

Orange Award - Ukulele

O Maintain correct posture

Student should feel no tension in arms/back/shoulders. Focus on being relaxed and comfortable

O Maintain a pulse while someone plays a longer tune

Access 'Shake it off' by Taylor Swift, Rockschoool ukulele version and clap along to the pulse.

O Play back by ear a short phrase of three or four notes played by the teacher or other pupils

'We will rock you' by Queen is excellent here

O Tune the instrument by ear using the open strings

Use an online source if necessary

O Learn, memorize and perform a simple scale and also play question and answer using some notes of this scale

D major. 'Seven nation army' by The White Stripes is good for call & response exercises with this scale pattern.

O Understand 4/4 and 3/4 time signatures and bar lines

Use 'Demons' by Imagine Dragons to demonstrate 4/4 and 'Happy Birthday' is good to demonstrate 3/4

O Learn, memorize and perform a simple tune to the group

'Colours of the Wind' by Vanessa Williams (Pocahontas)

O Understand and play crotchets, quavers, rests and dotted note values

Crotchet beats and rests can be taught whilst strumming a piece like 'Demons' by Imagine Dragons. The intro to 'Chasing Cars' by Snow Patrol can be used to demonstrate quavers. Silent Night can be used for dotted rhythms.

O Play six simple open chords in a sequence

C G Am F Em Dm

O Play a simple tune using sharps and flats in 1st position

The melody from 'Clocks' by Coldplay played in F introduces a Bb. 'Norwegian Wood' by The Beatles (in E) introduces C# and G#. It is also in 3/4.

O Understand and demonstrate dynamics: pp, mp, f, ff. Choose some of these for a piece of your choice

Practice playing as quietly as possible and gradually getting louder. Incorporate a dynamic change in one piece, ie quiet verse/loud chorus.

O Practise frequently
10 mins daily