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Dear Parent/Carer,

Our Music department offer students the opportunity to learn an instrument at school with one of our visiting tutors. Students can learn a broad range of instruments, where the cost of all lessons are subsidised and instrument hire is available. Further details of the instruments provided, costs and routines are detailed overleaf.

Instrumental lessons take place during the school day and are timetabled so that students are withdrawn from curriculum lessons to attend their 20 minute instrumental lesson in the Music department. Instrumental lessons are on a rota so that students are not regularly missing the same curriculum lessons, however it is an expectation that students take responsibility for catching up on missed work with the support of their teachers. Year 11, 12 and 13 students will be offered lessons before school, at break or lunch, where possible, in order to minimise disruption to learning in years of external examinations.

The instrumental timetables are displayed in the Music department and are shared with tutor groups via our daily student communication: 'PREP'. It is vital that students are proactive in checking the timings of their lessons as they will not be collected from their curriculum lesson by our music tutors.

If you would like your child to receive Music tuition, please read the information regarding fees overleaf, and complete the Microsoft Form using the link below by Monday 8th July.

<https://forms.office.com/e/inP7673sZG>

You will then receive communication that ParentPay is open for payment from Tuesday 9th July. In order for your child to begin their tuition in September, we would request that payment is made by Wednesday 17th July.

If you have any questions or queries, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Yours sincerely,

Mr L Mence
Assistant Headteacher

Current Fees

All fees listed below are for one term of tuition.

Brass, Woodwind & Strings

Brass: Tuba, Trumpet, Cornet, Trombone

Strings: Violin, Viola, Cello and Double Bass

Woodwind: Flute, Clarinet and Saxophone

- Tuition and instrument hire are provided by South Tyneside Music Service who charge the school per hour. A parental contribution is required as detailed below.
- Students receive ten 20 minute lessons per term.
- Students are taught in pairs. More advanced students can receive an individual lesson.
- Students learning one of the above instruments are expected to take part in Orchestra rehearsals once per week after school. This is free of charge and is a fun learning opportunity. The school heavily subsidises the cost of instrumental lessons and expects students to further their learning and support the school by attending orchestra, in return for this subsidy.

- **Tuition & Instrument Hire - £65 (for 10 lessons)**

- *Students receiving Free School Meals are eligible for a further reduction in price.*

- *Tuition & Instrument Hire - £20 (for 10 lessons)*

Drums, Piano, Singing & Guitar

- Tuition is provided by a private tutor who charges the school per hour.
- Students receive ten 20 minute lessons per term.
- Individual lessons are available.
- Free keyboard hire is available and we have a limited number of guitars available. Hire of drums is not available, though students are welcome to practise using the school drum kit before school, at lunch and after school.
- Students learning one of the above instruments should join a music group of their choice, either Orchestra, Rock Band, Junior Choir or Senior Choir. This is free of charge and is a fun learning opportunity. The school heavily subsidises the cost of instrumental lessons and expects students to further their learning and support the school by attending a music group, in return for this subsidy.

- **Tuition £75 - (for 10 lessons)**

- *Students receiving Free School Meals are eligible for a further reduction in price.*

- *Tuition - £20 (for 10 lessons)*

Terms and Conditions

Terms for receiving instrument or singing lessons at St. Wilfrid's R.C. College

1. All students who are registered for instrumental lessons must attend school ensembles and performance events.
2. Students should aim to practise for at least 20 minutes four times per week. The more practice students do, the more progress they make and the more they enjoy playing their instrument.
3. St Wilfrid's RC College will offer 30 lessons over the academic year.
4. It is the responsibility of the student to check their lesson time and attend their lesson at the correct time.
5. Instruments on hire are to be brought to every lesson.
6. If your child is unable to attend a lesson due to suspension or any reason outside the control of the school (i.e. external trips, absence, forgetting to attend, forgotten instrument) this will count towards the offered lessons.
7. If your child wishes to change the time of their lesson due to a clash (i.e. an exam or assessment) then they should arrange this with their tutor in advance. Where this is not possible they should see Mr Mence or a member of the Music department who will make every effort to accommodate a request to change the lesson.
8. Payment must be made via ParentPay. Failure to pay fees by the due date will result in your child's lessons being suspended until payment is received.
9. If you wish to cancel your child's lessons, please confirm it in writing at least four weeks prior to the end of term. Fees for the current term are non-refundable.
10. Parents/Carers will be notified of any changes to fees, in writing, two months before the start of the term in which the fees apply.

School Ensembles

Every student who has instrumental or vocal tuition is required to attend rehearsals for at least one ensemble and to perform at school events. This opportunity is free. The school is subsidising the cost of instrumental lessons therefore all students are expected to contribute to the musical life of the school.

If any student is unable to attend regular rehearsals, the Music department must be informed. A decision will then be made regarding subsidised lessons on an individual basis.