

## Knowledge Organiser

### What are we learning about?:

- A. The Orchestra
- B. Keywords

### Keywords for this Half Term

Violin  
Viola  
Cello  
Double Bass  
Conductor  
Celeste  
Xylophone  
Strings  
Woodwind  
Brass  
Percussion

## HT6 How do I improve my Coursework?

B:	Keywords
Violin	Highest pitched and smallest string instrument
Viola	Mid range pitched string instrument that uses the Alto Clef
Cello	Lower pitched string instrument
Double Bass	Lowest pitched and largest string instrument
Conductor	Person who leads an Ensemble to keep them in time
Celeste	Small orchestral percussion instrument resembling a small upright piano
Xylophone	Set of tuned wooden keys arranged in the fashion of the keyboard of a piano
Strings	Section of the Orchestra
Woodwind	Section of the Orchestra
Brass	Section of the Orchestra
Percussion	Section of the Orchestra

### A: The Orchestra

- Orchestra – A large ensemble (group of musicians) of performers on various musical instruments who play music together. No set numbers of performers although a symphony orchestra (a large orchestra) can have between 80-100+ performers.  
*Famous orchestras include: THE LONDON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA, THE BBC SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA and the HALLÉ ORCHESTRA (Manchester).*
- Conductor – Leads the orchestra with a baton (white 'stick') and hand signals. Stands at the front so they can be seen by all performers. Sets the Tempo and beats time. Brings different instruments 'in and out' when it is their turn to play. Keeps the performers together. Takes charge in rehearsals. In ultimate control of the performance of the music, adjusting Dynamics, Tempo, and mood.
- Families/sections – Instruments of the orchestra can be divided into 4 families or sections: STRINGS, WOODWIND, BRASS and PERCUSSION.
- Sonority – Describes the unique sound or tone quality of different instruments and the way we can identify orchestral instruments as being distinct from each other –Sonority can be described by many different words including – *velvety, screechy, throaty, rattling, mellow, chirpy, brassy, sharp, heavy, buzzing, crisp, metallic, wooden etc.*
- PITCH - The highness or lowness of a sound, a musical instrument or musical note (*high/low, getting higher/lower, step/leap*).

