

Home-School Learning Collaboration – Music

Topics in this cycle: Exploring 20 th C Artistic Music		Year Group: 8
Key knowledge/concepts to be learnt ('Tell me about....')		Websites/blogs/YouTube links and further reading to deepen and consolidate learning
• Can I explore and analyse 20th-century Western-classical music? Students will explore 20th-century Western classical music, compare it to familiar music, engage in a group discussion, and play established rhythms on instruments. • Can I link impressionism with colour and emotion, texture and harmony? Students will listen to Debussy and Ravel. Students will imagine, visualise, and play a melody to represent the emotions they feel, stimulated through the listening. • Can I play rhythmically and stylistically? Looking at expressionism, students understand how music can express different emotions. Students will listen to expressive classical pieces and play instruments to create sounds that represent the emotions discussed. • Can we create new material based on models of the past? Students will explore the concept of neoclassical pieces. In small groups, students create short compositions using their assigned theme, incorporating modern twists. • Can classical music be connected to storytelling? Students will analyse music that tells stories. In small groups, they will create a musical composition that reflects the mood and story of their assigned stimulus. • Can music create a sense of calm and focus? The class will explore minimalist music and the power of repetition. Inspired by minimalist pieces by Philip Glass, students will compose using patterns. • Can you perform the music and evaluate critically, using musical language? Students become creative composers and performers by reviewing styles, improvising and experimenting to create something new.		Classics for Kids: www.classicsforkids.com This website offers interactive games, activities, and resources to introduce kids to classical music and composers. San Francisco Symphony Kids: www.sfskids.org A fun and interactive platform where you can learn about instruments, composers, and orchestral music through games, quizzes, and listening activities. Carnegie Hall Music Educators Toolbox: www.carnegiehall.org/Education/Educators/Music-Educators-Toolbox Fun tools to explore different musical genres, including classical music. NY Phil Kids: www.nyphilkids.org The New York Philharmonic's website offers games, music exploration, and interactive resources. Classics for Kids Composer Timeline: www.classicsforkids.com/teachers/timeline.asp This interactive timeline provides information about famous composers and their works, helping kids understand the historical context of Western classical composition. Young People's Concerts with the New York Philharmonic: www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLA4E23A3FEE2CD4F2

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Key Vocabulary and Definitions To Be Learnt		What Will The Assessment Look Like?
20th Century Music	Music composed during the 20th century, characterised by various innovative styles and techniques.	Quality of musical outcome – Students will be marked on their technical, constructive, and expressive work. Literacy test: 30 minutes • Short answer questions • Multiple choice • Extended writing
Western Classical Composition	Creating music within the Western classical tradition, often featuring orchestral or instrumental arrangements.	
Impressionism	A musical style that aims to evoke sensory impressions, moods, or atmospheres through the use of colour and texture.	
Expressionism	A musical style that emphasizes the expression of intense emotions and subjective experiences.	
Neoclassicism	A musical style characterized by repetitive patterns and minimalist elements, emphasizing simplicity and gradual changes.	
Storytelling	Conveying narratives or stories through music, capturing characters, events, or emotions.	Family Learning Opportunities
Minimalism	A musical style characterized by repetitive patterns and minimalist elements, emphasising simplicity and gradual changes.	Choose one of the composers or musical styles discussed in the scheme (e.g. Debussy, Stravinsky, Reich). Together as a family, research and listen to a selection of compositions by the chosen composer or in the chosen style. Encourage each family member to choose an instrument or object around the house to create their own musical composition inspired by the chosen composer or style. Have each family member create their composition using their chosen instrument or object. It can be a short melody, a rhythmic pattern, or a simple arrangement of sounds. Practice and refine your compositions individually. Arrange a family performance where each family member takes turns performing their composition for the rest of the family.
Pulse	A regular beat. Gets faster and slower with a change of tempo, but is always regular.	
Composition	The process of creating music by organizing sounds, melodies, harmonies, and rhythms.	
Timbre	The way an instrument or voice sounds: e.g. bright/metallic, hollow/wooden etc.	
Improvisation	Creation of music in the moment, often associated with jazz, but also prevalent in many world music traditions, allowing musicians to express themselves freely.	
Innovation	Introducing new ideas, techniques, or approaches in music composition, performance, or style.	
Melody	A sequence of musical notes that forms a recognisable and memorable musical line.	
Count-in	Musicians set the pulse and tempo before the start of a piece by counting in all numbers in a bar before playing together on beat 1.	
Rhythm	Long and short note values are combined into a pattern.	