

First Sounds
45 min · Lessons uke-001-uke-002

1 note ↓

2

Green Chord
45 min · Lessons uke-003-uke-004

● ↓

3

Yellow Chord
45 min · Lessons uke-005-uke-006

● ● ↓

4

Orange Chord
45 min · Lessons uke-007-uke-008

● ● ● ↓

5

Three Chords + Ti-ri
45 min · Lessons uke-009-uke-010

● ● ● ↓

6

Red Chord + Performance
45 min · Lessons uke-011-uke-013

● ● ● ● ↓

Classroom lesson guide — bird's eye view (restricted to practitioners)

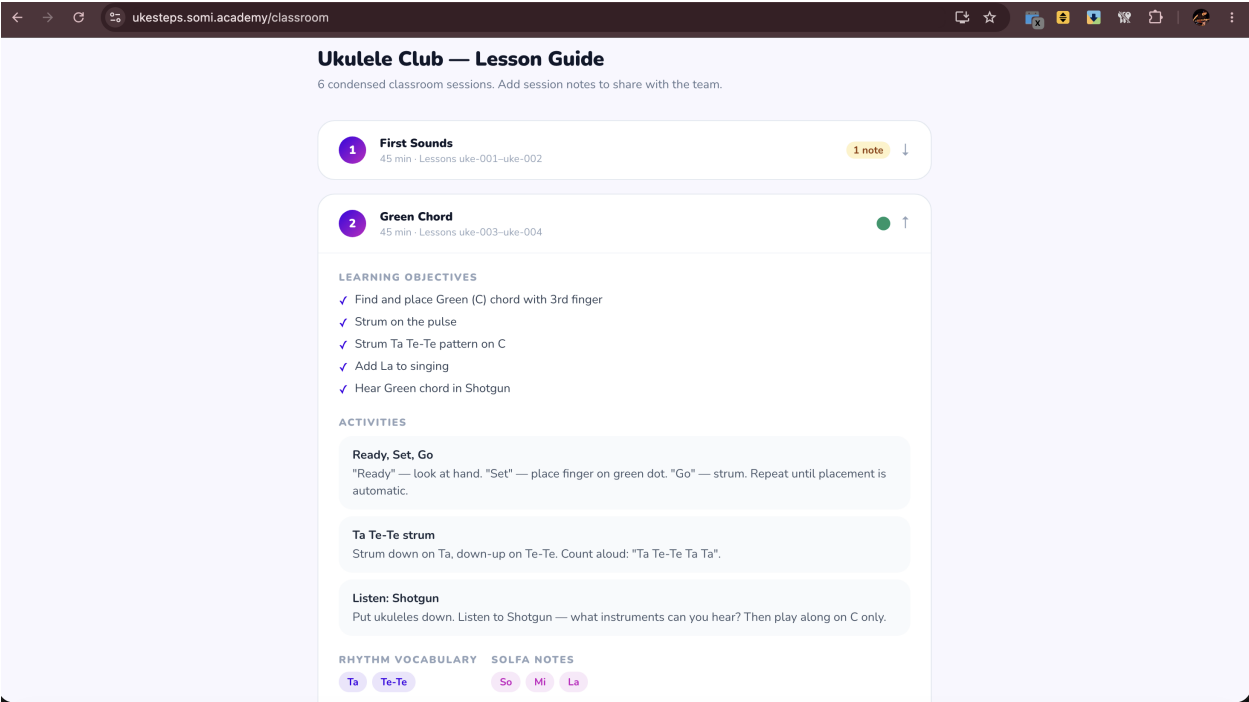
Condensed Lesson Plans

The /classroom page provides 6 condensed lesson plans that map the 13 digital lessons into classroom-friendly groupings. Each plan includes learning objectives, suggested activities, rhythm and solfa vocabulary, and space for session notes.

Designed for Club and Group Settings

While the digital resource supports independent home learning, the classroom guide supports practitioners running ukulele clubs or in-school sessions. The two are designed to reinforce each other.

22. Classroom — Lesson Detail



Expanded lesson with activities and session notes

Granular Activity Guidance

Each lesson expands to reveal detailed activities with practical teaching instructions. These are not scripts — they are prompts that give practitioners structure while leaving room for adaptation.

Session Notes

Practitioners add notes after each session. These notes are stored in the database, visible in the admin dashboard, and included in the AI-powered insights analysis. This creates a feedback loop between classroom practice and platform development.

23. Practitioner Feedback

SoMi

← Dashboard

Session feedback

Your notes will be used to improve the curriculum and are visible in the admin dashboard.

