

## National Unit Specification: general information

**UNIT** Music: Exploring Sound (Access 1)

**CODE** F142 07

### SUMMARY

This Unit is part of a suite of Access 1 Units described as ‘Supported level’. The Unit has been designed primarily to give candidates an introduction to music by encouraging them to explore and experiment with sound in a supported learning environment.

**NOTE:** The candidate will do this Unit with the appropriate level of support and resources. Some candidates may progress from requiring a high level of support, to working more independently, while others may always require full adult support. Levels of support are defined in Guidance on Learning and Teaching Approaches in the Support Notes Section.

### OUTCOMES

- 1 Produce a sound using a chosen instrument.
- 2 Select and play a piece of music using an appropriate audio device.
- 3 Choose an instrument and accompany the music played on the audio device.

### RECOMMENDED ENTRY

Entry to this Unit is at the discretion of the centre. No prior knowledge or experience is required.

### CREDIT VALUE

1 credit at Access 1 (6 SCQF credit points at SCQF level 1\*)

*\*SCQF credit points are used to allocate credit to qualifications in the Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework (SCQF). Each qualification in the Framework is allocated a number of SCQF credit points at an SCQF level. There are 12 SCQF levels, ranging from Access 1 to Doctorates.*

### CORE SKILLS

There is no automatic certification of Core Skills or Core Skills components in this Unit.

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### Administrative Information

**Superclass:** HC

**Publication date:** January 2007

**Source:** Scottish Qualifications Authority

**Version:** 01

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## **National Unit Specification: statement of standards**

### **UNIT Music: Exploring Sound (Access 1)**

Acceptable performance in this Unit will be the satisfactory achievement of the standards set out in this part of the Unit Specification. All sections of the statement of standards are mandatory and cannot be altered without reference to the Scottish Qualifications Authority.

#### **OUTCOME 1**

Produce a sound using a chosen instrument.

##### **Performance Criteria**

- (a) Choose an instrument from a display of instruments.
- (b) Place the instrument in an appropriate position so that it can be played.
- (c) Produce a sound using the chosen instrument.

#### **OUTCOME 2**

Select and play a piece of music using an appropriate audio device.

##### **Performance Criteria**

- (a) Select a piece of music from a choice provided.
- (b) Select an audio device to play the chosen piece of music.
- (c) Activate the audio device to produce the sound.
- (d) Switch off the audio device.

#### **OUTCOME 3**

Choose an instrument and accompany the music played on the audio device.

##### **Performance Criteria**

- (a) Choose an instrument from a display of instruments.
- (b) Place the instrument in an appropriate position so that it can be played.
- (c) Activate the audio device containing the chosen piece of music.
- (d) Accompany the music on the audio device with the chosen instrument.

##### **Evidence Requirements**

Evidence relating to Outcome 1, 2 and 3 will be performance evidence to show that the candidate can:

- ◆ choose an instrument from a display of at least two;
- ◆ position the instrument so it can be played and produce a sound from the instrument;
- ◆ choose a piece of music from a choice of at least two provided;
- ◆ choose an audio device, activate the device to produce sound and switch off the device when the music has finished;
- ◆ accompany the chosen music using the chosen instrument.

## **National Unit Specification: statement of standards**

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Candidates may use an appropriate Switch if required. The audio device used could be a CD player, tape recorder, MP3 player, or other appropriate player of pre-recorded music.

## National Unit Specification: support notes

### UNIT Music: Exploring Sound (Access 1)

This part of the Unit Specification is offered as guidance. The support notes are not mandatory.

The support notes outline the range of learning and teaching approaches which are suitable for the diverse needs of different candidates.

While the exact time allocated to this Unit is at the discretion of the centre, the notional design length is 40 hours.

However, the individual needs of candidates must be taken into account and some will require more than 40 hours to complete the Unit. Teachers/lecturers are encouraged to provide a range of enriched experiences which take account of the needs of the learner and the process of learning.

