

North Kent Music Lessons

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Musical Terms

Dynamics - (louds and softs)

pp - pianissimo - very quiet

p - piano - quiet

mp - mezzo piano - moderately quiet

mf - mezzo forte - moderately loud

f - forte - loud

ff - **fortissimo** - very loud

Terms relating to speed of music

Rit/rallentando - slow down

Accelerando - speed up

Lento - slowly

Largo - slowly but faster than lento **Moderato** - at a moderate speed

Adagio - slowly but faster than largo

Andante - at a walking pace

Andantino - faster than andante

Allegretto - moderately fast

Vivace - lively Prestissimo - very fast

Tempo - speed

Other musical terms

D.C. Al fine - go back to beginning and stop at fine

D.C. Al coda -go back to beginning go to coda at sign Θ

D.S. Al fine - go back to sign &

D.S. Al coda - go back to sign % then at ⊕ go to coda

Fine - Finish

Coda - The end

Pause/fermata - hold note on longer than usual

Accent > - play note louder

Mezzo - half

Staccato - short and detached

Legato - smoothly

Pesante - heavily

Giocoso - merrily

Alla Marcia - like a march

Dolce - sweetly

Tutti - everyone play

Solo - just one person plays

Tacet - do not play

Chord - more than one note played at once

Bar - section of music

Bar line - vertical line showing where bar starts and ends

Time signature - numbers indicating how many beats in a bar

Key signature - sharps and flats indicating key of piece of music

Stave - five lines music is written on

Clef - symbol indicating which range of notes is to be played

Ensemble/group - lots of instruments playing together