



May 2019

Instrumental music lessons at The Grammar School at Leeds

We believe that GSAL is an inspiring place to learn music. We recognise the importance of the creative arts in every child's life. The visiting music teachers (VMTs) who provide their services to GSAL are some of the finest instrumentalists in the north of England, and have performed with orchestras including Opera North, at jazz festivals across Europe, and on pop and theatre tours around the country. They are also dedicated teachers, with many years of experience. They work hard to enthuse our pupils about music making, to build their confidence, and to help them to fulfil their potential.

One of the greatest aspects of playing an instrument or singing is participation in an ensemble, and our array of large ensembles, chamber groups, jazz ensembles and pop groups offer a wealth of opportunity to our students. Our concert calendar has a reputation for excellence and variety.

Instruments taught at GSAL:

Bass Guitar	Bassoon	'Cello	Clarinet	Classical Guitar
Double Bass	Drum Kit	Electric Guitar	Flute	French Horn
Harp	Oboe	Organ	Percussion	Piano
Saxophones	Trombone	Trumpet	Viola	Violin
Voice				

Shortage instruments

We are particularly keen on promoting instruments that are less common. These are all fantastically rewarding instruments to play, and players will have an increased chance of playing in ensembles at GSAL. These have been outlined in bold above.

Examinations

In the penultimate week of each term we host a session of examinations by the Associated Board of the Royal Schools of Music. From Grade 6, these qualifications can count towards UCAS points.

Instruments

Visiting music teachers will be able to guide parents on how to buy, or rent an appropriate instrument. In some cases there are instruments that can be borrowed from GSAL for a limited period.

If your child is interested in taking instrumental or vocal lessons at GSAL, please return the form attached overleaf. If you would like further information, please see the reverse of this page, and feel free to contact me by email (awk@gsal.org.uk) and I will be happy to assist you. I can also arrange a free trial lesson, where your child can try out the instrument and meet the teacher.

Best wishes,

Adrian Knowles

Head of co-curricular music

"The true purpose of arts education is not necessarily to create more artists. It's to create more complex human beings who are critical thinkers, who have curious minds, who can lead productive lives." Kelly Pollock, Centre of Creative Arts, St Louis, USA

Details

Tuition fees

Tuition fees are set at £18.00 per half-hour lesson.

Lesson times

Lessons are taught throughout the school day, and occur on a rotational basis so that pupils, in both Junior School and Senior School, do not miss the same part of the day each week. This system has worked successfully for many years.

Pupils in Year 10 and above are taught before school, during break, lunchtime, free lessons and after school. Pupils in Year 7-9 who opt to learn a second instrument will be offered tuition at these times. Pupils should inform their classroom teacher that they will be missing part of their lesson, and then endeavour to catch up any missed work.

Practice

There are many rewards to be had from playing an instrument or singing, but they have to be earned. There are no shortcuts, but support from parents to help your child establish a regular practice routine will make all the difference.

Contract

Parents will enter into a contract directly with the VMT. The VMT will bill parents directly, either half-termly or termly. VMTs are self-employed, however, the school has completed all necessary checks including DBS checks.

Missed lessons

Absence, including illness, should be communicated to the VMT with as much notice as possible in order to avoid a lesson being charged.

Termination of lessons

Lessons may only be terminated at the end of a term, and, if this is the case, at least half a term's notice must be given in writing to both the teacher and the Head of Co-curricular Music. Fees will be charged in lieu of notice.

Please retain this page for your records

Instrumental music lessons at The Grammar School at Leeds – application

Pupil name

Parent/guardian name.....

Address.....

Telephone number.....

Email address.....

Please arrange for my child to be given lessons on.....

He/she is a beginner Yes/No

He/she has been learning for years and has reached grade.....

He/she has their own instrument Yes/No

Details of other instruments studied (please indicate teacher if this is at GSAL)

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Terms and conditions:

I understand that fees are payable directly to the VMT concerned, and I agree to be responsible for these. Lessons may only be terminated at the end of a term, and if this is the case, at least half a term's notice must be given in writing to both the VMT and the Head of Co-curricular Music. Fees will be charged in lieu of notice.

I accept the terms and conditions as stated above, and agree to the guidelines regarding pupils' absence from instrumental lessons.

Signed.....

Please return this form to Mr Knowles - Head of co-curricular music
or via email awk@gsal.org.uk