



Sprowston Community High School
Specialist School for Performing Arts & Media

INSTRUMENT LESSONS



LEARNING TO PLAY A MUSICAL INSTRUMENT AT SPROWSTON COMMUNITY HIGH SCHOOL

We are very keen for all students that already learn an instrument at our feeder schools to continue with this at Sprowston Community High School. We also welcome and encourage those students who have never taken the opportunity to learn an instrument, to take up the challenge with us.

We are delighted to be able to offer tuition with specialist visiting tutors on a wide range of musical instruments which include: drum kit; flute, clarinet, oboe and saxophone; piano and keyboard; guitar and bass guitar, violin, viola, cello and double bass; trumpet, trombone and tenor horn.

We try our best to fit everyone in who fills in an application form, however, the lessons are organised on a first come, first served basis. We will write to you to inform you that your child has a place as soon as we have allocated a teaching slot. If there is no space we will write to you and put your child on the waiting list. You will be informed when a teaching slot becomes free. Please read the information in this booklet and if you are happy with our arrangements and conditions please fill in the attached form with the relevant information and return it to the school office.

ETHOS

We expect a responsible commitment to learning a musical instrument. In order to make good progress, practice should be regular and we expect students to commit on average to 10-20 minutes a day or 30 minutes 3-4 times a week. We also expect all students learning an instrument to contribute to the wider musical life of the school.

Students can choose to learn more than one instrument. Please fill out a separate application form for each instrument.

INSTRUMENT LESSON TIMES

Instrument lessons take place during the normal school day and we attempt to rotate the time slot so that students do not miss the same subject each week. As a condition of having instrument lessons, students are expected to catch up on any work missed during their normal subject lessons.

There is a large notice board outside the music office that displays all the timetables. Students must check this board regularly and in particular before morning registration on the day of their lesson as important daily notices are displayed. The lessons will take place in our music practise rooms. Please contact the Director of Music if you need help understanding how the timetable works.

LESSON LENGTH

We offer two options:

Option A

- 20 minute sessions on a one-to-one basis with the instrument tutor.

Option B

- 20 minute shared sessions in a pair with the instrument tutor.*

** After listening to requests we are offering the opportunity for students to pair up with another student and have a 'shared' session. This will allow the fees to be split equally between the students. The shared sessions rely on us being able to find suitable students wishing to learn the same instrument and being at the same level. It may not always be possible for Option B to be offered but we will do our best to help where we can.*

INSTRUMENT HIRE

At present this is set at approximately £25.00 per term depending on the instrument chosen. You will need to fill in and return an instrument hire form which is available from the main school office.

INSTRUMENT EXAMS

Your child will need to request with their instrument tutor to work towards being entered for an ABRSM, Guildhall, Trinity or Rock School graded examination.

STOPPING LESSONS

If the privilege of instrumental lessons is in anyway abused by poor behaviour in school, lack of commitment or failure to honour payments, lessons will be stopped. If a student misses 2 or more of their instrument lessons we will inform you. If a total of three sessions are missed, we will stop the lessons.

If a student makes little or no progress with the lessons that to continue is pointless and is depriving someone else of the opportunity to learn or if a student's behaviour is poor in their subject classes we may consider withdrawing the privilege of instrument lessons.

If a student wishes to discontinue their lessons please ensure that you inform the instrument tutor and Mrs Hansell in the main school office in writing at least one calendar month before the end of the current half-term. Lessons cannot be discontinued part-way through a half-term.

Lessons may be terminated, at any time, at the discretion of the Director of Music.

PAYMENTS

Lessons must be paid for prior to the start of each half term.

If an instrument teacher is absent we will put a notice up on the instrument lessons board. The teacher will try their best to re-organise that particular session and the student will be informed. If we are unable to reschedule a missed lesson we will adjust the next invoice accordingly.

Lessons missed by students through absence, non-attendance, exams and trips still have to be paid for. The instrument teachers are happy to swap lesson times if they have advance warning about a future absence. The teachers need reasonable notice to be able to rearrange times, so please contact us to discuss this well in advance.

You will receive approximately 30 sessions throughout the year. Invoices will be sent out before the beginning of each half term and fees must be paid promptly otherwise your student will be removed from the timetable and lose their teaching slot.

All students taking GCSE Music or AS/A2 Level Music are currently subsidised the cost on one instrument for 20 minute one-to-one sessions.

We continue where possible to provide support from school funds for those families in receipt of Income Support. We would also urge parents who are concerned at finding the money to meet the fees to contact the school to discuss any particular issues you may have.

There is a broad range of extra curricular music clubs running throughout the year. Those students who show a full commitment to these clubs with regular attendance will be subsidised with 1 free lesson deducted from their next invoice per term at the discretion of the Director of Music.

CONTINUING INSTRUMENT LESSONS

All students will need to re-apply for their instrument tuition every year using the up to date version of this booklet. Students will be reminded of this towards the end of the academic year. Students continuing lessons from the previous year will be given priority providing the application deadline has been met.

Once you have completed this application form, please detach and return it to the main office in a sealed envelope addressed to:

Mrs Hansell
Instrument Tuition Application

Please retain the other pages from this booklet for your own reference.

We wish our students every success in making the most of the opportunities and experiences on offer at Sprowston Community High School. We hope our musicians develop and take with them a lifelong commitment and desire to continue in some way their music.

Mr D. Harvey.
Director of Music



Music Department

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INSTRUMENT TUITION APPLICATION FORM

If your child wishes to learn an instrument, please fill in and detach this sheet, and return it to Mrs Hansell in the main school office.

Student's Name:

Form:

Name of Parent/Guardian/Carer

Address

Tel Number

Mobile Number

Please tick box:

S/he will be starting lessons for the first time on this instrument.

S/he will be continuing lessons from a previous school.

S/he was having lessons at Sprowston Community High School last year and wishes to continue this year.

My child is enrolled on the GCSE, AS or A2 level music course at Sprowston Community High School this year.

Previous experience and grades (if any)

My child is interested in learning the following instrument:
(please tick box)

Flute <input type="checkbox"/>	Clarinet <input type="checkbox"/>	Oboe <input type="checkbox"/>
Saxophone <input type="checkbox"/>	Violin <input type="checkbox"/>	Viola <input type="checkbox"/>
Cello <input type="checkbox"/>	Double Bass <input type="checkbox"/>	Trumpet <input type="checkbox"/>
Trombone <input type="checkbox"/>	Other brass* <input type="checkbox"/>	Electric Guitar <input type="checkbox"/>
Piano <input type="checkbox"/>	Keyboard <input type="checkbox"/>	Acoustic Guitar <input type="checkbox"/>
Bass Guitar <input type="checkbox"/>	Drum Kit <input type="checkbox"/>	

* Please specify _____

My child would like the following type of lesson (please tick box)

Option A

20 minutes one-to-one - £10.00 per session

Option B

20 minutes shared* - £5.00 per session

*subject to availability

I have read the information contained in this booklet and understand that I will be expected to make a full commitment to learning a musical instrument at Sprowston Community High School.

Signature of Student

Date

I/We have read and agree to all the conditions and fees as outlined in this booklet and understand that if I/we decide to stop the instrument lessons, I/we must inform the instrument teacher and/or Mrs Hansell in writing at least one calendar month before the end of the current half-term.

Signature of Parent/Guardian/Carer

Date



Music Department

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