

## **Aylsham High School Music department homework policy July 2023**

### Key stage 3 (KS3)

As not all students have access to instruments at home practical homework tasks are always optional, especially those on the ukulele. For keyboard tasks, students could use a keyboard app on their mobile/tablet to play the main melody of a tune, but not move up to the next level of hands together on an app.

The majority of compulsory tasks therefore are linked to the related theory of each topic the class is studying at the time eg. work books related to rhythms/note values and notes of the treble clef. These activities will help consolidate learning started in lessons and will allow more time in lesson to be spent on the practical aspects related to the theory.

All worksheets will be sent home with students as a paper copy but, if lost, a copy will be available on the Google classroom for students to access. Additional resources, especially when the task is a revision task and sheets may be in their book at school, are available on the school website for students and parents to look through eg. chords, spellings and terms. Students will also be given tasks to complete online via Quizlet and Google forms.

On average, each task should take roughly 20 mins to complete. Where tasks, such as workbooks, are spread over several weeks then it is advised to do some each week rather than spending a longer time in one sitting doing the entire workbook.

For homework tasks that are not revision based, the task will be explained to the students in class and some examples gone over together in lesson time to ensure students understand the type of answers expected eg. listening appraisal sheet. Members of staff from the music department are always available at lunch times to answer any questions if students are stuck.

Some tasks, mainly revision based tasks, will be assessed with a test in class. Other tasks, such as workbook related tasks, which are ongoing over several weeks, will be marked at the end of the fortnight/ half term (depending on length of task) within class. Tasks set online such as Quizlet or Google forms will generate grades upon completion of the task.

Many of the key stage 3 tasks; listening, theory, key terms and optional practical, will also help prepare students who wish to take GCSE or BTEC music at key stage 4.

Homework tasks will include; revision of keyboard notes, note values, musical spellings, musical terms, chords, treble clef notes, listening appraisal sheets, quizlet/Google forms on topics covered in class, optional practical homework on pieces being learnt in class.

### Key stage 3 (KS4)

Unlike key stage 3, it is expected that all students opting for music at key stage 4 will:

- have an instrument
- already be practising this instrument at home **and** in addition to their GCSE/BTEC lessons
- having extra lessons outside the classroom on their chosen instrument/voice

Therefore a lot of key stage 4 homework will be ongoing practise on their instrument/voice in readiness for practical coursework assessment.

On top of this performing/composing homework, there will be regular tests of key terms/core knowledge, learnt in each unit, to consolidate learning. Various learning websites such as SENECA (GCSE only) and Quizlet (GCSE and BTEC) are made use of to provide other ways of recapping terms and topics covered in class.

Tasks set online such as Quizlet or Seneca will generate grades upon completion of the task. There will also be related worksheets to complete, to consolidate learning in class, which will be explained and handed out in class in paper form, but also available on the Google classroom.

For both GCSE and BTEC there will be homework consisting of past papers in readiness for the externally assessed exam; either a whole paper or a section to practise exam technique eg. essay (both GCSE and BTEC) and unfamiliar listening (GCSE).