

High Wycombe Church of England School
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*Be strong and
courageous.....for
the Lord your God is
with you*

Wednesday 20th May 2026

Dear Parent/Carer

REQUEST FOR INSTRUMENTAL TUITION 2026/27

A number of children have expressed an interest in learning an instrument, starting in September 2026. Learning a musical instrument requires a lot of hard work and dedication but research has shown that there are many benefits for children's overall development as well as being a great opportunity for children to express themselves creatively.

At High Wycombe C of E School, alongside our curriculum music lessons, we have some fantastic Peripatetic Music teachers who come into school to offer individual and group instrument lessons.

Children will be given the opportunity to try out the instrument they would like to learn before making a commitment. You are invited to come and meet our Peripatetic teachers and watch your child participate in a short trial session on their chosen instrument straight after school on **FRIDAY, 12TH JUNE** in the School Hall. If a teacher is unable to attend, we shall make every effort to facilitate a trial at another time during the school day.

KS1

Most of our individual music lessons start in KS2 however we are pleased to offer violin and TooT (a beginner flute) lessons to a few selected pupils who will be starting Year 2 in September. These children will then be assessed by Mrs Wells in partnership with Mr Burgin to see if they are ready to start learning an instrument or whether it would be more beneficial for them to wait until they are a bit older. If you would like your child to be considered for this please let us know.

If your child is in KS1 and interested in music activities then both Bucks Music Trust and the Chiltern Music Academy offer activities for your children to explore music in preparation for learning an instrument. They have also provided information for us and will be on our website for you to look at.



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INSTRUMENTAL TUITION IN SCHOOL

Advice on expectations

Playing an instrument requires a great deal of dedication and effort in order to reap the rewards and enjoyment it can give. There are many times when a child struggles with a particular aspect of their music or instrument. Please encourage your child to persevere and remain loyal to something they have chosen to do, this is a vital life skill that we at the C of E are keen to instill in our pupils. My advice is that children should have at least a year of lessons to give them a realistic idea of what can be achieved.

There are no quick fixes or shortcuts; attendance at lessons and at least 10 minutes practice 5 days a week will promote progress and enjoyment. If your child fails to complete class homework such as reading on a regular basis, then I would suggest that the discipline of learning an instrument with the requirement of regular practice is not for him/her.

Lessons

All children are taught in small groups or individual lessons. The lessons are rotated so that the children do not miss the same lesson, and parents are provided with a timetable each term.

Practice sessions

All instrumental teachers will write clear instructions for you to read in order to help your child practice during the week. Parental interest and, ideally, involvement in practice is vital if your child is to make satisfactory progress. Musical expertise is not necessary, just encouragement and enforcement of the discipline of regular practice. Without a commitment to regular practice from parent and child alike, progress will be very slow and your child will become discouraged as their peers gain skills beyond their own abilities. Many parents have found that before school, when your child is fresh and ready to learn, is an ideal time for a daily practice session.

FEES

At High Wycombe C of E instrumental lessons are delivered by a combination of independent music teachers, and music teachers provided by the Bucks Learning Trust.

Fees - Independent Instrumental teachers

Drum Kit, Piano, Woodwind and String teachers will communicate directly with parents, distributing a contract for you to sign, and undertaking all invoicing and collection of fees. Each teacher charges something slightly different and will offer lessons for 20 minutes but on average the costs work out at: Individual lessons - £135 per term for a 20 min lessons 11 lessons per term on average; 33 per academic year. Half a term's notice is required should your child discontinue lessons.

Fees - BMT Instrumental teacher

Our Guitar and Brass teachers are employed by Bucks Music Trust. They will communicate directly with parents, distributing a contract for you to sign, and undertaking all invoicing and collection of fees. Individual lessons - £186 per term for 20 min. lessons/£278 per term 30 min. lessons Group lessons - £124 per term for 30 min. lessons, 11 lessons per term on average; 33 per academic year.

Half a term's notice is required should your child discontinue lessons.



External Instrumental lessons

BMT offer opportunities to learn an instrument through the High Wycombe Music Centre:

<https://www.bucksmusic.org/book-lessons-2/>

Chiltern Music Academy offers opportunities to learn an instrument:

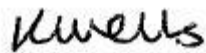
<http://www.chilternmusicacademy.org/find-your-forte/>

Please complete the online form below by **9am Friday 20th June** if you wish your child to be considered for instrumental tuition at school. Mrs Wells is available to speak to parents after school by phone call on Wednesdays if you require any further information.

<https://forms.cloud.microsoft/e/iQNhWjNEbi>

I hope your child may wish to participate in this aspect of school life.

Yours sincerely



Mrs K Wells
Music Specialist Teacher



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