



Music Department

Peripatetic Music Lessons Policy

The Music Department currently offers instrumental lessons on the following instruments:

- Flute
- Oboe
- Clarinet
- Saxophone (Alto and Tenor)
- Bassoon
- Cornet
- Trumpet
- French Horn
- Tenor Horn
- Euphonium
- Trombone
- Tuba
- Violin
- Viola
- Cello
- Double Bass
- Guitar (Electric and Acoustic)
- Bass Guitar
- Drum Kit
- Voice
- Piano

Lessons:

Students currently receive approximately ten 25 minute one to one lessons per term (one a week). The length of lessons may vary subject to the number of student requests. The department has a set budget in order to provide lessons and we always aim to cater for all requests to learn an instrument/voice. As such this may result in a shorter lesson; however we aim to give one to one tuition and strive towards 30 minute lessons at Key Stage 3/4, and 40 minutes at Key Stage 5. Lessons are held during the school day; therefore students will miss some of their timetabled subjects. However, lessons *do* rotate each week in order to ensure that students do not repeatedly miss the same subject. ***It is the responsibility of your son/daughter to catch-up on any work missed.***

Attendance:

Attendance is crucial if students are to reach their full potential on their instrument/voice and this is monitored closely each week. If a student misses 3 lessons without a legitimate reason they will be removed from the timetable and parents/guardians will be notified by letter.

Progress and Grades:

Student progress is monitored weekly, it is expected that students make progress of at least a grade a year and they will be entered for external examinations with the relevant examination board (ABRSM, LCM and Rock School). Regular **practice** outside of lesson times is vital if students are to progress at this rate. The Academy enters students for graded examinations twice a year, once in the Autumn Term and again in the Spring Term. Parents will receive a letter with details of the examination and the relevant fee.

If a student is not making sufficient progress they will be invited to an interview along with their parents/guardians and the Head of Music to discuss ways to progress, or to agree to terminate peripatetic music lessons.

Enrichments:

It is expected that once your son/daughter has started instrumental lessons at Macmillan they will support any relevant musical enrichment. The Music Department currently runs the following enrichments: Choir, Concert Band, Junior Band, Drum Ensemble, Guitar Ensemble and String Group. More details can found on the Academy website under the enrichment section.

Key Stage 4 & 5:

If a student is taking GCSE or A Level Music they will currently receive lessons for free. However, the Music Department cannot guarantee lessons to those students who are not on one of the above courses. This is due to financial restraints. Priority has to be given to those students on Music courses and the new intake.

Costs:

In an effort to encourage all students to take instrumental lessons, the Academy heavily subsidises the cost of the lessons. You will still be expected to make a contribution of £40.00 **per term** which includes instrumental hire if required. This is **payable in advance** and is **non-refundable**. Parents/guardians may use the ParentPay system to make their payment; alternatively lessons can be paid for at cashiers. Students who receive free school meals, or whose parents are in receipt of income benefits are entitled to a further reduction. **Deadlines for payments** for this academic year (2011-2012) are as follows:

Procedure for terminating lessons:

If a student decides to stop their lessons a letter from parents is required (addressed to Mrs Frankish). Please note if lessons are terminated part way through the term the full fee is still applicable.

PAYMENT DEADLINES

Autumn Term 2011

23rd September 2011

Spring Term 2012

20th January 2012

Summer Term 2012

4th May 2012

Students that are interested in having peripatetic music lessons should see Mrs Frankish in the first instance for a letter and reply slip.

If you have any further enquiries please email or call **Mrs Frankish, the Peripatetic Music Coordinator** at the Academy.

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Email: c.frankish@macmillan-academy.org.uk