#### **GUIDANCE ON THE CONTENT AND CONTEXT FOR THIS UNIT**

This is a practical Unit and is aimed at introducing candidates to music by encouraging them to explore and experiment with sound in a supported learning environment.

The suite of ‘Supported level’ Units has deliberately been designed with a degree of overlap in content between some of the Units. This overlap is designed to take account of the need to retain and reinforce skills for candidates at this level. For this reason, it is strongly recommended that evidence of assessment from one Unit should not be used as evidence of assessment for any other Unit which covers the same task (for example ‘*Music: Producing a Sound*’ and Outcome 1 from ‘*Music: Exploring Sound*’) as this repetition gives the candidate the opportunity to demonstrate reinforcement and retention of skills.

While it is intended that candidates should engage in the total learning experience, as outlined in the three Outcomes, it is recognised that some candidates may require to spend longer on certain Performance Criteria. Teachers/lecturers should decide, on the basis of individual candidate needs, where the emphasis of learning should lie and when specific Outcomes or Performance Criteria should be assessed and recorded.

#### **Equipment, processes and techniques.**

The instruments and pieces of music will be a personal choice. The method of positioning the instrument and the technique used should be appropriate to the skills of the candidate with the appropriate level of support or prompting.

#### **Instruments could include:**

Beaters, Chime Bars, Cymbals, Drums, Guitars, Indian Bells, Rhythm Sticks, Small Keyboard, Tambour, Tambourine, Wrist Bells, Zithers, etc.

#### **Pieces of music could include:**

Classical, Country and Western, Dance, Folk, Pop, etc.

## **National Unit Specification: support notes (cont)**

### **UNIT            Music: Exploring Sound (Access 1)**

#### **Other Equipment could include:**

An appropriate Switch, CD player, Microphone, Tape Recorder.

The above list is neither prescriptive nor exhaustive, but is merely offered as an example of the variety of instruments and other equipment that could be used to contribute to the enrichment of the learning experience for candidates.

### **GUIDANCE ON LEARNING AND TEACHING APPROACHES FOR THIS UNIT**

#### **Levels of adult support**

Candidates undertaking this Unit will require different levels of teacher/lecturer/assistant support.

This would include the following range:

- ◆ Candidates functioning at an experiential level, where they will always need total adult physical support to engage in the sensory learning experience.
- ◆ Candidates functioning at an experiential level, where through familiarity of routine and total adult support, may progress to functioning in some aspects of the sensory learning experience at awareness level.
- ◆ Candidates functioning at an awareness level, where through familiarity of routine and total adult support, may progress to functioning in some aspects of the sensory learning experience at participation level.
- ◆ Candidates functioning at an participation level, where through familiarity of routine and total adult support, may progress to functioning in some aspects of the practical task with reduced adult support.
- ◆ Candidates who require constant prompting to engage in the practical task.
- ◆ Candidates who require reduced prompting to engage in the practical task.
- ◆ Candidates, who through familiarity of routine, become independent in most aspects of the practical task, but may always require intermittent adult support for specific aspects of the task.
- ◆ Candidates, who through familiarity of routine, become independent in all aspects of the practical task and maintain the skills learned.
- ◆ Candidates with significant motor impairment, who require the total physical support of an adult to engage in the practical task, but whose cognitive ability allows them to understand either elements of the process or the whole process.

## **National Unit Specification: support notes (cont)**

### **UNIT**            Music: Exploring Sound (Access 1)

#### **Choice**

It is intended that in the planning and delivery of this Unit teachers/lecturers will ensure that choice is an integral part of the learning and teaching process at every level.

#### **Language and Communication**

The language and communication approach which has already been identified as appropriate for the individual candidate through normal centre review processes should be employed throughout this Unit. This approach should be integrated within the necessary level of adult support to ensure effective learning.

The following list is not exhaustive and is given merely to illustrate the diverse range of communication approaches which may be required to meet an individual candidate's needs.

To illustrate how language and communication approaches should be implemented to support the candidate's engagement to task, the Performance Criterion (a) from Outcome 1 is given as an example.

