



SWGS KS4&5 VOCABULARY LIST: MUSIC

This list consolidates key vocabulary in the subject, making it easier for you to know, understand and use it accurately. This may be provided as a pre-filled glossary or a word list to complete. Your teachers will use this vocabulary frequently, and you will encounter it in reading. You will be expected to learn meanings and spellings.

PLEASE NOTE - For an exhaustive list of keywords specific to each Key Stage, please refer to the Glossary pages of the provided textbooks:

GCSE Music Textbook – pages 171-176

A Level Music Anthology – pages 479-488

Unit 3 – Listening & Appraising – The Musical Elements

Sonority	Anything relating to specific sound of a musical note, including Instrumentation, Instrumental Techniques, Timbre, Articulation & Dynamics.
Structure	The layout of sections in a piece of music.
Tonality	The specific set of different notes chosen (usually 7) to make a piece of music. Aurally this choice of notes will affect the mood of the piece.
Harmony	The result created when more than one note is played at the same time.
Melody	the 'tune' of the music. When describing melody we refer to the movement of pitch.
Texture	the layers in a piece of music and how they interact.
Rhythm	the result of various different note lengths being placed together
Metre	the number of beats in the bar and how each beat is sub-divided.
Tempo	The speed of the pulse of the music.

More detail on the musical elements, including key terminology associated with each, is in the Musical Elements PowerPoints which can be found on Teams.

