

## The Elements of Music and their definition

These are essential to know for every topic at KS3! These elements of music are involved in every topic over the 3 years at KS3.

1. Dynamics - The volume of the music

RAG

2. Duration- The length of a sound

RAG

3. Harmony- The relationship of notes

RAG

4. Melody - The main tune

RAG

5. Metre - How many beats in a bar

RAG

6. Pitch - How high or low the sound is

RAG

7. Rhythm - The pattern of the notes

RAG

8. Structure - The sections of the music

RAG

9. Tempo - The speed of the music

RAG

10. Timbre - The sound of an instrument

RAG

11. Tonality - The mood of the music

RAG

12. Finger position - When playing the keyboard you need to be thinking about which are the best fingers to be using. You do not want to be twisting your hand or using the same fingers. Once you have found a way that works efficiently you need to practice it over and over again.

13. Posture - When playing the piano you need to ensure that you are addressing the piano correctly. Make sure you are sat correctly and you are not leaning over anything to get to the keyboard.

# Knowledge Organiser: Keyboard Skills

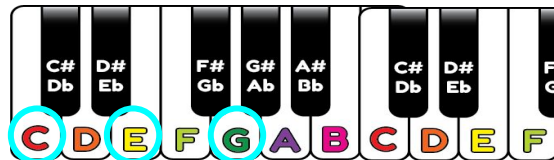
14. Riff - A short repeated pattern played over and over again. Often it is a short idea that is catchy. Famous riffs include Smoke On The Water by Deep Purple.

15. Chord - When 2 or more notes play at the same time creating harmony. The most common chord is a triad which contains 3 notes. Look at numbers 19-22 to learn 4 new chords.

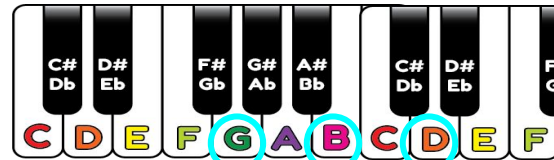
16. Sharp - # This is the symbol for a sharp note. A sharp note is simple, for example F#, find an F and go the smallest step higher, you will get to a black key. Be careful, there is no black key between E-F and B-C. E# is F. B# is C.

17. Flat - b This is the symbol for a flat. To find a flat, find the note it is attached to and go down the smallest step. Be careful, Fb is actually and E and Cb is actually a B.

18. Scale - A scale is a set of notes that follow a certain pattern of tones and semitones. The most recognisable scale on the piano is the C Major scale. As this only uses the white keys and it starts and ends on C.



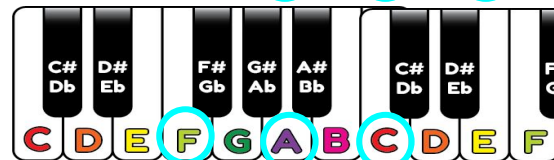
19. Chord of C (I/I)



20. Chord of G (V/5)



21. Chord of Am (VI/6)



22. Chord of F (IV/4)