LESSON *

Select a lesson...

FEEDBACK TYPE *

Lesson content

Pacing / timing

Technical issue

Child engagement

Suggestion

Other

OVERALL RATING

★

★

★

★

★

SESSION DETAILS

Year group

Select...

Group size

e.g. 12

Session date

17/06/2026

Practitioner feedback form (restricted to teaching team)

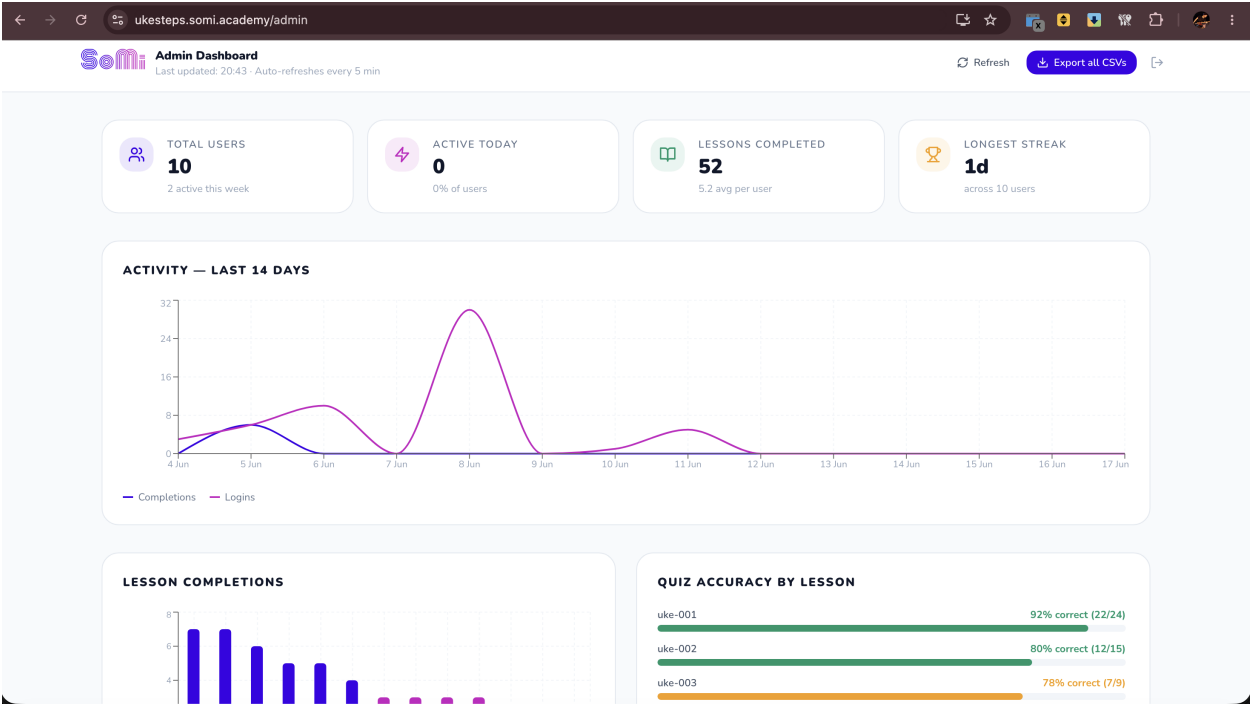
Structured Feedback Collection

Practitioners submit structured feedback on each session: lesson covered, feedback type (content, pacing, engagement, technical), year group, group size, star rating, and detailed observations.

Feeds Into Analytics

All feedback is logged to Supabase and included in the AI insights engine. This means practitioner observations directly inform curriculum development — not just the digital data.

24. Admin Dashboard



Admin dashboard — restricted to SoMi team

Per-Learner Analytics

The admin dashboard shows progress, quiz accuracy, lesson completions, and session data for every learner — anonymised at school level for GDPR compliance. No child names are displayed.

AI-Powered Insights

A built-in AI analysis tool (powered by Claude Haiku) synthesises learner data, teacher feedback, and classroom notes into actionable insights. It identifies struggling learners, drop-off points, and curriculum recommendations.

Teacher Feedback & Classroom Notes

Dedicated panels display practitioner submissions with expandable detail, exportable as CSV for external reporting.

UkeSteps by SoMi Academy

A structured, voice-first digital ukulele learning platform built on Kodály principles, dual-coding pedagogy, and colour-coded hardware integration.

ukesteps.somi.academy

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Built with React, TypeScript, Supabase, Vercel, Vimeo, Tone.js, and Claude AI.