Computing Learning Journey
Year 4 Spring Term 1st ½

4.3 We are musicians

Creating a piece of music in GarageBand

Refine their composition and get feedback from their classmates.

Create their own multi-track composition

Experiment with live loops

Create music using the piano roll view

Explore the touch instruments

Recall earlier work building a percussion sequence

Key Vocabulary

- **Beat sequencer:** interface for creating a repeating percussion pattern, showing at which beat in a set of bars individual instruments are hit
- **Live loops:** GarageBand tool for creating and performing electronic, typically dance music, in which multiple samples are played with synchronisation managed by the software
- **MIDI:** 'Musical Instrument Digital Interface', originally a standard for connecting electronic instruments, now used for the associated file format in which note pitch, duration and velocity are specified, allowing subsequent playback using different instrument voices or samples
- **Piano roll:** interface for controlling the pitch and duration of individual notes, a digital equivalent of stave notation, derived from the punched-hole piano rolls used for player-pianos in the 19th century. The velocity (volume) of individual notes can also be specified
- **Sample**: a short, recorded piece of digital audio, for example a hand clap or an individual note
- **Stave**: traditional musical notation in which pitch is represented by the height of the line on which the note is drawn, and duration by the shape of that note
- **Touch instrument**: GarageBand interface for keyboards, strings and percussion instruments, which can be played and recorded live on the iPad screen
- **Tracks:** GarageBand tool for combining and modifying music recorded, performed or created using other components of the program
- **Velocity**: here, the volume of individual notes – mirroring the speed and force with which piano keys are pressed determines the volume of the notes played
- **Voice**: in this context, the virtual instrument chosen to replay music, with the associated samples of notes at different pitches

Software: GarageBand
Hardware: iPads, headphones, musical instruments such as MIDI keyboards (optional)

Online safety:
We know that if we see anything inappropriate whilst researching online we know to turn off the monitor/turn the iPad over and tell a trusted adult.
Appropriate filters and monitoring are in place at school whilst children seek inspiration from music recordings.
If work is uploaded beyond school, the children's identities will be protected.

Switched on Online Safety Unit:
Responsible internet use
Unit 4.3 – We are aware that our online content lasts forever
Getting the message: pre- and post-internet

Unit overview:
The children will learn to:
- create a repeating percussion rhythm
- play music using virtual instruments
- compose or edit tunes using the piano roll (pitch and duration) tool
- perform electronic music using pre-recorded loops, and create their own loops
- create a multi-track composition or performance using multiple instruments
- give feedback to others on their compositions and performances.

In Key Stage 1:
- Pupils first used GarageBand in **Unit 1.5: We are rhythmic.**

In Key Stage 2:
- Pupils will continue to develop their media production skills in **Unit 5.3: We are architects, Unit 5.6: We are VR designers** and **Unit 6.5: We are advertisers.**
- There is the opportunity for them to apply their GarageBand skills in **Unit 6.5: We are advertisers** to create a jingle for their advert.