



September 2023

Dear Parent/Carer

Instrumental/Vocal Lessons

Learning a musical instrument or having voice lessons can be an extremely rewarding activity. Studies have shown that learning a musical instrument helps with maths and English skills as well as having a positive effect on students' transferable skills such as self-discipline, confidence, commitment and resilience.

Therefore, the music department at Yate Academy would like to offer students and parents the opportunity to buy into additional individual or shared lessons in a range of instruments. These include: **singing, electric guitar, piano, acoustic guitar, drum kit and keyboard/ Piano**. If there is a particular instrument you wish your child to learn that is not currently included, please let us know as it might be possible to accommodate other instruments by special arrangement.

All our instrumental and vocal teachers are professional musicians with lots of teaching experience. Lessons are arranged on a rota basis so that pupils can have lessons at different times each week, the aim being to ensure they do not miss part of the same class every week.

Lesson times are posted on the Music Department's noticeboard and it is the student's responsibility to check these carefully. If lessons are missed, refunds cannot be given but reminder slips are placed in registers and, if this continues to be a problem, a letter will be sent home advising how many lessons have been missed. If a student knows they are on a school trip or out of school for any reason then, providing their instrumental/vocal teacher is given **at least one week's notice**, the lesson can be rearranged.

If your child wishes to have lessons, we are unable to supply instruments. We can, however, offer advice about hiring or buying instruments. If your child is having keyboard or piano lessons, they will need at least a keyboard at home to practice on. Students wanting drum lessons may use the school drum kits to practice on.

Lessons at Yate Academy are arranged directly between you and the specialist tutors. Students pay for 10 lessons per term. As some terms are longer than others, the number of lessons given per term may vary, but students will still get the 30 lessons you have paid for over the year. Students receiving free school meals may have the option for a reduced fee, but please contact the school for further information. **The cost of a set of 10 lessons is £150 per term or £70 for a group lesson (2 students).**

Teachers are happy to enter girls for graded Rock School, ABRSM and Trinity exams, but these do involve additional costs. ABRSM and Trinity Exams are recognised by UCAS, and points count toward UCAS applications for university, as well as being highly regarded by employers.

The teachers issue invoices and these clearly state payment deadlines. Failure to meet a payment deadline could mean your child loses her lesson time. Fees should be handed to the office staff, Music Department or to the teacher in person. Cheques should have the pupils name clearly written on the reverse. They can be post-dated to the first day of the term if required.

If you wish to terminate lessons a **minimum** of 5 weeks' notice should be given **in writing** to Miss Powell or directly to the instrumental/vocal teacher. Your child cannot terminate the lessons themselves – this must be done by you, the parent/carer.

If you wish to arrange for your child to have lessons, please complete the attached form and return it to Miss Grainger-Hull or Mrs Brett-Reynolds in the Music department. You are advised to do this as soon as possible in case demand exceeds available lesson time. Please **do not** send any money at this stage; you will be contacted by the teacher directly to arrange payment once the lessons have been arranged. Should you have any questions about the instrumental or vocal lessons please contact Mrs Brett-Reynolds on the telephone number above or by email at: bpowell@yateacademy.co.uk

Yours Sincerely
Miss B Powell



Application Form for Instrumental/Vocal Tuition at Yate Academy

Student's name: _____ Year _____ Tutor group _____

Parent's/carer's name: _____

Address: _____

Postcode: _____

Telephone: _____

Mobile: _____

Email: _____

Which instrument (including voice) do you wish to learn? _____

Have you had lessons before on this instrument? _____

If YES have you taken any music exams? Which? _____

Individual or Group lessons? _____

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

By signing the form below you agree to the terms stated in the attached letter. The main points of these are:

- Fees must be paid at the beginning of each term
- To terminate lessons, 5 weeks WRITTEN notice MUST be given to the teacher with a copy to Miss Powell
- Students are responsible for checking their lesson times and attending their lessons promptly
- The teachers will not reimburse missed lessons
- Lessons can be rearranged due to college trips only if the student gives the teacher at least a week's notice
- Instruments can be left in the Music Department at college during the day BUT neither the college nor department can accept any responsibility for them

I have read and agree to the terms and conditions stated above:

Signed _____

Date _____