



AN
OVERVIEW
OF
INSTRUMENTAL
MUSIC LESSONS
AT
OAK FARM JUNIOR SCHOOL



Here at Oak Farm Juniors we encourage children to experience a rounded education.

Apart from the pure enjoyment of learning to play an instrument well, and the sense of personal satisfaction achieved by completing a newly learnt piece of music, learning an instrument as a child, is highly beneficial to all aspects of learning; memory, physical co-ordination, perseverance, self-discipline, listening skills, enhancing maths, reading, comprehension, concentration and team work. The list goes on, not to mention the “feel good” factor!

Scholarships for future education and even UCAS points are possible for children who excel in an instrument.

The opportunities to learn a musical instrument at Oak Farm Junior School are increasing; not only in the variety of instruments, but also in the number of lessons now available.

For this reason we feel it is sensible to create an information booklet for you to keep for reference; both now and in the future.

Please look for the instrument header that your child is interested in, and in some cases perhaps even yourself! Then complete the reply slip.

Please note some spaces, depending on instrument, are first come first served, and a waiting list will then be created.



BRASS

Did you Know?... Steve Tyler can play the Trumpet, Aretha Franklin can play the Tuba, Nelly Furtado can play the Trombone and both Ewan McGregor and Samuel L Jackson can play the French Horn!

The Hillingdon Music Service provide these weekly lessons.

Your child will be assessed on their ability and size; brass instruments range in primary school from a small cornet, a trombone and even to a large euphonium!

Children will be given an instrument by the Music Service for which a small rental fee is included in the termly charge. Lessons take place during the school afternoon.

Hillingdon Music Service rates are extremely economical compared to private tutor fees and depending on income/benefits can be even less.



CELLO

...Charlie Chaplin, Prince Charles, Christopher Walken , Rosamund Pike, Emily Blunt and Richard Armitage to name a few can all play the Cello!...

The Hillingdon Music Service provide these weekly lessons.

Your child will be assessed for size – junior cellos are used for primary age children. These lessons are held during the school afternoon.

Hillingdon Music Service rates are extremely economical compared to private tutor fees and depending on income/benefits can be even less.



DRUMS

Drum lessons are available both after school and during the afternoon on Thursday.

Thursday afternoon drum lessons are taught through Hillingdon Music Service.

Thursday after school lessons are taught by our freelance drum teacher, Simon Brett.

Simon has been with us for a many years and teaches not only the drum kit but also, if requested, will focus on snare, percussion and samba.

There are a selection of lesson slots available from groups to 1:1. The cost of all of these lessons, are at a greatly reduced rate compared to private tuition.

Payments are direct to Hillingdon Music service for the afternoon slots and directly to Simon Brett at the start of each term if you opt for after school lessons.



GUITAR

The Hillingdon Music Service provide these lessons which are taught on Monday and Thursday and Friday afternoons at this present time.

It would be beneficial to the child's learning to have their own guitar, however, we do have a number in school for a small termly rental fee if you do not have your own, which can be taken home. Lessons are grouped according to ability and lessons take place in half hourly slots throughout the school afternoon. All children will need a guitar book all available at a small charge through the school.

Hillingdon Music Service rates are extremely economical compared to private tutor fees and depending on income/benefits can be even less.



KEYBOARD / PIANO

The Hillingdon Music Service provide these lessons which are taught by the same teacher on Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday afternoons.

Children can choose, and will also be advised by the teacher, whether they will learn on a keyboard or piano – obviously through progression and aptitude children move from one to the other in time if they wish.

It is advisable to have a keyboard at home for regular practise – unfortunately, at this time, the Music Service do not provide a rental opportunity for this instrument.



UKULELE

This popular instrument is manageable by most!

We offer an after school club open to adults as well as their children. It encourages confidence and a sense of team work/ community when learning together with your child on such a fun instrument!

Sessions are an hour long on a Tuesday 3.30 – 4.30pm.

You will need your own ukulele, however it doesn't need to cost the earth and can be in any size you wish; soprano, tenor, concert, baritone and even bass – electric or acoustic...banjoleles – a cross between a banjo and a ukulele - have even appeared at our club!!



VIOLIN

These lessons are provided on a Tuesday afternoon by the Hillingdon Music Service.

Your child will be assessed for size of violin required and these instruments can be hired through their usual terms.

Hillingdon Music Service rates are extremely economical compared to private tutor fees and depending on income/benefits can be even less.



WOODWIND

Clarinet players you may have heard of; Julia Roberts, Woody Allen, Steven Spielberg.

Saxophone players you may have heard of; Tom Selleck, Lionel Ritchie, David Bowie.

Flautists you may have heard of; Halle Berry, Alanis Morissette, Gwen Stefani, Tina Fey.

These lessons are provided by the Hillingdon Music Service. Your child will be assessed and advised on whether they are best suited to the clarinet or saxophone.

Lessons take place on a Friday afternoon, and instruments are hired from the Music Service.

Hillingdon Music Service rates are extremely economical compared to private tutor fees and depending on income/benefits can be even less.



EXTRA IMPORTANT INFORMATION

- ❖ All children learning an instrument are expected to bring books, extra equipment and their instrument to their weekly lessons.
- ❖ Children are expected to attend their lesson on time – highlighted timetables are in their classrooms.
- ❖ Children are encouraged to practise at home for a more rewarding and successful experience.
- ❖ Children showing progression, learning an instrument with Hillingdon Music Service, may be invited to take a graded exam or join the junior bands/orchestras that are run by the Music Service.
- ❖ Children learning an instrument with our freelance teachers may be given the option to sit a graded exam.
- ❖ All children are encouraged to play, when at a suitable level, during school assemblies; whether as a solo or small groups.
- ❖ All children in years 4, 5 and 6 are invited and expected to take part in the school's Instrumental Concert Evening.
- ❖ In the event of an instrumental lesson being missed, lessons may be made up according to the HMS or Oak Farm policy; depending on who has provided the lesson;
Hillingdon Music Service state that only “if our teacher is absent themselves or they have had advance warning of the school being closed” will lessons be made up within that child's academic year.
Oak Farm state that if the “freelance teacher is absent, the school is closed during term time or the child is on an *educational school trip*” lessons will be made up during that current term.
- ❖ Planned days of teaching may be subject to change, from those advertised in this booklet, depending on volume of pupils and/or teacher's timetable.



We hope from reading this booklet your child is keen to learn an instrument.

Please fill in the appropriate section of the attached reply slip and return directly to Mrs Stonely, who will then send out the relevant “provider” forms to you.

Hillingdon Music Service will require you to register online and pay via the phone directly after your child has had an assessment in that particular instrument.



REPLY SLIP

For The attention of Mrs Stonely

Child's name.....

Class.....

I have read and understood the Instrumental Booklet and would like my child to participate in;

Please **TICK** the box/boxes of your choice;

Brass – (name of instrument preferred)

Cello

Drum

Guitar --- **We have/ We do not have our own guitar**

Keyboard

Piano

Ukulele

Violin

Woodwind – (name of instrument preferred)

Signed.....Parent/Guardian

Date.....