LEARNING OBJECTIVES

(Pupils should know/understand/be able to do/be aware of by the end of the lesson)

- The importance of silence and rests in a musical rhythm
- Perform and compose rhythms using rhythm grid

LEARNING OUTCOMES

(The evidence to show that pupils have achieved the learning objectives)

Level 3 (working towards) All Pupils:

Build up an internal sense of pulse and understand the importance of being "on the beat"

Perform from simple rhythm grid notation as part of a group with

Level 4 (working at) Most Pupils

Recognise "silent" beats as rests

Perform from rhythm grid notation individually

Compose own rhythmic piece using rhythm grid notation

Level 5/6+ (working beyond/GAT) Some Pupils:

Compose and perform rhythmically accurate pieces using rhythm grid notation to record ideas with an awareness of pulse and timing

LESSON STRUCTURE

NC KS3 POS Circle Game - "Silence & Rests"

Starter Activity

Assemble pupils in a circle and establish a regular pulse, referring back to lesson

1 and the importance of keeping the pulse regular without speeding up. Now develop an eight beat quaver rhythm pattern by adding an accent to the first beat. Teachers could write this out on the board revising the musical symbol for an accent (>) learned in lesson 1. Try clapping this rhythm pattern with emphasis on the accented beat.

Extend this further by asking pupils to clap on the first beat and rest on beats two (5 mins) to eight feeling the pulse internally on the silent beats.

1. Learning about Rhythm Grid Notation - Presentation 1 & Audio 12 & Worksheet 1

Link the starter to the development of the lesson by drawing a large rhythm grid on the board as shown below, or use the one given on Presentation 1. Pupils could also use the rhythm grid at the top of Worksheet 1 to record the rhythms as they are constructed.

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Α								
В								
С								
D								

Select a pupil and ask them to choose 4 numbers between 1 and 8 and enter these into row "A" drawing a large circle in each of the four boxes. Select another pupil to select four numbers for row "B", continuing until rows "C" and "D" have been completed.

Begin with row "A". Explain that this is made of eight beats and pupils should clap on the beats marked with a circle and "rest" in the blank boxes - called "rests". Establish a regular pulse either by clapping, using an untuned percussion instrument, or using Audio 12, which contains a regular 110bpm pulse. Next, try clapping the rhythm pattern established by row "A" repeating it a number of times. Try the different rows along with a regular pulse. Next, split the class into four groups, assigning each one of the four rows "A" to "D". Each group could practice clapping their rhythm pattern separately, before adding all four parts together creating a POLYRHYTHMIC texture. Agree on a set number of repetitions (4 works well) and perform the piece through. Groups could swap rows depending on the time available. (15 mins)

Continued..

Play and perform

confidently in a range of solo and ensemble contexts using their voice, playing instruments musically, fluently and with accuracy and expression

Play and perform confidently in a range of solo and ensemble contexts using their voice, playing instruments musically, fluently and with accuracy and expression

Improvise and compose; and extend and develop musical ideas by drawing on a range of musical structures, styles, genres and traditions

Use staff and other relevant notations appropriately and accurately in a range of musical styles, genres and traditions

Sore Main Activities

Core Main Activities Continued

Plenary

2. Composing - "Pulse Piece" - Worksheet 1

Worksheet 1 develops and extends the above activity within a group context. If pupils have not already done so, they can copy the "class pulse piece" composed above into the grid at the top of Worksheet 1. They then work in groups of 4 to compose and rehearse their own "pulse piece". They should first decide who will compose each row "A" to "D", then, following the instructions given at the bottom of Worksheet 1, choose 4 numbers on which to "clap" on, entering these into their specific "row". They should then collaborate and record each of the other group's rhythms into their given rows before attempting to perform their piece four times through. Pupils should start by clapping and then explore the contrasting different timbres available through the use of untuned percussion instruments so that each part can be heard clearly. Allow groups suitable time to rehearse their "pulse pieces" and pupils should keep their scores for the following lesson. (25 mins)

3. Singing a song with a regular pulse – Song Sheet 6 & MIDI 15

Teach the pupils "My Grandfather's Clock", given on Song Sheet 6 as an example of a song which uses a regular pulse – and even includes the sound of the clock ticking! MIDI 15 can be used to support the learning of the song melody and further resources are available from the Sing Up! Website. Encourage good unison singing with good "clicking sounds" on the "ticks" and "tocks" and perform as much of the song as time allows.

Play and perform confidently in a range of solo and ensemble contexts using their voice, playing instruments musically, fluently and with accuracy and expression

Improvise and compose; and extend and develop musical ideas by drawing on a range of musical structures, styles, genres and traditions

Use staff and other relevant notations appropriately and accurately in a range of musical styles, genres and traditions

Play and perform confidently in a range of solo and ensemble contexts using their voice, playing instruments musically, fluently and with accuracy and expression

(10 mins)

Introducing Half-Beats into Rhythm Grids - Starter/Plenary 12

Using the above presentation slide, or by copying the following rhythm grid onto the board, ask pupils: how does this rhythm grid differ from the ones we have been using during the lesson? Pupils will see that some of the squares contain two circles, instead of one. Ask pupils: how will we go about performing these squares with two circles in? They will have to clap two "half beats" in the time it took to originally clap one whole beat. Note stems could quickly be added to the rhythm grid turning the different beats in crotchets and quavers (and proving that pupils are actually reading music!) Using the same groups as allocated earlier in the lesson, see if pupils can clap their allocated "row" as a polyrhythmic four part texture, including half-beats, along to a regular pulse, established and maintained by the teacher, or by using Audio 12.

Play and perform confidently in a range of solo and ensemble contexts using their voice, playing instruments musically, fluently and with accuracy and expression

Use staff and other relevant notations appropriately and accurately in a range of musical styles, genres and traditions

(5 mins)

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Α	•		•		•		•	
В	•	••			•	••		
С	••	••	••		••	••	••	
ח				••				••

CROSS CURRICULAR - LITERACY/ NUMERACY/CITIZENSHIP/ICT

Numeracy – Division of musical beats into groupings and introduction of half-beats links well with numeracy work on Fractions and Division.

EAL/SEN/GAT

(GAT) More able pupils can perform their own rhythmic part without support from other pupils or may be able to notate their "Pulse Piece" using single line rhythm notation (SEN) Less able pupils can work in groups when composing their "Pulse Pieces" where rhythmic support can be given in performing. Less able pupils may need extra support in understanding the concept of rhythm grid notation

LANGUAGE FOR LEARNING - spell/use/understand Accents, Half Beats, Polyrhythm, Pulse, Rests, Rhythm, Rhythm Grid Notation, Silence, Texture

their group's Puise Piece

Pupils could be asked to produce an enlarged, neat version of their group's "Pulse Piece" composition for the following lesson.

LESSON RESOURCES – selection of untuned classroom percussion instruments

Y7U2PPT1 – Blank eight-beat four-part rhythm grid Y7U1W1 – Pulse Piece Composing Sheet

77U2MIDI15 – My Grandfather's Clock Song Melody

Y7U2A12 – 110bpm Pulse Track Y7U2SS6 – My Grandfather's Clock

HOMEWORK SUGGESTIONS