



Meta Skills Development in Music

Meta Skill 1: Focussing Primary

Developed through:

- Active Listening: Learners develop focus by sorting and identifying elements like rhythm, pitch, and dynamics within music, sharpening their auditory attention and filtering out distractions.
- > Sustained Concentration: Performing music demands attention to one's part while filtering and integrating cues from others in an ensemble, strengthening sustained focus.
- > Creative Focus: Composing and improvising teach learners to sort and organise musical ideas, maintaining attention while filtering through creative possibilities.

Meta Skill 2: Collaborating Primary

Developed through:

- Teamwork in Ensemble Performance: Learners develop collaboration by performing in groups, requiring relationship-building and teamwork to stay in time, balance dynamics, and achieve a shared musical outcome.
- > Cultural Competence Through Music Exploration: By studying and performing music from diverse cultures, learners enhance their understanding and respect for others, fostering cultural competence while collaborating to interpret styles authentically.
- ➤ Collaborative Composition and Problem-Solving: Working together to create and refine compositions helps learners build trust, share ideas, and negotiate creative decisions, promoting strong relationships and effective collaboration.

Meta Skill 3: Adapting Secondary

Developed through:

- Adaptability in Ensemble Work: Learners develop adaptability by adjusting their playing or singing during rehearsals and performances, ensuring cohesion and balance within the group.
- > Self-Learning in Musical Practice: Through independent practice, learners build self-learning skills by identifying challenges, experimenting with techniques, and finding solutions to improve their performance.
- Resilience in Overcoming Challenges: Learners cultivate resilience by persevering through difficult pieces, refining their skills, and incorporating feedback to achieve personal and group goals in music.

Meta Skill 4: Sense Making Secondary

Developed through:

- Analytical Listening to Musical Elements: Learners develop sense-making by analysing musical components such as melody, harmony, rhythm, and texture, interpreting how these elements convey meaning and emotion.
- ➤ Critical Evaluation of Performances: Through reflecting on and analysing their own performances and those of others, learners make sense of strengths, areas for improvement, and the impact of musical choices.

> Contextual Analysis of Musical Styles: Studying music from different genres, periods, and cultures enables learners to analyse and interpret the historical, social, and cultural contexts that shape musical expression.

Meta Skill 5: Initiative Secondary

Developed through:

- > Self-Motivation in Practice and Performance: Learners develop initiative by setting personal goals for improving their musical skills, dedicating time to practice, and striving for excellence in performance.
- > Self-Belief in Creative Expression: Composing and improvising music encourage learners to trust their abilities and express their ideas confidently, building self-belief through creative decision-making.
- ➤ Decision-Making in Musical Interpretation: Learners demonstrate initiative by making interpretive choices about dynamics, phrasing, and tempo, taking ownership of their performances and showcasing individuality.

Meta Skill 6: Creativity Secondary

Developed through:

- Advanced Composition and Imaginative Storytelling: Learners at this level use their imagination to create more complex compositions, experimenting with structure, instrumentation, and harmony to convey moods, themes, or narratives.
- ➤ Idea Generation in Collaborative Projects: Through group work, such as band performances or ensemble composition, learners brainstorm, share, and refine musical ideas, enhancing their ability to generate and develop creative solutions collaboratively.
- ➤ Creative Interpretation in Performance: Performing more sophisticated pieces encourages learners to use imagination to interpret and personalise music through dynamic contrasts, phrasing, and stylistic choices, showcasing originality and creative thinking.