

TERMS AND CONDITIONS FOR MUSIC TUITION 2025

Fees:

These are currently £21 for a standard ½-hour lesson. Longer lessons are charged at a pro-rata rate. Fees are subject to increase at the start of each academic year.

Lessons are charged for each term in advance according to the number of lessons to be given that term. There are typically about 30 lessons over the school year.

Please note that all instructors are self-employed and do not receive remuneration from the school. Tuition fees therefore constitute the instructors' principal source of income and parents are respectfully requested to ensure that invoices are settled promptly.

Timetabling:

Instrumental and singing lessons may involve the student missing a portion of normal school lessons and it is not possible to accommodate specific requests for times. Where possible, students will be placed on a rota. For students in Forms 4, 5 and 6 lessons will be scheduled as much as possible for break, lunch, enrichment or study periods.

Where a rota is not possible music lesson times may be changed each term by the Director of Music in consultation with the instrumental tutor to avoid a student missing the same lesson on a regular basis. Boarding pupils may be scheduled for lessons at 8.30 am.

Attendance at lessons:

Students are expected to attend all scheduled lessons. In the Senior School where a student knows in advance that they will miss a lesson due to a school trip or examination they should discuss this with the instrumental or singing tutor. Senior students are responsible for informing their tutor of any such events at least a week in advance. Junior School pupils need not inform their teacher as this is done by the Junior Department in advance. Wherever possible, an alternative lesson time will be arranged. Refunds will not be given, nor lessons made up, where students fail to do this. If a student is unable to play their instrument due to injury then, depending on the severity and recovery time and whether or not they are in school, lessons should focus on developing other musicianship skills.

Lessons missed due to tutor absence, or otherwise caused by the tutor, will be made up, or refunded and the student will be informed of arrangements for this.

It is not practical for tutors to collect students in the Senior School who forget their lessons or miss lessons due to other circumstances. In such cases the lesson fee will be forfeited.

Cancellation of lessons

During the school year, lessons may only be stopped at the end of a school term. Notice should be given, in writing (which includes email) to the Director of Music by the close of school before the half term break and lessons will stop at the end of the term. If sufficient notice is not given it will be assumed students are continuing for the following term and an invoice will be issued accordingly. It is assumed a student is continuing lessons after the Summer break unless the required notice is given.

Practice:

Whilst tutors make every reasonable effort to improve the musical skills and understanding of the student, pupils are expected to find time to practise their instrument between lessons. It is appreciated that this can be difficult in such a busy environment and rooms can be made available in school during breaks, lunchtime, enrichments and study periods if desired by arrangement with the Director of Music.

Choir, Orchestra and other musical ensembles

As part of their tuition it is expected that students participate in appropriate musical groups. It cannot be stressed highly enough the importance and benefits of music students participating in musical ensembles. Not only does it expand students' knowledge of musical styles it also gives them a level of playing and musicianship which complements their own solo work. It allows the student access to a greater range of musical skills such as sight reading and aural training both of which are such an important part of learning an instrument. Music is part of the fabric of our society and it is a huge part of all human culture.

Aside from the musical benefits and the improvement of their own performance, ensemble participation has all sorts of benefits which are non-musical: the opportunity to socialise and build confidence around other students who may not necessarily be in the students' own peer group, the teamwork needed to build a successful group and discipline needed to continue to rise to the challenge of hard work and effort.

If the student is a scholar, active participation in school music-making is obligatory and this will typically involve playing/singing with a minimum of two groups.