

Violin, Flute & Clarinet Lessons

Dear Parents,

Instrumental lessons are available from Mrs Weston (our visiting violin, flute and clarinet teacher). If you would like to book lessons for your child please contact Mrs Weston directly by email (nicola@music tuition.org.uk). Lessons will be allocated on a first come first served basis and if necessary, other pupils will be put on the waiting list.

Individual lessons

Parents are billed at the start of each term for that term's lessons.

A maximum of 3 lessons (each Academic year) missed for any reason (e.g. forgetting the instrument, school trips or illness) will be credited to the following term. The fourth and any subsequent lessons missed will be billed at the pupil's usual rate. If the school is closed unexpectedly (e.g. due to heavy snow, heating failure) there will be no charge made for missed lessons. There is also no charge made for any missed lessons during SATs week. Lessons missed due to Mrs Weston's absence will not be charged.

Cost: Individual 20 minute lesson - £8 per week
Individual 30 minute lesson - £12 per week

Group lessons (available for beginners only, for first year of lessons):

£55 per pupil - Taught in a group of 2-3 pupils, 30 minute lesson per week (a minimum of 30 visits per academic year)

Lessons are charged per term and no refunds will be paid for any lessons that are missed.

Groups need a minimum of 2 beginner pupils (on the same instrument) to operate. If there is only 1 beginner pupil they will be charged at the individual rate for 20 or 30 minutes at the parent's choice. (A group of pupils must not span more than 3 school years, i.e. Year 1 and Year 3 is feasible, Year 1 and Year 4 is not feasible.)

If at the start of the Spring or Summer term it is not possible to create a group of beginners (2 or more) due to other pupils ceasing lessons the remaining pupil will be charged at the individual rate.

If, **at any point**, Mrs Weston feels that the difference in abilities has grown too far apart to make group lessons worthwhile to all pupils she will recommend individual lessons.

After three terms of beginner lessons all pupils will have individual lessons.

Notice to cease lessons

Half a term must be given in writing by letter or email if the pupil wishes to stop lessons; i.e. to finish lessons at Easter notice must be given by the February half-term holiday, or to finish at May half-term holiday notice must be given by the Easter holidays. Lessons during the notice period must be paid for, but it is up to the pupil's parents whether they attend to lessons or not.

Pupils must provide their own instrument.

Violin - Mrs Weston will advise on the correct size for your child – suggested make - Stentor

Flute & Clarinet - suggested makes - Yamaha, Buffet, Jupiter, Trevor James (Flute only)

- There are a number of school clarinets available to borrow.
- There is one violin available to borrow from school
- I know of three flutes being sold second-hand by my former pupils, please ask for more details
- It is possible to hire instruments from some music shops.
- Please be careful if purchasing instruments second-hand.
- There are cheaper makes of clarinet and flute, but these tend to break down very quickly due to poor manufacture and materials.

Youngest recommended starting age:

Violin - Year 1

Flute - Year 3 (small children may need a curved head-joint, Mrs Weston will advise)

Clarinet - Year 3

Beginners must practise at least 10-15 minutes, three times a week. After a year's lessons they should practice at least 20 minutes, three times a week. Parents will need to encourage their child to practise at home and provide a suitable space away from distraction.

A tutor book will be needed and Mrs Weston will inform you of the details after lessons are confirmed.

Yours faithfully,

Mrs D Reynolds