

St Laurence Music Tuition 2018 - 19

All students in Years 7 - 9 study Music as part of the curriculum. However, many wish to take up the excellent opportunities for learning an instrument or having singing lessons, whether starting as a beginner or continuing with lessons from primary school.

FAQs

What lessons are available?

Lessons are available on violin, viola, cello, double bass, flute, oboe, clarinet, bassoon, saxophone, trumpet, French horn, trombone, tenor horn, baritone, euphonium, tuba, drum kit, orchestral percussion, piano, jazz piano, classical guitar, electric guitar, bass guitar and singing.

How do I go about booking lessons for my child?

In the first instance, please contact the Head of Music - rebhan@st-laurence.com - who will put you in contact with the relevant teacher. They will be able to arrange for lessons to begin, or will inform you if there is a waiting list.

How much do lessons cost?

Lessons cost approximately £15.00 - £20.00 per 30-minute lesson, depending on the teacher.

What happens if there are no spaces available?

If teachers are fully booked, you will be notified and placed on a waiting list until such time as a space becomes available.

How and when do I pay?

Teachers administer their own payment schemes. Details are available from them directly.

Any queries relating to invoices should be addressed directly to the individual music teacher.

My child does not have an instrument. How do I go about getting one?

It is usually possible to hire instruments from good music shops and pay the balance should you then decide to purchase the instrument. Students may take advantage of the Assisted Purchase Scheme which allows you to buy a new instrument and avoid paying VAT. The application form is on the school website.

Alternatively, it is often possible to hire an instrument through Wiltshire Music Hub. Details are available on www.wiltshiremusicconnect.org.uk

Is financial support available?

If you need help with the cost of tuition or access to an instrument, you may be eligible for financial support. You can check if you are eligible via the following link:

<https://wiltshiremusicconnect.org.uk/families/financial-support/>

If you think you qualify, please apply via the school Finance Office.

Is there somewhere for my child to leave their instrument during the school day?

Storage space is available outside the Music classrooms in WMC. However, the school will not be held responsible for instruments. The following advice is offered:

1. All instruments/cases should be clearly named
2. Other valuables should not be stored in instrument cases
3. Instruments should be placed in the appropriate boxes in the music corridor and not left on the floor
4. Check that your insurance is appropriate

When do lessons take place?

Lessons may be arranged up until 4.00pm. Inevitably, this means that students will miss some lessons. However, whenever possible, teachers will rotate their timetables to try to minimise the chances of a student missing the same lesson each week. Students are responsible for knowing their lesson time and for attending each week. If there is a problem with attending at a particular time, it is essential that as much notice as possible is given, ideally at least 2 working days; effective communication between teacher, student and parent is therefore vital.

How will my child know when their lesson takes place?

Timetables are displayed on the large notice boards in the WMC outside the Music classrooms.

What happens if my child misses a lesson through absence from school?

If a lesson has to be missed for a reason known in advance, such as a medical appointment, school trip etc, please inform the teacher giving as much notice as possible, ideally at least 1 week. It may be possible for the lesson to be rearranged. If your child is absent due to illness, please contact the teacher directly. Lessons missed due to illness or educational trips will still have to be paid for.

Are there musical groups for my child to join?

St Laurence Music Department offers a range of activities after school and at lunchtimes, and there are opportunities to perform in school events throughout the year. Details are available on the school website. Please sign up to 'School's Buddy' to register with a group.

Wiltshire Young Musicians also offers weekly orchestras and bands for players and singers of all abilities and experience.

Important Attendance Information

All students are responsible for ensuring that they register at Student Reception before and after music lessons. This will avoid unnecessary attendance letters being sent home regarding absence marks.

What happens if my child wishes to stop taking music lessons?

Please contact the music teacher directly, giving the appropriate notice as detailed in your contract with them.