

Lessons / activities

During the first term, prior to the actual lessons, the music teachers are recommended to carry out tasks that provide information of where learners stand in their learning. This ensures adequate progressive teaching.

For example, in Year 2, the music teacher should start their lessons by revising activities from Year 1 before moving on to the next step.

They should also focus their teaching on the practical side of music. This includes primarily:

- singing
- clapping rhythms
- playing percussion instruments
- playing the recorder

All subject foci within the learning outcomes can be covered by the end of each scholastic year.

The music class

In Primary schools where the music class is available, the class tables should be cleaned/disinfected before each lesson to avoid spreading of any virus from child-to-child. Alternatively, the music lesson can be carried out in their class. Ideally, children are to be seated about 1.5 metres distant from each other.

Percussion instruments

The percussion instruments available at school should not be shared during the lesson. These are to be cleaned/disinfected before each lesson.

Recorder lessons

It is suggested that the children take the instrument and clean it at home. The recorder should be washed with an antiseptic solution and rinsed out with plain warm water. The inside of the recorder can be cleaned by pushing a small piece of cotton cloth inside the recorder using the cleaning rod, or by using a soft bottle brush. Remember to clean also the pocket case of the recorder. This process is to be repeated whenever they are asked to bring the recorder to school.

Singing lessons

Ideally, during singing lessons, children should stand about 1.5 metres distant from each other in all directions. One can also consider carrying out this activity in larger rooms (e.g. School Hall) or outdoors (e.g. School Yard). Hula hoops can be used to help determine physical distance between each child.

Recorded lessons

In case directions from health authorities prohibit the use of wind instruments, as is the recorder, and singing in class, it is suggested that the teacher guides the children to follow the recorded activities available on <https://teleskola.mt/> at home.

Music Shines books

To avoid spreading of the virus, it is recommended that the children do not share the Music Shines books. Activities from the book are currently being updated and are readily available for download on the music website: <https://music.skola.edu.mt/activities/>

The music teacher can distribute individual handouts during each lesson. These are to be kept by the children and filed in their music folder. Alternatively, the music teacher can decide to formulate a student workbook including these activities.

Practical activities

There is no need that every child has a go at playing or singing in every lesson. For example, in a class of 20 children, the teacher can select 10 children to play during the lesson and the other 10 children to play the following lesson. The non-participant group can either observe or be given a different task.

Conclusion

It is understandable that different schools face diverse challenges. Should additional support be needed, you are welcome to contact the Education Officer for Music Primary on mario.attard.2@ilearn.edu.mt