



Lydgate Junior School

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June 2023

Dear Parents/Carers,

INSTRUMENTAL TUITION

If your child is interested in learning a musical instrument through one of our peripatetic teachers, now is the time to sign up to start in September.

Why learn an instrument?

Here at Lydgate, we are proud of our strong musical tradition and are keen to encourage as many children as possible to learn an instrument. Learning to play an instrument develops confidence, concentration & teamwork and deepens a child's enjoyment of music for life. As well as instrumental lessons, we offer children the opportunity to learn to play as part of an ensemble by joining our orchestra once they reach a minimum standard on their instrument. This is run by school teaching staff during curriculum time and is free of charge.

Year 3 and 4 is the ideal time to begin learning a new instrument, giving children the chance to learn the basic skills so they can then enjoy playing with their friends in ensembles in year 5 or 6. However, older pupils are also welcome to begin instrumental lessons.

How to start learning

The school uses a mixture of accredited private peripatetic music teachers and those provided by the Sheffield Music Hub. A number of our teachers will be giving demonstrations of their instrument in school assemblies in the coming weeks, some of whom may send additional information to parents. However, below you will find the essential details listing all our teachers and instruments, along with how to contact them. Please note, the Music Hub has a deadline of Monday 3rd July for signing up to start lessons in September.

Instrument	Private Peripatetic Teacher	Contact
Clarinet & Flute	Emma Burton	Please email mrsbluenoteinstruments@gmail.com
Tenor Horn, Cornet & Euphonium	Pat Phillips	patphillips1@hotmail.co.uk
Instrument	Lowes Academy of Music	Contact
Guitar	Ashley Merritt	Please visit www.lowesacademy.com/enrol
Drums	Chris Hardy	
Instrument	Sheffield Music Hub	Contact
Flute	Amy Kershaw (née Briggs)	Please visit https://www.sheffieldmusicHub.org
Violin	Rosie McConaghie	Click on "Learn Music" and then "Music Lessons in Schools" and you will see the online application form. Please note, the Music Hub has a deadline of Monday 3rd July for signing up to start lessons in September.
Cello	Suzanne Hobbs	

When demand is high, the teachers operate waiting lists. We would recommend you join the waiting list if you are interested. It can make it more likely for your child to be able to start learning later in the academic year but there is no obligation to take up lessons if you change your mind



after joining the list. Additionally, more names on the waiting list can help to demonstrate a greater demand and increase the chances of the music hub being given further funding to recruit more instrumental teachers.

There are two requirements of music making which require funding, **instruments** (their purchase, hire and maintenance) and **tuition**:

1. **Instruments:** We have a number of instruments within school and charge a very reasonable fee of £40 per academic year, along with a refundable deposit of £40. Alternatively, the Sheffield Music Hub can loan instruments for a charge of £25 per term or £55 per year.

These fees cover routine maintenance but do not include accidental damage through misuse. You are, therefore, asked to ensure that your household insurance policy covers the instrument for all risks. Instruments are not insured by the school.

2. A termly tuition fee:

Sheffield Music Hub fees:	
Autumn Term 2023	Shared or Fortnightly 20 Minute lesson - £91.92 20 minute weekly lesson - £183.84 30 minute weekly lesson - £257.76 40 minute weekly lesson - £367.68
Low Academy fees:	
£160 - Weekly Lessons per term 5/6 x 20min 1:1 lessons delivered every other week (totalling 16 lessons per academic year)	
£80 - Fortnightly Lessons per term per term 11 x 20min 1:1 lessons delivered each week (totalling 33 lessons per academic year)	
Please note the number of lessons provided by the private peripatetic teachers may differ and therefore the tuition fee may be different.	

The Sheffield Music Hub offers a bursary scheme, details of which are available from [The Sheffield Music Hub](#). Parents may seek financial support from the school through the terms of the Charging and Remissions Policy. This is available from our [website](#) or on request from the school office. Both give details of qualification criteria and the application process.

To get the best out of the learning experience, it is important to be aware of the following recommendations and requirements:

- Parental interest and support is vital. You don't have to be musical, just prepared to listen and encourage!
- Daily practice of approximately 15 minutes is recommended to ensure progress is made.
- Larger instruments, e.g. the cello, may need to be transported on lesson and orchestra days.
- Instrumental tuition takes place in school session time and it is inevitable that children will miss some curriculum teaching. Lessons may also take place during break or over the lunch period and children may therefore miss some play time.
- Should your child choose to stop taking lessons, half a term's notice period is required. You will be liable for the cost of all lessons until the end of the notice period.
- If a child uses a school instrument, it will be relinquished at the end of his/her stay in school.

If you have any queries don't hesitate to contact the school office or The Music Hub on 01142506860. The Music Hub opening hours are Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday from 10-12.00 a.m. & 2.00 – 4.00 p.m.; closed on Wednesdays and during school holidays. The Lowe Academy can be contacted via info@loweacademy.com

Yours Sincerely,

Mrs R Hurding
Head Teacher