#### **Outcome 1**

Produce a sound using the chosen instrument.

PC (a) Choose an instrument from a display of at least two instruments. Candidate could engage with this task in one or more of the following ways:

- ◆ Candidates who will select the instrument by matching for example:
  - instrument to instrument
  - instrument to pictorial
  - pictorial to pictorial
  - symbol to symbol
  - symbol to pictorial
  - symbol to instrument
- ◆ Candidates who will select the instrument using symbol/pictorial with a single word.
- ◆ Candidates who will select the instrument using a single written word.
- ◆ Candidates who will select the instrument from a simple written list.
- ◆ Candidates who will select the equipment following an oral instruction with signing/gesture.
- ◆ Candidates who will select the instrument following oral instructions.

Depending on the needs of the individual candidate, teachers/lecturers may incorporate the above approaches with a demonstration of the entire task.

## **National Unit Specification: support notes (cont)**

### **UNIT**            Music: Exploring Sound (Access 1)

#### **Resources to Support Learning and Teaching**

In each of the Outcomes, the needs of the candidates will determine the resources required to ensure access to the Unit and engagement in the task. It is recognised that some candidates may need either specialised equipment or ‘switching’ to participate in the practical activity. It is also recognised that for most candidates, language and communication resources in respect of the range of augmentative communication systems, will be prerequisite to effective functioning.

#### **GUIDANCE ON APPROACHES TO ASSESSMENT FOR THIS UNIT**

Assessment of this Unit is based on the level of adult support required by the candidate to ensure access to the learning experience. It is recommended that centres keep a record of each candidate’s progress while undertaking this Unit. This may be done by recording in Appendix 1, using the appropriate support code given at the end of the Appendix. Some candidates may require the same level of support throughout.

It is recommended that this record of candidate progress is made available to any other centre which the candidate may attend in future. It may also be included, for example in the candidate’s IEP, PLP or Progress File.

For those candidates who, through practice may become less reliant on adult support, the assessment of their performance may be delayed until they have reached their maximum level of functioning.

For those candidates with significant motor impairment, who require total adult support to engage in the physical aspects of the activity, but whose cognitive ability would allow them to indicate the steps and tasks within the process, it is this element of the activity that should be recorded and assessed.

Teachers/lecturers should provide adequate opportunities for formative assessment to take place prior to candidates undertaking the required summative assessment which is recorded for assessment purposes. Candidates should be given every opportunity to practise assessment tasks in the context of producing a sound or activating an audio device so that they are adequately prepared for formal assessment.

**NOTE:** In choosing the instrument, selecting the piece of music and operating the audio device, candidate performance could range from adult support as stated in the Support Codes to those candidates who can independently play an instrument, select a piece of music and activate the audio device to produce a sound.

Records of all assessment instruments used and evidence produced by each candidate should be retained for moderation purposes. Records must be kept of candidate performance. These could be in the form of checklists completed by the responsible person observing the performance or recording the responses to questions, or they may also be in the form of video, photographic or audio recordings of the candidate performance. All checklists and logs of video, photographic or audio recordings must be signed and dated by the teacher/lecturer who assesses the evidence and authenticates the record as an accurate record of the work of the named candidate.

## **National Unit Specification: support notes (cont)**

### **UNIT**            Music: Exploring Sound (Access 1)

The recording sheet provided at Appendix 1 can be used by centres to record the level of support individual candidates required to achieve each Performance Criterion, each Outcome and the overall Unit. The level of support required by candidates is not recorded on the Scottish Qualifications Certificate and this particular recording sheet is not therefore needed for SQA verification purposes. However, it is recommended that centres retain the completed recording sheets as an aid to track candidate progress and they can be used to pass information to receiving centres where candidates are transferred or move on.

The recording sheet includes space for up to three assessments in case the centre wants to re-assess the candidate at later stages to see if level of support required has improved. It should be noted, however, that candidates cannot be certificated more than once for a Unit and the certificate states only that a candidate has achieved an Access 1 level Unit, it does not state the level of support required.

