



Dear Parent/ Guardian

December 2022

Individual Music Lessons at Homefield

Timetable

Lessons take place throughout the school day on a rotation timetable so that pupils will miss a different time each week. **(Please note - children will miss academic subjects in this rotation, it is not normally possible to make special arrangements for particular children unless they have identified special needs).**

For the added benefit that playing an instrument provides, please see the following helpful video:
https://www.ted.com/talks/anita_collins_how_playing_an_instrument_benefits_your_brain?language=en

For the younger years instrument options are as follows:

Year 1	Group Violin, Group Cello or Piano (paired if needed). NO SECOND INSTRUMENTS AT THIS AGE.
Year 2 +	Strings, Piano, Percussion (if academic work is all fine)
Year 3 +	Clarinet, Saxophone, Flute, Trumpet, Trombone, Horn, Tuba, Guitar, Bass guitar, Double Bass (Depending on the size of boy!)

Things to consider if lessons are going to be worthwhile!

Do not feel pressured into starting your child too early, if pupils take lessons before they are ready, they can easily become frustrated and lose interest. **I advise that children should only take piano in Year 2 if they are coping well with the curriculum, as missing lessons can be disruptive for some pupils.** Many parents assume that piano is the easiest option - it's a great instrument, but it has the disadvantage that players are not involved in group music making and reading two lines of music can be quite difficult for many children.

Individual Instrumental Lessons 2022/2023

Cost – The instrumental teachers set their own hourly rate for lessons. The teachers have informed me that they will be charging £220 for ten 30-minute lessons.

Percussion equipment approx. £120

New clarinets are approx. £300, Trumpets, Horns and Trombones - £250

Violins - £70 (School can provide small violins and cellos to borrow in the first instance)

Keyboards suitable for beginner piano for 1st year of lessons - £150

Digital pianos - £1300, Acoustic pianos - £3000+ (£500ish 2nd hand)

Individual Instrumental Lessons

A team of eight self-employed instrumental music staff give lessons at school on rotation timetables. If you would like your child to start individual music lessons, please read the following information and complete the attached slip. You will receive a contract to sign from the teacher at the start of next term along with any information that you will require for purchase of instruments if a space is available. If there are no spaces available, I will suggest alternatives or put your son onto a waiting list.

Daily practice is essential!

Five times per week for ten minutes is a minimum at the start!

Does your child do all of their homework without a fuss?

If the answer is no, do you want the added stress of ensuring that they do their instrumental practice?

Is your child happy to miss their favourite lesson or **break** from time to time to have an instrumental lesson?

Music Department

ygriffith@homefieldprep.school



To: Mrs Yolandy Griffith (to be passed on to the appropriate instrumental teacher)

Date: _____

This form is for new requests - Please do not send me this form if your son is already taking instrumental lessons at Homefield - Instrumental lessons will continue until you give contracted notice to stop.

I would like _____ (Year Group Sept 2022) _____

to take _____ lessons

Any instruments previously studied? Yes / No* (please delete as appropriate)

Details _____

Name of Parent or Guardian (please print) _____

e-mail address _____ Phone number _____