



Year 7 Scales

Topic 4

**Aims:**

This scheme provides students with the opportunity to learn about the different types of scales and how melodies are composed using these scales. They will develop their keyboard skills by learning the correct fingering pattern of a scale and employing that in their performance of other melodies. Students understanding will be developed through listening, analysis, musical theory and practical exploration.

**Links to KS4:**

Music reading, develop knowledge of tonality, improvising skills, introduce concepts of key signature and how to use a circle of 5ths diagram

**Key Skills**

- To develop knowledge and understanding of major and minor scales, how they are formed, used and the relationship between them.
- To develop knowledge and understanding of musical keywords linked to scales
- To develop unison singing skills by singing Joshua Fought the Battle of Jericho
- To develop keyboard skills by learning and performing a scale based countermelody with correct hand and fingers
- To develop musical and physical coordination by learning to perform 2 independent parts together
- To be given the opportunity to explore improvising skills
- To work practically, employing group skills and promoting team building

**Key terminology:**

Scale, major, minor, tone, semitone, chromatic scale, pentatonic scale, interval, octave, countermelody, tie, melodic, harmonic, relative minor, diatonic, tonality

**Literacy Links:**

- Key terminology
- Speaking and listening
- Reading instructions

**Numeracy Links:**

- Logic needed for the theory of scales and the relationship between key signatures
- Counting patterns of tones and semitones

**Assessment**

- On-going teacher assessment throughout the scheme with oral feedback.
- Weekly self and peer assessment of performances and how to improve (use of success criteria and progress trackers).
- Students close the gap every lesson based on the targets they set for themselves at the end of the last lesson.
- Formal teacher assessment of performances with class feedback.
- Peer marking for theory assessment.
- Key words test.
- Listening test

**Cross-Curricular Links**

- English – terminology/literacy and using written text
- Drama – creating confident and entertaining performances.
- Experimenting and improvising.
- Maths – numeric relationship between key signatures. Logic needed for the theory side of scales and key signatures.

**SMSC opportunities and British values**

- Group work
- Listening to others
- Student leadership
- Respect other people's views and opinions

Having empathy  
Social skills- how to be an audience member  
Creating a safe environment where students feel confidence to sing, perform, improvise and make mistakes in front of each other

**Opportunities for further learning**

N/A in year 7 and 8