



Woodrush High School

An Academy for Students Aged 11-18



Music Instrument Tuition 2023/24



at

Woodrush High School

an Academy for students aged 11-18

Information Guide & Terms and Conditions





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Introduction

At Woodrush High School, we believe that learning to play a musical instrument can be an extremely valuable, enriching and rewarding experience. Therefore, we are committed to giving all our students the best possible opportunities in terms of instrumental and vocal lessons.

This booklet has been written to give information to parents and students who are interested in the provision of instrumental and vocal tuition at Woodrush High School.

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If, having read the following information and agreed to the Terms and Conditions, you would like your child to receive instrument lessons, please fill in the forms at the back of the document and return to Woodrush High School, for the attention of the Music Faculty.



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Instrument lessons available at Woodrush

We are pleased to be able to offer a wide range of instrumental lessons for our students. The current provision is detailed below but can change in response to the demand for lessons.

Instrument

Brass (Trumpet / Trombone / Cornet)

Clarinet

Saxophone

Drums

Guitar / Electric Guitar / Bass

Flute

Keyboard / Piano

Strings (Violin / Viola / Cello)

Vocals

The Teachers

All instrument lessons are taught by a team of peripatetic music teachers whose time is bought in privately by the school. Our team of highly trained peripatetic teachers visit the school to teach their instrument.

Extra – Curricular activities at Woodrush High School

At Woodrush, we aim to offer all students a wide range of opportunities to participate in extra-curricular activities. These range from choirs to mixed instrumental groups, from musical theatre club to our Woodrush Voices Choir. We actively encourage students to become involved in these activities to further their musical skills and development, for them to enjoy making music with fellow students, and for their own pleasure and enjoyment. When learning to play an instrument, the importance of and enjoyment of playing alongside other musicians cannot be emphasised enough.

The Lessons – How, When and Where?

Where?

Lessons are taught in one of the practice rooms within the Music Department.

When?

Lessons are taught during Term Time Only.

Students having instrument lessons will need to come out of their usual school lessons, unless their instrument lesson falls in a lunchtime or after school. We try very hard to ensure that students do not miss the same lesson each week by rotating the times of the instrument lessons





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every half term. However, this is sometimes impossible if an instrument teacher is only in school for a short time.

If an instrument teacher is absent at all during the year, the time will be made up by that teacher in the weeks remaining at the end of the term or year or alternatively if this is not an option a refund will be issued.

How?

The school will give parents and students access to an app called "Practice Pal" which provides the date and time of the lessons each week, records student's attendance and provides lesson notes. Students are responsible for finding out, in advance, the time of their lesson each week. They are also responsible for catching up with any work and homework that has been missed from their usual subject lesson.

Instruments do not need to be carried around school all day. Pupils can leave their instruments in the Music Room store cupboard in Mu1 and collect them before their lesson or use the school instruments if they are available.

Lesson Fees and Payment

The instrument fees are as follows (per lesson):

Type of lesson	Price per lesson
30 mins individual tuition	£16.00
15 mins individual tuition	£8.00
30 mins paired tuition	£8.00 **

**available if there is another student wishing to share a lesson for the same instrument and if they are of a similar ability only.

Invoices are sent out in advance of each term and payment can be made to Woodrush High School on Parent Pay, or via Paypoint (a letter needs to be requested from the finance office for this). The lessons are taught during term time only and the number of lessons each term will vary according to the school calendar. For lessons to be timetabled each term, we ask parents to pay in advance to ensure their child is on the timetable.

Fees are set by the school according to whether pupils receive individual, paired or group lessons.

In some cases, the type of lesson may be chosen by pupils and parents but in most cases it is dictated by the standard of the pupil and his / her rate of progress on the instrument. For example, beginners can easily be taught in groups of 2, whereas more experienced students who are working towards exams may require more individual tuition.



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Attendance and Absence

Pupils must attend their weekly instrument lessons.

Please note that we cannot offer refunds to parents for pupil absences. If a student is absent the lesson will still be liable to be paid for. This includes if the student is absent due to a school-trip or event, or a medical appointment. The only exception to this are the Year 10 and 11 mock and final exams, which you will not be charged for missing.

