

Cornet awards Teachers notes

1. To achieve the Vivaldi Award

Learners can:

Make the buzzing sound with my mouth (embouchure);

Play the notes C,D and E;

Play a piece up to 4 bars long - possibly repeated;

Set up my instrument by myself (mouthpiece only);

Recognise 1 and 2 beat notes (crotchets and minims) and rests;

Show basic tone and breath control.

Music that will help learners achieve the award

Musical Mates Music (download from website) - Vivaldi award music;

Pieces to be completed by learners - any 1 from list A and B.

Other suitable pieces from 'Tune a Day' are:-

Page 7, Melody, number 5 (8 Bars long, to fit with the criteria for the award the first 4 or last 4 bars can be chosen by the pupil)

Notes to tutors

The learner should be able to make their way through a piece of music with help, either with notation or teacher playing along as a group or individual. Suggested time period 6 weeks.

Report quote

You have made a really good start to playing the cornet. You can now play 3 notes and you are making good progress in starting to read music. You know what crotchets and minims are and you can set up the instrument by yourself. Keep trying your best and see if for the next award you can make a better tone.

2. To achieve the Mozart Award

Learners can:

Continue to develop my embouchure and show progress in tone/breath control;

Play the notes F and G

Play a piece up to 8 bars long – repeated;

Set up my instrument by myself (mouthpiece and valves);

Play in a duet or small group setting;

Play long note using good breath controls;

Play semibreves. (4 beat note)

Music that will help learners achieve the award

Musical Mates Music (download from website) - Mozart award music;

Pieces to be completed by learners - any 1 from list A and B.

Other suitable pieces from 'Tune a Day' are:-

Page 11, Theme from Good King Wenceslas

Page 11, Long, Long Ago (last 8 bars of the tune). (A can be substituted for an F)

§When the saints go marching in - from Abracadabra.

Note to teachers

There should be significant progress made from the first award. The accuracy of playing should be much improved and tone developing. Suggested time period 6 weeks

Report quote

Well done. You've learnt 5 notes so far and you can play longer notes as well. Your reading of music is also getting much better and you can play much faster. You don't over blow as much and when you concentrate you can make a good tone. In the next award you will be looking playing longer pieces of music and learning a few more new notes. Well done and keep trying your best.

3. To achieve the Mendelssohn Award

Learners can:

Play with a strong embouchure and play more or less in tune with a good tone and breath control;

Play A and F#;

Play a piece up to 16 bars long;

Set up my instrument by myself (Mouthpiece, valves and tuning slides);

Play and understand quavers.

Music that will help learners achieve the award

Musical Mates Music (download from website) - Mendelssohn award music;

Pieces to be completed by learners - any 1 from list A and B.

Other suitable pieces from 'Tune a Day' are:-

Page 12, Hymn, number 6

Page 12, Lightly Row, number 5

Note to teachers.

Pupils should now be able to play with confidence and use all the main notes associated with the left hand. The learners should be able to both jump between notes (such as C to G) and play scale passages. Tempo should be steady and increasing in speed. Suggested time period 6 weeks.

Report quote

Fantastic news - you can play lots of notes now and have you noticed the music is much more exciting. You can also do big leaps between notes and you understand what a scale is. Your tone is really improving and you can now phrase notes together to make a good performance. Well done!

4. To achieve the Stravinsky Award

Learners can:

Play the notes B natural, Bb and C;

Play with a really good tone with reading notation improving all the time;

Implement dynamics and other markings into my performance;

Do octave jumps from C to C;

Play the C major scale;

Understand dotted notes. (Both crochets and minims)

Music that will help learners achieve the award

Musical Mates Music (download from website) - Stravinsky award music.

Pieces to be completed by learners - any 1 from list A, B and C

Other suitable pieces from 'Tune a Day' are:-

Page 25, tune 2, Massa's in the cold, cold ground

Page 24, tune 5, God Save The Queen

Page 36, tune 5, There's Music In The Air

Page 32, tune 5, Harvest time

Note to teachers

It would be great to see some improvements in articulation at this point of the awards, in particular attention to Improved tonguing and use of slurs. Learners should also start to understand what dynamics are, even if they can't execute them effectively in a piece of music. Suggested time period 10 weeks.

Report quote

Well done! You can now play most of the notes needed for grade 1. You can now play lots of good melodies and you are developing a sense of dynamics. You also now understand dotted rhythms and how they working in music. You are making good progress with slurs and you are starting to be able to tongue notes. You have a good idea of phrasing and you can confidently play the cornet in a performance to others.

Well done!

5. To achieve the Copeland Award

(Final award - this is aimed as a grade 1 unit)

Learners can:

Play the notes Bb and G#

Use slurs, accents, dynamics to play a piece of music with confidence and style.

Understand syncopation;

Develop a good sense of time and rhythm;

Play a solo unaided;

Play the scale of A minor, one octave.

Music that will help learners achieve the award

Musical Mates Music (download from website) - Copeland award music;

Pieces to be completed by learners - all from list A,B and C.

Other suitable pieces from 'Tune a Day' are:-

Page 35, tune 2, Believe me if all those endearing young charms.

Page 37, tune 1, Advancement march.

Note to teachers.

This award should indicate whether the learner is ready to go for ABRSM Grade 1. The pieces contain many aspects of the scales and arpeggios. This is split into list A - scales, list B - arpeggios and list C more difficult rhythms. (Not unsimilar to the ABRSM pieces). This is designed to cross over the first year of learning. This is in no way a definitive guise to progression but is designed to give learners clear goals in a time frame. 10 weeks.

Report quote.

Well done indeed. You are now ready to take the Grade 1 ABRSM exam if you would like to. You have learnt all the notes and have the skills to play the pieces. Your teacher will help you with the other elements of the exam, like scales and arpeggios/aural tests and sight reading. What an achievement. Very well done to you!

