

EXEMPTION FROM PAYMENT

As stated previously, tuition on one instrument will be free of charge where a pupil's parents/carers are in receipt of benefits enabling them to qualify for free school meals. Please call Customer First on 0141 577 3001 for further information.

A pupil who is studying music for SQA examinations in Secondary 3 to Secondary 6 and being examined on the particular instrument.

On registration for instrumental lessons, each parent/carer will receive a registration/payment form. Please read carefully all terms and conditions which apply before submission as these will be rigidly adhered to.

Please note that the Instrumental Music Service is a service for pupils who attend East Renfrewshire Schools.

If you require any further information or assistance please do not hesitate to contact Donald Finlayson, Instrumental Music Manager
0141-577-3835
or
The Administration Office
0141 577 3772
or
visit our website:
<http://www.ea.e-renfrew.sch.uk/instrumentalservice>

**EAST RENFREWSHIRE COUNCIL IS
COMMITTED TO THE FUTURE
DEVELOPMENT OF THE INSTRUMENTAL
MUSIC SERVICE**



Education Department

Instrumental Music Service

Information for Parents

2019-2020

Director of Education

Mhairi Shaw

Q. What are the costs?

A. The authority charges for 2019/2020 will be £300.00 per year (siblings £225.00) for a guaranteed minimum of 30 lessons on one instrument.. There are exemptions for those pupils in S3-6 who are studying for SQA examinations and for those who are receiving certain benefits. Pupils may receive tuition on two instruments but the second instrument will be charged at the full price. A second instrument for pupils receiving one free will also be charged at the full price.

Q. How will the money be collected?

A.

Payments will be collected via ParentPay at a rate suitable to you. Details will be on a registration/payment form which you son or daughter will receive. Failure to meet these payments proportionately will lead to discontinuation of lessons and could jeopardise your access to future council services.

Q. What if a pupil withdraws from instrumental lessons?

A. Following discussion between the parent and the teacher, a pupil may be withdrawn. The instrumental teacher must receive a dated letter of discontinuation and lessons will be liable for payment until a letter of discontinuation is received by the instrumental teacher. In the case of long term absence by the instructor and if the guaranteed minimum of 30 lessons is not met, a refund will be made

Q. What about families with 2 or more children receiving instrumental tuition?

A. The first child in each family will be required to pay the full charge of £300 per session, with a 25% reduction (£225) for subsequent children (paying children).

Q. Do I have to buy an instrument?

A. Normally an instrument is loaned to the pupil for a period of two terms after which it is expected that the pupil would purchase his or her own instrument. There are exceptions for the more expensive instruments i.e. bassoon, horn, tuba, double bass, where these instruments are available on a long-term loan. While borrowing an authority instrument, pupils and parents are responsible for the general care and condition of the instrument. This includes accidents and any breakages, the cost of which will be borne by parents/carers. Pupils who gain a place at the Saturday Music Centre will most likely require to provide their own instrument, with the exceptions for the more expensive instruments as detailed above, as this is outwith the resources available. This can be done through hiring, for the more expensive instruments – i.e. saxophone, trumpet, etc. or VAT Free purchase through school. Information on the purchase/hire of woodwind and brass instruments and the purchase of string/guitar instruments is available at a display of instruments given at the start of each year.

Q. What additional responsibilities are there if my child has an instrument on a long term loan?

A. Pupils who have an instrument on a long-term loan are required, when invited, to play in area orchestras and bands.

Q. What about long-term absence of an instructor?

A. Every attempt shall be made by the Education Authority to provide suitable cover to ensure continuity of lessons. In the case of long-term absence by the instructor, if the guaranteed minimum of 30 lessons is not met, a refund will be made back into your ParentPay account.

Q. What about the long-term absence of a pupil?

A. In the case of a long-term illness of a pupil, consideration will be given to some form of refund . In this case please contact the Instrumental Music Service Manager on 0141 577 3835

Q. When are the lessons?

A. Pupils receive a lesson on a weekly basis either within school hours or at the Saturday Music Centre in Williamwood High School.

Q. Who will teach my child?

A. A highly qualified, specialist instrumental teacher, who plays the relevant instrument or family of instruments, i.e. a clarinet player may teach the other woodwind instruments.

Q. Will a pupil be taught on an individual basis?

A. Normally, no. Most pupils will be taught in groups.

Q. How are children selected?

A. Pupils will receive a form depending which year-group they are in, which if they complete and return to the school will enable them to be assessed for the instrument of their choice. Those wishing and chosen to start violin and cello will do so during P4 with traditional folk instruments in P5, followed by other orchestral instruments in P6 and beyond. If the instrument that a pupil would like to play and is best suited to is not available within their school there is an opportunity to be considered for a Saturday place. As this is out-with the normal school provision, pupils may be required to provide their own instruments.

Only children who attend East Renfrewshire schools are entitled to apply for instrumental tuition. The service is not available to children who live in East Renfrewshire but attend school in another local authority or a school in the independent sector.

Q. Will my child be given an opportunity to start to play when they are older?

A. There may be opportunities to be reassessed in Primary 7 and Secondary 1 subject to resources.

Q. How will I learn about my child's progress?

A. Parents/Carers will receive reports from the Instrumental Teacher and the Head Teacher in a primary school or the PT Music/Faculty Head in a secondary school will receive a copy for their records. If there are any major problems parents will be contacted directly by the Instrumental Teacher to discuss any issues.

Q. If as a parent/carer I am genuinely finding difficulty in meeting the cost of the tuition, is any help available?

A. Please see details overleaf.