



Wordsworth Primary School

Victor Street, Shirley, Southampton. SO15 5LH
Telephone: (023) 8077 6397

Headteacher: Mrs Julie-Anne Palfrey, B.Ed (Hons)
www.wordsworthprimary.co.uk

Dear Parent/Carer

Thursday 8th June 2023

Musical instrument choice for academic year 2023/2024 for Year 3 pupils

We encourage learning to play a musical instrument at Wordsworth Primary. There are many benefits to learning to play a musical instrument. These range from developing brain power and co-ordination to building confidence and creativity. Children make new friends through musical activities both in school and in the wider community and above all it is fun and a chance to develop a new skill.

Which instruments are available?

Many of our pupils start a string instrument in Years Two or Three and are getting to a good standard by Year Four. You can choose to continue your string instrument (violin, viola or cello) in Year Four or you can change to a different instrument. The new instruments we offer in Year Four are trumpet and flute. Guitar will be offered as an option in Year Five.

How much does it cost to learn an instrument in school?

The teaching is provided by Southampton Music Service. The cost for a year's tuition will be £175. This works out as a £10 deposit due in the Summer term, then £55 per term for the Autumn, Spring and Summer terms. This charge is reviewed annually. The instruments are loaned out from Southampton Music Services which cost £40 per year or you can provide your own instrument. There may be occasional extra costs such as instrument reeds and strings and music tutor books (usually £5 - £10). The total price of a year's tuition will therefore be around £220.

My child receives the Pupil Premium. How much will I need to pay?

If your child receives the Pupil Premium, the charge is £25 for the year. £10 as a deposit in the Summer term 2022 and the remaining £15 in the Autumn term. The school will pay for the rest of the cost of learning and for the instrument hire.

How are the groups organised?

At our school the children will be taught in groups of between 4 and 6. Children in groups of 4 will receive a 20 minute lesson, groups of 5 will have 25 minutes and groups of 6 will have 30 minutes. We have to try to balance the number of instruments that we teach so that no group is overly large and we cannot start a group off with less than 4 players.

When do lessons take place?

Lessons are held during the school day once a week. They are sometimes over a break time or lunchtime and sometimes during lesson times. We try to avoid the children missing English and Maths but occasionally the lessons may be at these times. The timetable is set by Southampton Music Service but they do try to tailor it to our requirements.

What do I need to do for my child to be placed in an instrumental group?

To help us to organise the lessons, we ask you to fill in the slip below and return it to school by **Wednesday 14th June**. I will then look at the numbers of children applying and organise the group sizes. I will contact you later in June with a form to fill in and request the £10 deposit. This will form an agreement to starting lessons later in September and **you will be liable for a full year's worth of fees (an additional £165 or £15 for child receiving the Pupil Premium) even if your child gives up part way through the year.**

Please return the slip below to school at your earliest convenience but no later than **Wednesday 14th June**. If you have any queries or wish to discuss this matter further, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

Mrs A. Thompsett (Music Teacher)



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Music Lesson choices for current Year 3 pupils for 2023/2024 provision

To be returned no later than **Wednesday 14th June**

Pupil name: Class

Instrument choice (please tick):

- Violin/Viola (only available to continue, not for beginners)
- Cello (available for beginners or continuers)
- Flute for beginners
- Trumpet for beginners

Please tick the appropriate statement

- I understand that the cost of lessons will be £175 for the year.
- My child receives the Pupil Premium and I understand that the cost of lessons will be £25 for the year.

Signed (Parent/Carer)