### **CANDIDATES WITH DISABILITIES AND/OR ADDITIONAL SUPPORT NEEDS**

The additional support needs of individual candidates should be taken into account when planning learning experiences, selecting assessment instruments, or considering alternative Outcomes for Units. Further advice can be found in the SQA document *Guidance on Assessment Arrangements for Candidates with Disabilities and/or Additional Support Needs* ([www.sqa.org.uk](http://www.sqa.org.uk)).

**Recording Sheet (refer to the Support Codes at the end of the Appendix 1)**

**Candidates name..... Class ..... Session.....**

**Outcome 1:  
Produce a sound using a chosen instrument**

<b>Performance Criteria</b>	<b>Support Code</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Support Code</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Support Code</b>	<b>Date</b>
<b>Choose an instrument from a display of instruments</b>						
<b>Place the instrument in an appropriate position so that it can be played</b>						
<b>Produce a sound using the chosen instrument</b>						

**Overall level of support given to candidate to achieve this Outcome (enter code).....**

**UNIT Music: Exploring Sound (Access 1)**

**Recording Sheet (refer to the Support Codes at the end of the Appendix 1)**

Candidate's name..... Class..... Session.....

**Outcome 2:**

**Select and play a piece of music using an appropriate audio device**

Performance Criteria	Support Code	Date	Support Code	Date	Support Code	Date
Select a piece of music from a choice provided						
Select an audio device to play the chosen piece of music						
Activate the audio device to produce the sound						
Switch off the audio device						

**Overall level of support given to candidate to achieve this Outcome (enter code).....**

**UNIT Music: Exploring Sound (Access 1)**

**Recording Sheet (refer to the Support Codes at the end of the Appendix 1)**

Candidates name..... Class..... Session.....

**Outcome 3:**

**Chose an instrument and accompany the music played on the audio device**

Performance Criteria	Support Code	Date	Support Code	Date	Support Code	Date
Choose an instrument from a display of instruments						
Place the instrument in an appropriate position so that it can be played						
Activate the audio device containing the chosen piece of music						
Accompany the music on the audio device with the chosen instrument						

**Overall level of support given to candidate to achieve this Outcome (enter code).....**

**Overall level of support given to candidate to achieve the Unit (enter code) .....**

The named candidate has successfully achieved the Unit. The form completed above is an accurate record of the assessment undertaken by the candidate.

Teacher/Lecturer Signature ..... Date .....

## **Codes to Facilitate Recording**

Teachers should exercise their professional judgement in determining the overall code for the Unit.

### **E1 (Experiential 1)**

Candidates functioning at an experiential level, where they will always need total adult physical support to engage in the sensory learning experience.

### **E2 (Experiential 2)**

Candidates functioning at an experiential level, where through familiarity of routine and total adult support, may progress to functioning in some aspects of the sensory learning experience at awareness level.

### **A (Awareness)**

Candidates functioning at an awareness level, where through familiarity of routine and total adult support, may progress to functioning in some aspects of the sensory learning experience at a participation level.

### **P (Participation)**

Candidates functioning at participation level, where through familiarity of routine and total adult support, may progress to functioning in some aspects of the practical task with reduced adult support.

### **CP (Constant Prompting)**

Candidates who require constant prompting to engage in the practical task.

### **RP (Reduced Prompting)**

Candidates who require reduced prompting to engage in the practical task.

### **IS (Intermittent Support)**

Candidates, who through familiarity of routine, become independent in most aspects of the practical task, but may always, require intermittent adult support for specific aspects of the practical task.

### **Ind (Independent)**

Candidates, who through familiarity of routine, become independent in most aspects of the practical task and maintain the skills learnt.

### **CA (Cognitive Ability)**

Candidates with significant motor impairment, who require the total physical support of an adult to engage in the practical task, but whose cognitive ability allows them to understand either elements of the process, or the whole process.