



St John Fisher Catholic High School

EDUCATING FOR LIFE

Hookstone Drive, Harrogate, HG2 8PT

Head Teacher: Mr S Mort B.A. (Hons), NPQH

Telephone: (01423) 887254 Website: www.sjfchs.org.uk Email: office@sjfchs.org.uk

Dear Parent, Carers and Students,

I am delighted to provide you with information regarding our fantastic peripatetic music service at St. John Fisher along with details on how to apply for lessons. In line with government guidance, we will be offering a face-to-face peripatetic service, with some changes to ensure the safety of staff and students. Following a highly successful virtual peripatetic service from March 2020, all of our peripatetic teachers are excited to meet everyone again!

At St. John Fisher we provide music lessons in Percussion and Drum Kit, Brass, Piano and Keyboard, All types of Guitar, Saxophones, Flute, Clarinet, Strings and Voice. If you would like to have lessons in the Church Organ, please speak to Mr Ratcliffe directly as we run a separate organ scholars scheme which is provided by the Diocese of Leeds. Our service is completely private and as a school we employ some of the best teachers in the area. Many are professional musicians, session musicians and examiners for international exam boards.

Lesson Details

- You will be taught a minimum of 30 lessons in a year, but up to 32 where possible.
- You will be taught on a rota basis so you don't miss the same lesson every week.
- Due to the number of pupils having lessons, we cannot guarantee a fixed time every week.
- We do have some school instruments that are available for hire. Please ask for more details.
- If you need to hire an instrument, we recommend 'Music House' in Harrogate who charge a monthly fee.
- Our peripatetic teachers will contact you directly with details of lesson times. Times are also displayed on the notice board in the Keelan Centre.
- There are no longer any paper forms to complete to start lessons. Please complete the online form using the link below.

Lesson Funding and Costs

- If you are a GCSE or A Level student, school will fund the cost of a Standard Group Lesson as part of your course. We suggest however that all GCSE and A Level students have an individual lesson, so it would work out at half price.
- As part of the agreement to use the school peripatetic service, you also agree to take part in an ensemble at St. John Fisher.
- All lesson payments should be made promptly via Parent Pay. The finance department will invoice parents at the beginning of each term. If payment is not made in a timely fashion, lessons may be stopped.
- Payment constitutes an agreement to proceed with lessons for the following term. No refunds will be given.



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- In the event that a teacher is unavailable, the lesson will be rescheduled at no extra cost as close to the original date as possible.
- Students are expected to attend all lessons with suitable equipment and music.
- PLEASE NOTE. **GCSE/A Level** students who are having lessons funded by school may be charged per lesson for continual absence. While it is recognised that students may sometimes be ill or have other commitments, we cannot pay peripatetic teachers for their time when students are not there. An individual lesson cost will be added to your parent pay account if 2 or more lessons are missed without good reason.

Prices 2020-2021

(All prices are per term, 3 terms per year)

Standard Group Lesson	£65
Individual (20 mins)	£130
Individual (30 mins)	£195

A GCSE or A Level music student will receive £65 per term for either a free group lesson or a contribution towards an individual.

Due to putting in place COVID secure measures, students can still opt for a group lesson, but until there is any change in the guidance, we cannot physically teach in a group, eg 2 students and a teacher in a room. **This means that the group lesson option will give a student a 20 minute lesson once a fortnight on their own**, as we did with our virtual lessons.

Students can only start lessons at the beginning of a half term due to timetabling. If a student starts at a half term point, you will be billed for that term at 50% of the rates listed above.

If you wish to give notice to stop lessons, this must be done one whole term in advance. Eg. To stop at Easter, notice must be given at Christmas. To stop in the summer, notice must be given at Easter. This must be received either in writing or by email.

Starting Lessons

The deadline for completing the online form to start lessons in September 2020 is Monday 14th September at 3pm. All students who were having lessons last year MUST sign up again to start this year.



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COVID Secure Teaching

The government guidance of 28th August specifically directed schools to allow peripatetic teachers in for face-to-face teaching. We have implemented a number of measures to reduce risk to teachers and pupils. These include;

- Only teaching one-on-one lessons so no group teaching will take place
- Hand sanitisers at the door of every practice room, which students must use on entry and exit.
- Sanitising of all keyboard instruments and shared seats following each lesson.
- Increased ventilation in each room including opening of doors and fans to reduce stale air.
- Peripatetic teachers maintaining social distancing where possible in practice rooms
- All peripatetic teachers will sign in and undergo a temperature check at reception.
- Use of room partitions and plastic screens for singing lessons and flute in line with the current research on aerosol production.
- No shared use of instruments, accessories or drum sticks.
- Teachers teaching side to side or back to back.
- Use of our largest practice rooms only.
- Students must bring their own resources to lessons (eg pencil).

Please direct all enquiries regarding teaching to our Instrumental Co-ordinator, Miss Alice Longbottom on 01423 818444 or preferably via email at music@sjfchs.org.uk

PLEASE SIGN UP FOR LESSONS ONLINE BY FRIDAY 18TH SEPTEMBER AT 3.00PM.

<https://tinyurl.com/sjfchsmusiclessons>

With kind regards,

Mr C Ratcliffe
Head of Music

Miss A Longbottom
Instrumental Co-ordinator

