

Home-School Learning Collaboration – Music



Topics in this cycle: Minimalism	Taught: Summer 1	Year Group: 8
Key knowledge/concepts to be learnt ('Tell me about...')		Websites/blogs/YouTube links and further reading to deepen and consolidate learning
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Can I explain what the words <i>ostinato</i>, <i>phase-shifting</i> and <i>polyrhythm</i> mean? Students will listen to a piece of minimalism music, connect the music to minimalism in art, and compose their own rhythmic patterns in the minimalism style. Can I generate simple musical ideas using the notes of a C major scale effectively? Students will build knowledge of how music can be layered, building texture, using simple melodic ideas. Can I perform simple musical ideas using the notes of a C major scale effectively? Students will perform simple musical ideas, using Terry Riley's 'In C' as inspiration having already composed melodic material, using the C major scale as inspiration. Can you work with a partner to play an established theme? Students will perform fragments of "Tubular Bells". They will develop knowledge of music-notation (odd time signature of 7/8) and review major and minor chords. Can you perform a repeated idea as part of a whole class ensemble? Students will gain knowledge of Indonesian culture and the importance of the music (spiritual links). Students will listen and identify features. They will perform as part of a whole class ensemble; learning about the culture, features and the instruments used within Gamelan music. Can you describe minimalism using appropriate musical language? An opportunity to review and consolidate knowledge of the musical elements. Students will describe musical excerpts using musical language. 		<p>The Minimalism of Adams, Reich and Riley BBC: The minimalist music of Adams, Reich and Riley - Minimalist music - BBC Bitesize</p> <p>Terry Riley "In C" on YouTube: Terry Riley: In C - YouTube</p> <p>Minimalism and the mainstream: Minimalism In The Mainstream : NPR</p> <p>Steve Reich's Website: Home - Steve Reich Composer</p> <p>Learn to use Mixcraft: Beginners Guide to Mixcraft (1 of 2) - YouTube</p> <p>Online Virtual piano: Virtual Piano - Online Piano Keyboard OnlinePianist</p> <p>Musiclab: Chrome Music Lab (chromeexperiments.com)</p>

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Key Vocabulary and Definitions To Be Learnt		What Will The Assessment Look Like?
Triad-chord	Three notes played together at the same time, but importantly; the root, third and fifth notes in any key. (1, 3, 5.)	<p>Quality of musical outcome – Students will be marked on their technical, constructive, and expressive work.</p> <p>Literacy test: 30 minutes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Short answer questions • Multiple choice • Extended writing
Root note	The home (lowest) note in a root-position triad chord. In this case, the name of the chord is the same as its lowest note.	
Scale	A scale is a set of pitches ascending (rising) or descending (falling) in order.	
Tonal	Music with a tonic, or a home note on which music is steady and at rest.	
Atonal	Music that lacks a tonal centre, or key.	
Chromatic	Music that uses pitches that are in a scale, but also deliberate use of pitches that are not in the scale which sound interesting, dramatic or tense.	
Composer	Someone who writes music.	<p>Family Learning Opportunities</p> <p>Use an app on your digital device to “loop” a musical idea. Then change it slightly and try and repeat it in-time with your digital version. Invite friends and family to listen. Why not make it fun? Have them guess how long you can keep it going for!</p> <p>Listen to “Different Trains” by Steve Reich. Record or write a review giving your opinion on what you think the meaning of the track is.</p> <p>Listen to two pieces of Minimalist Music from the 1980s. Create a poster, presentation, blog or review comparing the musical features of both extracts. Try to differentiate between the compositional techniques used in each.</p>
Conductor	Someone who directs musicians. They often ‘beat’ the pulse and give expressive signals and cues.	
Timbre	The way an instrument or voice sounds: e.g. bight/metallic, hollow/wooden etc.	
Articulation	Whether the music is played smoothly (legato) or detached (staccato)	
Dynamics	The volume: Loud and quiet.	
Tempo	The speed of a piece of music.	
Orchestral families	The divisions of an orchestra: String, Brass, Woodwind, Percussion.	
Articulation	Whether the music is played smoothly (legato) or detached (staccato)	
Ostinato	Simply means a repeating phrase. (Sometimes “Riff” or “Loop” are used)	