

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

for instrumental music lessons in schools

1. Lessons normally take place in the **child's school during school hours**. Teachers contact schools directly to inform them of the days and times of these lessons, which normally start in the second or third week of term. **You pay for 10 lessons per term**.
2. Children learning PIANO or GUITAR must have their own instruments to practise at home.
3. Many other instruments can be hired from the service unless parents/carers choose to buy their own. See below for current hire costs. Please call the service to arrange hire.
4. For violins, violas **and 'cellos**, pupils should be brought to be measured for the right size.
5. **If a child is entitled to free school meals** parents/carers should show current proof each term in order to qualify for the discounts listed.
6. If a child is going to be absent from school on the day of their instrumental lesson - the teacher and the Music Service require **three weeks written notice** - the teacher will then make up the missed lesson, or parents/carers will be credited. If three weeks notice is not given (for example in the case of illness) the teacher will make every effort to make up the lesson, but is not obliged to. School trips can cause problems - please inform us of any likely clashes with lessons.
7. Every child should receive a Pupil Progress Book. This is for messages between parents/carers and the teacher. It also helps parents/carers to check on attendance and practice.
8. Once lessons have started parents/carers will be invoiced around half term for the next series of lessons. It is important that payment and/or current proof of free school meal entitlement is received by the due date in order to ensure that the **child's name is on the register** for the next term.

MUSIC SERVICE STAFF		HIRE CHARGES		
Peter Desmond Head of Service Nick Walker Deputy Head of Service Abi Munson Activities & Development Officer Janette Sylvester Senior Administrator Beatriz McCarron Administrator Catty Alberman Primary Music Specialist Thomas Gregory Head of Strings James Longworth Instrument Stock/WCIT Leader (Guitar) Nick Weiss WCIT Leader (Wind)	Instrument	per term	Free school meals discount	
	Violin/Viola	£20	£10	
	Cello	£22	£11	
	Others if available	£30	£15	

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q. Where and when are the lessons?

A. Instrumental teachers liaise with schools over precise days and times of lessons. Pupils should ask at school when and where their lessons will be. Many schools have notice boards where schedules of lessons are displayed.

Q. How much practice is needed?

A. Progress depends more on frequent and regular practice rather than length of practice, especially in the early stages. 5 practice sessions of 10-15 minutes each week will achieve a lot more than 2 of 30 minutes. The physical and mental demands are considerable, particularly for younger children.

Q. How can a parent who feels they have no musical training help?

A. Encouragement and moral support are vital. Often your mere presence while practising and appreciative comments will be invaluable. Also maintain contact with the teacher either at school if possible, or by means of the Pupil Progress Book. Always try to attend any musical activity your child takes part in.

Q. What do I do if something goes wrong with the instrument?

A. Most things that go wrong, even if apparently disastrous are, in fact, relatively minor. Telephone the Music Service who will be able to advise, repair or replace. However, it is important that children understand instruments are delicate and must be handled with care and respect at all times.

Q. How do I know if my child is making progress?

A. Your teacher should complete an assessment page in the Pupil Progress Book at the end of each term. The teacher will also advise if it is worthwhile entering your child for a practical music exam.

Q. Can we receive a longer lesson?

A. Students normally start on a 30 SHD lesson (30 minutes in a pair, or possibly 15 minutes on their own if the teacher judges this to be better). We also offer a 20 and 30 minute individual lessons. Please contact us if you wish to change the lesson length.

Q. Can a child learn more than one instrument?

A. This very much depends on the time available to practise. It is also a good idea to wait until the first instrument is sufficiently established before starting a second one.

Q. What groups can my child join?

A. Music making is the main point of learning an instrument and your child should be encouraged to join in musical activities as soon as is practicable. Some schools have bands and orchestras and your child should certainly join them. Haringey Music Service also runs regular bands and orchestras at various levels. Please see our website for more details of the [Haringey Young Musicians programme](#). Occasional short courses are also available.

Q. If I have a question not listed here, to whom do I turn?

A. When in doubt, contact the Music Service. We will either deal with your query or, if appropriate, direct you to the teacher at school.

Haringey Music Service
School House
Inderwick Road
London N8 9JU
T 020 8489 8960
E hms@haringey.gov.uk
www.haringey.gov.uk