

Instrumental tuition pack

2020-21



Instrumental agreement for parents



If you wish your child to enrol in instrumental tuition when it resumes, please indicate your intent by returning this form to the School Office:

office@st-marys.poole.sch.uk



Please do not send money at this time.



Please return form only by Thursday 9th July, 2020



St Mary's Catholic Primary School

*Headteacher: Mrs Helen Armstrong
Diocese of Plymouth*

June 2020

Dear Parent / Carer,

INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC LESSONS 2020-21

All children in Years 3 to 6 are offered the opportunity, at parental cost, to learn an instrument. Please find the booklet outlining details for next year's tuition.

At present, we do not know when instrumental tuition will be able to resume. We look forward to welcoming our teachers back to school as soon as it is safe to do so and would like to begin planning for the correct number of pupils. Therefore, this form represents your intent for your child to have lessons but does not commit you at this stage.

If you are returning to instrument tuition from last year, you have received a refund onto your Scopay account for missed lessons this year which can be used in the next school year.

Please feel free to contact me through the school office if you have any further questions.

Yours sincerely,

L. Wilson

Mrs L Wilson
Music Leader

Next steps:

- Complete and return **FORM ONLY** if you would like to sign your child up for instrumental lessons when they resume in the next academic year.

Learning how to play a musical instrument can be a wonderful experience and we are pleased to offer all pupils in Years 3 to 6, the opportunity to learn a musical instrument.

We work closely with our instrumental teachers in order to provide high quality instrumental teaching at St. Mary's Catholic Primary School. All teachers have valid DBS clearances for working with children and young people.

We are currently able to offer tuition in:

Woodwind: Clarinet, flute & saxophone (please contact me through the school office to enquire about saxophone tuition).

Brass: Trumpet, Bb Cornet & Trombone

Guitar: Acoustic, Electric & Ukulele

Percussion: Drum kit

Strings: Violin

Keyboard / Piano

There are many positives to learning to play an instrument not only for the joy it brings but researchers have also found that it can improve and strengthen cognitive processing and memory skills.

Although this is an added cost for parents, we endeavour to keep the costs as low as possible and can offer short term loans of an instrument where needed for a small fee. (Please contact the school to enquire about the availability of this).

Sign up and payment details

Please sign and return this form by **Thursday 9th July** to the School Office.

Term	Fee due	Final payment date / Notice date to stop lessons
Autumn Term	£65	Tbc
Spring Term	£65	Tbc
Summer Term	£65	Tbc

Please note that reminders for the Spring and Summer Term payments are emailed out to parents two weeks before the payment is due. If you wish to cancel tuition during the school year, please give at least a half term's notice in writing. Payments not received by the above dates will result in lesson cancellation.

Lesson costs

£6.50 per half hour lesson. Fees are charged at £65 per term.

Group size will vary according to take up and ability but aims to be no more than 4 in a group. Some smaller groups of pupils may receive 20 or 25 minutes of tuition to create more individualised tuition.

Students will receive **30 lessons** per year.

Payment methods

Please do not send payment at the moment.

Making the most of instrumental lessons

Ideally we would like any children wishing to learn an instrument to commit to a year's worth of tuition as we believe that a significant amount of time is needed to master the basics of any instrument.

By learning an instrument, students should be aware that they should practice regularly and demonstrate determination and resilience in order to make progress. If you have any concerns regarding your child's instrumental tuition, please contact the Music Subject Leader so that any problems can be dealt with promptly.

Performance opportunities: We aim to provide many opportunities for students learning an instrument to play with others. By playing with others, students develop valuable ensemble and musicianship skills as well as enhancing their enjoyment of the instrument. There will be an after school orchestra that pupils will be invited to audition for.

Attendance: Children are encouraged to check the instrumental lessons notice board on the morning of their lesson and arrive promptly to their lesson with their instrument and music. Whilst we will endeavour to re-arrange lessons which take place on trip days, this is not always possible. We regret that lessons missed due to absence from school and school activities cannot be made up at a later date.

Equipment: Children will need to have access to their own instrument which should be brought in for lessons. (This is not necessary for keyboard or drum kit lessons). If you would like advice or help sourcing an instrument, please contact the school.

Important extras

Lessons happen in school time on a rotated timetable within the day to minimise the impact on missed curriculum time.

Fees are due by the dates outlined at the start of the agreement. E-mail reminders will be sent out 2 weeks in advance.

No refunds can be given if your child is absent, on a school trip or have forgotten their instrument. It is a student's responsibility to speak to their instrumental teacher if they need to swap time due to a test or suchlike.

If you wish to cancel lessons, written notice of at least half a term is required. To be given in to the School Office. These are the payment dates in red advised on an earlier page of this document.

It may be necessary to cancel a lesson at short notice on occasion. Students are encouraged to check the instrumental board on the morning of their lesson to ensure that minimal lesson time is missed.

If your child is entered into an exam, please note that the school is unable to provide a pianist for this. Please speak to your child's instrumental teacher.



Music Home-School Agreement 2020-21

PLEASE COMPLETE AND RETURN TO THE SCHOOL OFFICE TO INDICATE YOUR INTENT FOR YOUR CHILD TO HAVE INSTRUMENTAL LESSONS WHEN THEY RESUME IN 2020/21.

School statement:

- The school will make every effort to provide your child with high quality instrumental tuition provided by experienced musicians and teachers. We will provide opportunities for your child to play and perform with others in order to further develop their performance and musical skills.
- If for any reason you believe we fail to do this, please contact the Music Subject Leader via the school office.

We ask you as parent / carers to agree to the following:

- That pupils pledge a commitment to one year of lessons. (This is a guideline)
- Encourage my child to practice their instrument regularly and bring their instrument and music to every lesson and / or ensemble rehearsal.
- Encourage my child to participate in school music groups / ensembles / performances and become fully involved in the musical life of the school.
- Pay fees promptly for lessons when receiving an e-mail reminder.
- Give the school at least half a term's notice of cancellation.

I wish my child to learn: _____

Please tick as appropriate. My child:

Is a beginner

☐

Has already been having lessons

☐

Name of child..... Class.....

*Signed..... Date.....

****Please note that by signing this agreement, you consent to the school displaying your child's name on an internal noticeboard that displays the lesson timetable. Children's names are also shared with the instrumental teacher.***