

# Music Knowledge Organiser - Year 6 Autumn Term

## Key Vocabulary

**Pitch** - The complete range of sounds in a piece of music from the lowest to the highest

**Dynamics** - The loudness of the music, usually described in terms of loud/quiet

**Structure** - Most music is underpinned by a structure which may be as simple as beginning, middle and end

**Verse** - The section of a song which generally 'tells the story'

**Chorus** - The part of a song which repeats between the verses

**Rhythm** - Patterns of long and short sounds played within a steady beat

**Beat** - The regular heartbeat of the music - the 'steady beat'

**Syncopation** - Often used synonymously with 'off-beat'. Both refer to a rhythm that emphasises normally weak beats

**Melody** - A tune

**Scat singing** - A style of vocal improvisation which uses nonsense sounds (instead of words) to imitate the sound of an instrument

**Harmony** - The relation of two or more notes that are played at the same time

**Song cycle** - A structure of music in which a group of songs is performed in a defined sequence

**Phrasing** - A small unit of a melody, often corresponding to a line of a song

**Key** - The 'key' of a piece of music refers to the scale on which the music is based and around which related harmonies are built. For instance a piece may be in the key of C major, meaning that its tonic, or home note, is the note C and the notes of its scale are C D E F G A B C

**Middle eight** - A type of musical bridge - it is a short eight-bar passage in the middle of a song that links two sections

## Tuned Instruments



keyboard



chime bars



guitar



glockenspiel

## Untuned Instruments



hand drums



cymbals



claves



triangle

**Minor key** - One of the most common types of eight-note musical scale. Often described as having a sad sound

**Major key** - One of the most common types of eight-note musical scale. Often described as having a happy sound



## Autumn Knowledge and Skills

Exploring beat and syncopation through a song and body percussion

Developing coordination and rhythm skills

Performing a rhythmic sequence to a piece of music

Developing the idea of pitch shape and relating it to movement

Understanding pitch through movement and notation

Creating rhythm patterns

Arranging different musical sections to build a larger scale performance

Exploring rhythm through dance

Combining different rhythms

Exploring ways of combining and structuring rhythms through dance

Singing in three-part harmony

Exploring expressive singing in a part-song with echoes

Developing song cycles for performance

Staging a performance with awareness of audience

Singing a pop song with backing harmony

Learning about a song's structure

Learning to sing major and minor note patterns accurately

Learning a pop song with understanding of its structure

Developing a song cycle performance incorporating mixed media

Developing planning, directing, and rehearsal skills