

CLASS MUSIC SYLLABUS

Year 3: One 45 minute lessons per week; 30 minutes choir rehearsal (AJD, SL, MW)

Overview

Pupils in Year 3 enjoy a wide variety of practical activities designed to increase confidence and participation. In addition, elementary musical notation is introduced throughout the year and there is also opportunity for the children to develop their aural and listening skills.

Class singing is an important weekly feature of lessons. Composition and performance includes tuned and untuned percussion activities. There is at least one annual informal concert for each year group; this will normally include all of the pupils.

All pupils are members of the Year 3 Choir, which sings regularly in our cathedral assemblies on selected Thursdays throughout the academic year.

Most pupils will already be playing a musical instrument by this stage but those who are not doing so are offered advice and encouragement, to assist them in selecting an appropriate choice.

Curriculum

Making Sound

- Musical elements
- Pitch and rhythm games
- Echoes and patterns
- Tempo
- Dynamics

Choir

- Developing skills
- Preparing for public performances

Class Singing

Theory

- Notes of the treble clef
- Elementary note values and rests
- Simple time signatures and metres

The Orchestra

- Families and instruments of the orchestra
- Demonstrations and opportunities to try different instruments

Practical

- Preparation for informal concert
- Tuned and untuned percussion

Weather

- Musical effects
- Creating a weather composition
- Graphic score notation

Marches and Waltzes

- 2 and 3 time
- Listening
- Composing and performing a march rhythm (8 bars)
- Composing and performing a waltz rhythm (8 bars)

Year 4: One 45 minute lessons per week

Overview

Pupils in Year 4 continue to enjoy a wide variety of practical activities designed to increase confidence and participation. Musical notation and theoretical skills are further developed and from this point onwards, aural and listening skills are more formally assessed.

Class singing is a regular feature of lessons. Composition and performance includes percussion based and instrumental ensemble activities, ensuring that all pupils are able to participate. There is at least one annual informal concert for each year group; this will normally include all of the pupils.

At this point in their Prebendal careers, most pupils will start to explore the opportunities provided to participate in a vast array of extra-curricular activities.

Curriculum

Making Sound (2)

- Review of the musical elements introduced in Year 3
- Pitch, rhythm, dynamics, tempo, texture, structure
- Graphic scores

Spring (2)

- Vivaldi's 'Four Seasons'
- Composition using the pentatonic scale – rhythm, then melody
- Notate in standard notation (ideally)

The Sea

- Britten's 'Sea Interludes
- Sea shanties
- Improvisation
- Composition of a structured piece – *either* 'A Storm at Sea' *or* 'Calm Days'
- Introduce minor keys, voices and instruments as appropriate

Class Singing

- Jonah Man Jazz
- Songs for concert

Theory

- Note values and rests (including dotted notes and ties)
- Notes of the treble clef (and bass clef where appropriate)
- Time signatures and metres
- Introduction to scales and chords

Partner Songs / Victorian Songs

- A selection of Music Hall Songs
- Songs that fit together

Practical

- Preparation for informal concert
- Tuned and untuned percussion
- Class 'mini-concerts'

Year 5: One 45 minute lesson per week: each form will be taught by both AJD & SL

Overview

Pupils in Year 5 continue to enjoy a variety of practical activities. Musical notation and theoretical skills are further developed; listening and aural skills are formally assessed.

Class singing is a regular feature of lessons. Composition and performance includes percussion based and instrumental ensemble activities, ensuring that all pupils are able to participate. There is at least one annual informal concert for each year group; this will often include all of the pupils.

Most children will be playing a full and active role in the wider musical life of the school, taking advantage of the outstanding extra-curricular music programme. Additionally, pupils are offered free aural training classes and, where appropriate, prepared for grade 5 theory or practical musicianship.

Curriculum

Check Up

- Review of the musical elements
- Musical opposites
- Classifying instruments
- Revision of elementary notation skills and use of graphic scores
- Grouping beats in 3/4 and 4/4 time

Aural Assessment

- 'Listen-In' modules (progressive throughout the school)

Exploring Voices

- Creating effects
- Improvisation (and interpreting a graphic score)
- Cultural differences (Mongolian mouth music, Yodelling, Rap, Plainsong etc.)
- Notation (using standard or graphic scores)

Class Singing

Theory (Classes are set for this area of the curriculum)

- Pupils follow either 'Theory Matters' course or ABRSM graded theory syllabus

Our Musical History and Creating a Picture

- Project based unit
- Listening and appraising of a variety of orchestral music covering the main musical periods
- Set works from the Baroque, Classical and Romantic periods, and the 20th Century.
- Class ensemble work (where appropriate)

Practical

- Preparation for informal concert
- Tuned and untuned percussion
- Class 'mini-concerts'

Scales

- Major and minor tonality
- Patterns
- Joshua fought the battle of Jericho
- Bizet's 'Habanera'
- Composing with major and minor

Year 6: One 45 minute lesson per week: AJD

Overview

Pupils in Year 6 continue to enjoy a variety of practical activities. Musical notation and theoretical skills are further developed; listening and aural skills are formally assessed.

Class singing is a regular feature of lessons. All pupils are included in compositional and performance activities, and there is at least one annual informal concert for each year group; this will often include all of the pupils.

Most children will be playing a full and active role in the wider musical life of the school, taking advantage of the outstanding extra-curricular music programme. Additionally, pupils are offered free aural training classes and, where appropriate, prepared for grade 5 theory or practical musicianship.

Curriculum

Elements (Maths and Music)

- Review of the musical elements
- Songs and listening work (African music, Brubeck, Monteverdi)
- Time signatures - Simple, compound and irregular metres

Aural Assessment

- 'Listen-In' modules (progressive throughout the school)

Class Singing

Theory (Classes are set for this area of the curriculum)

- Pupils follow either 'Theory Matters' course or ABRSM graded theory syllabus

West Side Story

- Listening
- Cultural influences
- Performing

Styles: Popular Music

- The role and influence of classical music in western pop culture
- Blondie meets Bach
- Hits of the 50's – 00's

Practical

- Preparation for informal concert
- Tuned and untuned percussion
- Class 'mini-concerts'

Melodies and Intervals

- The essentials of a melody
- Rhythms
- Pitch
- Performance
- Intervals

Year 7: One 45 minute lesson per week: AJD

Overview

The vast majority of children will be playing a full and active role in the wider musical life of the school, taking advantage of the outstanding extra-curricular music programme. Additionally, pupils are offered free aural training classes and, where appropriate, prepared for grade 5 theory or practical musicianship.

Pupils in Year 7 continue to enjoy a variety of practical activities: Class singing is a regular feature of lessons and there is at least one annual informal concert for each year group; this will often include all of the pupils.

Curriculum

On the Way

- Review of the musical elements
- Singing (2 & 3 parts / Improvisation, call & response / Harmony)

- Set Works – Janacek ‘*Sinfonietta*’ and Dvorak ‘*New World Symphony*’
- Melody Match

Aural Assessment

- ‘*Listen-In*’ modules (progressive throughout the school)

The Concerto Genre

- Set Works:

Vivaldi ‘Four Seasons’	Mozart ‘Flute Concerto’
Ravel ‘LH Piano Concerto’	Bartok ‘Concerto for Orchestra’

Class Singing

- Preparation for production

Theory

- Pupils follow either ‘Theory Matters’ course or ABRSM graded theory syllabus
- Staves, clefs, transposition
- Notes, rest, bars
- #’s, b’s and naturals
- Putting notes in bars
- Formal assessment under exam conditions

Music Around the World

- Indonesian Gamelan, Japanese music
- Listening and appraisal
- Ensemble performance (Ravel’s *Pavane pour une infante defunte*)

Practical

- Preparation for informal concert
- Class ‘mini-concerts’

Year 8: One 45 minute lesson per week: AJD)

Overview

The vast majority of children will be playing a full and active role in the wider musical life of the school, taking advantage of the outstanding extra-curricular music programme. Additionally, pupils are offered free aural training classes and, where appropriate, prepared for grade 5 theory or practical musicianship.

Pupils in Year 8 continue to enjoy a variety of practical activities: Class singing is a regular feature of lessons and there is at least one annual informal concert for each year group; this will often include all of the pupils. Some pupils will spend class music lessons undertaking additional preparation for higher instrumental grades and/or musical scholarship entrance tests.

Curriculum

Elements Round Up

Major, Minor & Working with Chords

- Sing songs with changing tonality (plus counter-melodies)
- Construction of scales
- Appraisal work - Bizet ‘*Habanera*’ and Seiber ‘*Tango Argentino*’
- Developing chords: structure, notation, adding chords and improvisation

Voices in Layers & Chants

- Vocal improvisation/ adding layers
- Partner songs/ 2 different melodies together
- Singing chords
- Listening to chants

- Ensemble performance of Prabhujee (Indian chant)
- Listening – John Taverner ‘*Song for Athene*’ and ‘*Depart in Peace*’

Aural Assessment

- ‘*Listen-In*’ modules (progressive throughout the school)

Class Singing

- Preparation for production

Theory

- Pupils follow either ‘Theory Matters’ course or ABRSM graded theory syllabus
- Staves, clefs, transposition
- Notes, rest, bars
- #’s, b’s and naturals
- Putting notes in bars
- Formal assessment under exam conditions

Variations

- What is a variation?
- Ground Bass
- Pachelbel’s Canon – listening and performing
- Composition of a set of variations

Styles – Western Music

- Musical periods – History Timeline
- Style flashcards
- Listening and Appraisal test

Practical

- Preparation for informal concert
- Class ‘mini-concerts’