

Using Bronze Arts Award with KS3 Music



For a music-based Bronze Arts Award (Level 1 qualification*) students build a portfolio of their activities showing how their musical learning has progressed. The assessment criteria (art form knowledge and understanding, creativity, and communication) are a great fit with KS3 music.

There are four parts to complete for Bronze Arts Award – all of which can easily link to **KS3 music curriculum**

Students need to evidence:

- ▶ getting involved in practical music making and reflect on skills they are developing
- ▶ listening to, and reviewing live music
- ▶ researching musicians and/or composers
- ▶ passing on music based skills to others

A wide range of evidence formats can be used – and Arts Award is proven to be both accessible to young people with SEND, as well as providing a stretch and challenge for more able students.

Arts Award Impact Study

Research led by London South Bank University found that Arts Award has had a positive impact on young people's choice of subjects, and encourages independent learning and communication, and gains in leadership, confidence and organisational skills

Part A: explore the arts as a participant

Links to KS3 music curriculum

Students could explore playing and performing confidently alone and in an ensemble, using their voice and instruments musically, fluently and with accuracy and expression.

Students could improvise and compose, and extend and develop their musical ideas, recording how their skills develop.



I have written a song using my guitar and performed it at the school concert with my friends

This is me playing in the djembe group. When I started I had trouble with timing and found it hard to join in - but now I have learned to read beats, and made up my own solo



Part B: explore the arts as an audience member

Links to KS3 music curriculum

Students listen with discrimination to music from a wide range of composers and musicians, critically review what they hear, and share their reviews.

We listened to the senior school orchestra play and published our reviews on the school website



My Dad took me to see some jazz musicians play in the holidays - and I got to talk to them afterwards and recorded it on my phone

Part C: arts inspiration

Links to KS3 music curriculum

Students research a musician or composer they are inspired by. Students develop an understanding of the music they perform and listen to, and its history through this research.

I've created two information posters - one about Benjamin Britten and one about XXXTentacion



We all learned everything we could about our favourite musician - and then pretended to be them for an afternoon, and interviewed each other about our music

Part D: arts skills share

Links to KS3 music curriculum

Students pass on musical skills to others. This could include using musical notations accurately in a range of genres, styles and traditions, identifying and using dimensions such as tones and scales.

I taught my partner how to improvise with their voice over a drum beat



I've made a PowerPoint to explain notation and scales used in three different styles of music and presented it to the class

*Level 1 Award in the Arts - Comparison standard: GCSE D-G / 3-1

Find out more: artsaward.org.uk/gettingstarted