



## ST MARY'S COLLEGE

May 2021

### Instrumental Music Tuition 2021/22

Music is a key part of life at St Mary's College and, as such, I am writing to let you know how to arrange instrumental music lessons for your child and explain how they are organised in school. I would also like to outline the extra-curricular music opportunities that will be available and other ways your child can get involved in music making during their time at St Mary's College.

If you would like your child to receive instrumental lessons, then it'd be great if you could let us know this as soon as possible. Students receive one lesson per week, usually in a pair or small group to begin with, with a guarantee of at least 32 sessions across the school year.

*(If your child plays a musical instrument but does not require lessons in school then please still read on as we'd like to hear from you too!)*

Unlike in most primary schools, lessons will not take place at the same time each week; instead, they change time each week to ensure that students avoid missing the same curriculum subject repeatedly. The cost of lessons is met in part by the school and part by the parents/carers; we recently introduced a progressive pricing structure whereby the cost of lessons to parents/carers will increase as a student develops and commits to their instrument and requires longer and more individualised lessons. Lessons will therefore cost £50 per term for the first year, payable in instalments online via the ParentPay system. Lessons are fully subsidised for those students who receive free school meals. As part of the lesson provision your child will be supplied with an instrument if they do not have their own (excluding guitar, piano and drum kit). If you would like your child to undertake lessons but feel that the cost would be prohibitive then please contact us as there may be bursaries and funding available in some cases.

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Mr G Fitzpatrick

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Mr D Perry



After the disruption of the last year, we are looking forward to relaunching our extra-curricular music programme in September 2021. Performances and other musical opportunities play an important part in the cultural and spiritual life of the school; each music student is expected to support wider music making within school on a regular basis.

A full schedule of rehearsals, activities and events will be published in September. During the last few years our musicians have participated in a range of events including:

- School Music Showcases and Concerts
- Annual Carol Service and Whole-School Masses
- School Productions of 'School of Rock' and 'Sister Act'
- Music for Youth Festival
- Hull and Cottingham Music Festivals
- Community Orchestra Project
- Workshops with Professional Musicians

Alongside this, over the last year various students have had their musical achievements recognised on a national level; a student-led ensemble was invited to perform at the Music for Youth National Festival in Birmingham, several recent 6<sup>th</sup> Form alumni now attend leading Music Conservatoires, and we have several students within the college community working above Grade 8 level on their instrument. Achievements such as these mean that your child will be in a position to work alongside excellent student role models right from the start of their secondary school journey and benefit from the collaborative nature of music making at St Mary's College.

The St Cuthbert's Multi-Academy Trust employs a team of 20 music staff to deliver instrumental tuition on all Orchestral, Band and Rock and Pop instruments, as well as the music curriculum from KS1 to KS5. We are also a recognised Trinity College London exam centre, meaning that students can take their exams on site at St Mary's College. From September we will become a Trinity College 'Champion Centre', working to support others in the region in the preparation and delivery of Trinity qualifications.

We would like to take this opportunity to highlight two important points:

- Students who intend to continue receiving instrumental tuition through the Hull Music Service, East Riding Music Service or a private tutor are warmly invited to participate fully in all school musical activities.
- Students who opt to have instrumental tuition in school are still able to fully access the opportunities available at the Albemarle and Hexagon music centres.

If you would like your child to receive instrumental lessons at St Mary's College then please complete the online booking form, available via the link below:

**[tiny.cc/smcmusic21](https://tiny.cc/smcmusic21)**

If you have any queries or questions about any aspect of instrumental lessons or musical life at St Mary's College, then please get in touch with us using the details below.

Yours sincerely,

*A McIntosh*

Mr A McIntosh

*Head of Instrumental Tuition and Music Performance*

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