If an instrument teacher is absent at all during the year, the time will be made up by that teacher in the weeks remaining at the end of the term or year, or where this is not possible a refund will be processed.

Notice to Cancel Lessons

We require a full term's written notice from parents, if a student wants to stop lessons. This must be given at the start of a term, to take effect from the following term. This is essential as we are obliged to give sufficient notice to the instrument teachers when making changes to our provision.

Instruments

Pupils and parents are responsible for buying their own music and items such as rosin, reeds and new strings.

Pupils having drumkit, guitar or keyboard lessons will use the school instruments for their lessons. All other lessons require students to use their own instrument. Practice rooms are available for students to book on specific lunchtimes and after school for students to do individual or small group practice.

Communication with Parents

Discussions can take place with the Music teachers in the calendared parents' evenings. If, in the meantime, you have any concerns about your child's progress, please feel free to write or phone the school.

Practice Makes Perfect!

Each week, the instrument teacher will give the student practice to do before the next lesson. This practice is essential if progress is to be made.





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Parents, please note – practising is a noisy business! The sounds that students produce on their instrument may not sound 'musical' to other members of the family for quite a while. Try to be encouraging, and patient!

Any other questions?

We hope you have found the information in this booklet useful. If you would like any further information or have any questions relating to instrument lessons at Woodrush High School, please do not hesitate to contact Miss Onacko at jonacko@woodrush.org.

If, having read all the information and agree to the Terms and Conditions, you would like your child to receive instrument lessons, please fill in the following form and return to Woodrush High School, for the attention of the Music Faculty.

Terms and Conditions of Instrument Lessons

For students to gain the most from the lessons, there needs to be a shared commitment between pupil, parents and teachers. Therefore, the following terms and conditions apply:

The school will:

1. Aim to accommodate all pupils that wish to learn an instrument.
2. Ensure that school instruments are available for hire and long-term purchase.
3. Inform parents if students are causing concern with their instrument lessons.
4. Ensure practice rooms are available at certain breaks and lunchtimes.
5. Provide opportunities for pupils to play in ensembles.

We ask students:

1. Check the timetable in advance to know their lesson time in the Practice Pal app.
2. Attend every lesson when they are present in school.
3. To take care of their instrument.
4. Do the practice set by their teacher.
5. Catch up on any schoolwork missed through their instrument lessons.
6. Liaise with the instrument teacher if they need to change their lesson time.
7. Take part in one of the school's extra-curricular music activities.

We ask parents/carers:

1. Respond promptly to invoices for fees to be paid.
2. Give at least one term's notice in writing, if their child wishes to stop lessons.
3. Ensure that hired instruments are looked after.
4. Encourage students to attend lessons promptly, practise regularly and attend an extra-curricular activity.





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Music Instrument Tuition Contract: Woodrush High School

Pupil's name _____ Form _____

Which instrument do you require lessons on? _____

Have they had lessons on this instrument before? _____

If yes, how long have they been learning the instrument? _____

Have they passed any exams on the instrument? _____

Is your child currently taking GCSE Music? _____

Is your child a Pupil Premium student? _____

Please indicate by ticking one of the options below, which type of lesson you would prefer:

- ☐ 30 minutes, individual lesson each week at the cost of £16.00 per lesson
- ☐ 15 minutes, individual lesson each week at the cost of £8.00 per lesson
- ☐ 30 minutes, paired lesson each week at the cost of £8.00 per lesson – please indicate the name of the student the paired lesson will be with _____

Please note if your child is taking GCSE music or for Pupil Premium students - 50% of the cost will automatically be taken off the price of the lessons.

I _____ (parent's/ carer's name) have read the attached document and agree to the Terms and Conditions regarding Music Instrument Lessons at Woodrush High School. I agree to pay the specified fees and will give at least one term's written notice if my child wishes to give up lessons.

Signature: _____ (parent/carer)

Date:

Address:

Contact telephone number:

Contact Email:

