

Music Expectations

When learning at Colchester Academy, you should follow these rules:

Be prepared

- Make sure that you start any tasks straight away.
- Always have the correct equipment.

Be polite

- Raise your hand to speak to the teacher.
- Make sure that you stay in your seat, unless given permission to move.
- Listen to others when performing, and give constructive feedback.

Look after one another

- Make sure all cables are tidy, and headphones are looked after.
- Move around the room quietly and purposefully.
- Use mini-whiteboards only when asked to.
- Pack any resources away with care.

What will I learn this half-term?

This half-term I will learn about TV and film music. I will listen to different examples of film music, and find out about how music can enhance the mood of a film, as well as give clues about the style of film that is being shown. For example, why do horror movies have different music to comedies?

This is important because:

Some soundtracks are among the best well-known pieces of music around today. Without the soundtrack, many films would be much less recognisable. For example, the Star Wars soundtrack is one of the most famous pieces of orchestral music, and provides a background to a whole world. Star Wars would not be the same without the soundtrack.

Making a piece of music for a TV show or film is a very specialised skill, as the music has to work with what's happening on the screen. Many film and TV music composers are very talented and hard-working people – it makes sense for us to listen to and play their work.

Each lesson I will be expected to work hard and participate.

If I have a question, I will put my hand up.

When working on the keyboards, I will work quietly.

I will start every lesson with the Do Now, which is to be completed in silence.

Soundtracks Knowledge Organiser

Keyword	Definition
Ostinato	Repeating musical pattern
Triplet	Group of three notes played in the space of two
Soundtrack	Music for a TV programme or film
Aeolian mode	All the white notes on the keyboard, from A to A
Rest	Musicians don't play on the rests
Score	Piece of music that has all parts on it
Composer	A person who makes their own music
Drone	A long held note.
Dynamics	Describing the volume of a piece of music
Texture	The amount of parts playing together. More different parts playing=thicker texture

Task 1 - 'The X Files' by Mark Snow



Mark Snow (born August 26, 1946) is an American composer for film and television. Among his most famous compositions is the theme music for sci-fi television series The X-Files. The theme reached Number Two in the UK Singles Chart.

This was an American science fiction horror drama television series. It is part of The X-Files franchise, created by Chris Carter. The series recounted the exploits of FBI Special Agents Fox Mulder (David Duchovny) and Dana Scully (Gillian Anderson) who investigate X-Files.

Mini Whiteboard Questions

- What instruments can you hear being played (choose from this list)?

Vocals

Guitar

Synthesiser

Electronic Drums

Trumpet

Saxophone

Piano

Bass Guitar

- How does this piece of music make you feel?

Task 2 - 'The Raiders March' from Indiana Jones



John Williams composed the score for Raiders of the Lost Ark, which was the only score in the series performed by the London Symphony Orchestra, the same orchestra that performed the scores for the Star Wars saga.

The score most notably features the well-known "Raiders March." This piece came to symbolize Indiana Jones and was later used in Williams' scores for the other three films.

The march is known for its bold, brassy, and energetic melody. It's a classic example of Williams's ability to craft instantly recognizable and emotionally resonant themes.

It is very much a heroic theme, designed to emphasise the heroic nature of the Indiana Jones Character

Mini Whiteboard Questions

- Which three instruments can you hear being played?

Trumpet

Piano

Violin

Percussion

Guitar

- How would you describe the tempo of this piece of music?
- What type of film do you believe that this music is from?
Give reasons for your answer.

Task 3 - 'Duel of the Fates' by John Williams



Duel of the Fates is a powerful and iconic musical composition by John Williams, best known for its prominent role in "Star Wars: Episode I – The Phantom Menace."

This piece stands out for its dramatic intensity and its unique blend of orchestral and choral elements, creating a sense of epic conflict and impending doom.

It is a sonic representation of the clash between good and evil, a powerful and memorable piece that has left an indelible mark on cinematic music. "Duel of the Fates" was a key piece in the film's score, designed to underscore the climactic lightsaber battle between Qui-Gon Jinn, Obi-Wan Kenobi, and Darth Maul. The driving, percussive rhythms and the interplay between the orchestra and the choir create a sense of relentless momentum.

Mini Whiteboard Questions

- What is the first instrument family that we hear playing?

Percussion

Strings

Woodwind

Brass

Choir

- How do the dynamics change as this piece progresses?
- This piece uses an ostinato. What is an ostinato?

Task 4

Comparing different features in music.

You are going to hear two pieces of film music. You need to list the instruments heard in each song in your mini-whiteboards.

Mini Whiteboard Questions

Put a straight line in the middle of your mini-whiteboard, dividing it into two.

Copy the table below

The Dark Knight Rises	The Shire

X Files Ostinato



X Files Melody

$\text{♩} = 75$

1 3 2 3 5 3 1

A E D E G E A

3 2 3 5 2 5 4 3 2 3 1 5 4 3 2 4 1

E D E A E C B A G A E C B A G B E

X Files Score

♩ = 75

Flute

Piano

Fl

Pno

Fl

Pno

Fl

Pno

Fl

Pno

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The musical score is written for Flute (Fl) and Piano (Pno) in 4/4 time, with a tempo marking of ♩ = 75. The key signature is one flat (B-flat major or D minor). The score is divided into four systems. The Piano part features a repeating triplet of eighth notes (A-C-E-F-C-E-F) and single notes (A). The Flute part features a melody of eighth and quarter notes. The score ends with a double bar line.

System 1:

- Flute: Rest
- Piano: Triplet of eighth notes (A-C-E-F-C-E-F), then A, A, A

System 2:

- Flute: A, E, D, E, G, E, A
- Piano: Triplet of eighth notes (A-C-E-F-C-E-F), then A, A, A

System 3:

- Flute: E, D, E, A, E, C, B, A, G, A
- Piano: Triplet of eighth notes (A-C-E-F-C-E-F), then A, A, A

System 4:

- Flute: E, C, B, A, G, B, E
- Piano: Triplet of eighth notes (A-C-E-F-C-E-F), then A, A, A

Assessment Criteria

Your work will be marked according to this table when you are assessed at the end of the half-term.

Mark	Description
10	Plays melody and ostinato (with partner, in time) and can swap parts, very good.
9	Plays melody and chords (with partner, in time) and can swap parts, play first extension task.
8	Plays melody and chords (with partner, in time) and can swap parts
7	Plays melody and chords (with partner, in time)
6	Plays melody and chords (with partner, but not in time)
5	Plays melody and chords (not with partner)
4	Plays melody with no issues
3	Plays melody with a little more confidence, but still a little unsteady.
2	Plays melody with some uncertainty.
1	No real work.

An assessment lesson is an opportunity for you to show your best work, so that you can achieve your highest mark.

How can I achieve my best mark?

Before we start practising, have a look at the table and see what stage you are currently working at.

For example, if you can only play the melody with no issues, then you are currently working at a 4.

If you are working at a 4, what do you need to do to improve?

Use this information to help you in your assessment.