Burwell Village College Primary

Composition – Classical

Vocabulary	
rhythm	the pattern of long and short sounds in music
tempo	how fast or slow the music is (e.g. Largo = slowly, Andante = walking pace, Allegro = quickly)
melody	the main tune of the music that you can sing or hum
dynamics	how loud or quiet the music is

Classical music is often performed as part of an orchestra.



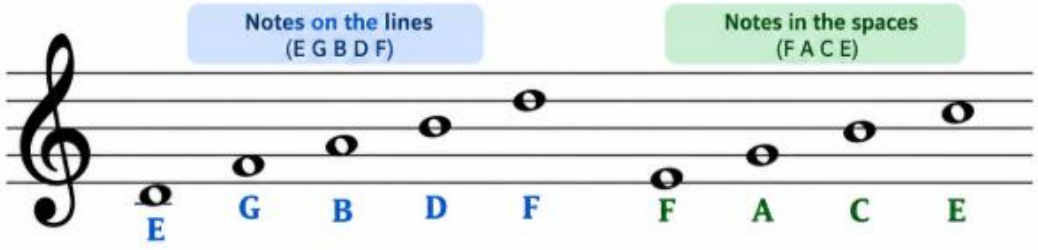
An orchestra is a large group of musicians who play different instruments together. Typically, classical music is played with string instruments, for example violins, viola, cello, double bass and harp. They can also include woodwind, brass, percussion and keyboard instruments.

The way that a piece of music is composed and performed makes it 'classical'

Symbols for Dynamics

- Crescendo (<) means gradually getting louder.
- Decrescendo or diminuendo (>) means gradually getting quieter.
- Fortissimo (ff) means very loud.
- Pianissimo (pp) means very quiet.

A **stave** has five lines and four spaces, where notes are written.



Music is written as a series of **notes** on a stave.

The **pitch** is described by how high up the stave the note is drawn.

The duration is shown by different shapes of note.

A lot of music is written in common time or 4/4. Each bar contains four crotchet beats. Other notes and rests can be used, as long as their total duration equals four crotchet beats.
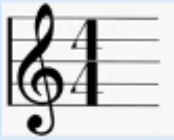
Note	Name	Beats
	semibreve	4 beats
	minim	2 beats
	crotchet	1 beat
	quaver	½ beat
	semiquaver	¼ beat



