



DJSCHOOLUK

Teaching the world to DJ



Session Aims:

- Explain how incorporating DJ activities in music education increases inclusion.
- Explain how to embed curriculum delivery in DJ activities.
- Assess the costs and skills needed to include basic DJ activities in the classroom.

Cultural Relevance

- **Indie**
- **Bhangra**
- **Folk**
- **EDM**
- **Baile**
- **Drill**
- **K-Pop**
- **Western Classical**
- **Math Rock**
- **Drum n Bass**
- **Punk**
- **Chamber Music**
- **Funk**
- **Soul**
- **Jazz**
- **Hip Hop**
- **Lo-Fi**
- **Game Music**
- **Bassline**
- **Baroque**
- **Phonk**
- **Goth**
- **Jungle**
- **J-pop**
- **Soundtracks**
- **Makina**
- **Rock**

Familiar recordings help
pupils feel culturally
represented.

Feeling culturally
represented helps pupils
feel included and
engaged.

Parts of the UK Curriculum covered by basic DJing:

- Count the pulse, beats and bars.
- Identify and use the inter-related dimensions of music expressively and with increasing sophistication:

Dynamics	Duration
Tempo	Timbre
Pitch	Harmony
Structure	Arrangement
Texture	

- Extend and develop musical ideas.
- Draw on a range of musical structures, styles, genres and traditions.
- Listen with attention to detail and recall sounds with increasing aural memory.
- Play musically, fluently and with accuracy and expression.
- Develop a deepening understanding of music and its history.

What can a simple DJing lesson lead onto:

- **What is the history of DJing – how does it fit into the history of music?**
- **Why do we need to count in when blending two songs?**
- **What is an anacrusis?**
- **Are any genres not suitable for DJing?**
- **What challenges can be faced when mixing between genres?**
- **What keys are complementary?**

Start up costs:

- A basic music library which can grow = £30-£50
- Existing School IT equipment = £0
- Free DJ Software = £0
 - Total = £30-50

Benefits of using DJing in music education:

- Engages that cohort of pupils who love music but are not interested in traditional instruments.
- Also engages the cohort of pupils who are interested in traditional instruments.
- Increases inclusion in music.
- Can increase the respect pupils give to the music department.
- Has been shown to increase the number of pupils choosing to take music at GCSE. (Dale 2017,2020)

Benefits of using DJing in music education:

- Follows a process of do, review, improve (reflective practise).
- Signposts to other instruments, voice, music production.
- Counts as Music Technology for the NPME.
- DJ Software is easy to understand for teachers.
- Leads onto a variety of career pathways - Sound engineer, event manager, lighting engineer.

Key Takeaways from today's session:

- DJing can be used to engage while testing and reinforcing knowledge of the elements of music in an inclusive and fun way.
- Using exact recordings of music that pupils relate to has the most cultural relevance.
- A basic DJ Education can be achieved using completely free DJ software and existing school IT equipment.
- Music teachers can easily incorporate basic DJ skills in curriculum delivery.
- An introduction to DJing can raise interest levels across a range of instruments.
- With additional DJ equipment, CPD training, or local Peri support, DJing can lead students onto GCSE or Btec.

Online Links:

- **Free DJ Software:**

<https://serato.com/dj/lite>



- **Online CPD training in DJ Skills:**

<https://www.djschooluk.org.uk/schools-and-community/cpd-and-training>





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