



A-STAR MUSIC
E D U C A T I O N

**PERIPATETIC MUSIC
LESSONS INFORMATION
BOOKLET**

ACADEMIC YEAR 2019-20

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Please read through this booklet which is filled with the information you require for music lessons for your son/daughter for this academic year.

Lessons commence on the beginning **Monday 9th September 2019** and will run for 10 weeks this Autumn term and we will send out start dates for the Spring and Summer terms at the end of the previous one. Your child’s instrumental teacher will make introductory contact with you this week via the e-mail address you supplied and they will give details of how you can establish relevant and necessary communication with them during the term.

If you have any questions regarding peripatetic lessons, please do not hesitate in contacting our Accounts Manager by completing a contact form at www.a-starmusic.com/peri

Regards,

Joshua & Lorraine Agdomar

Our Aims & Values

- **Aspiration**
We are ambitious for all our pupils. We encourage them to set their sights high, to develop their skills, and to find inspiration in trying out new things. We highly prize the qualities of perseverance and personal commitment that will carry them far in their musical endeavors.
 - **Confidence**
We celebrate achievement without arrogance and develop an awareness of the skills required in both leaders and followers, so that all can make a positive contribution.
 - **Independence of thinking**
We challenge and inspire pupils' to think for themselves and aid their development in music appreciation.
 - **Resilience**
We encourage pupils' to practice their craft and grow in self-discipline, resourcefulness and initiative, so that they can navigate life with confidence.
 - **Courtesy**
We pride ourselves on being a supportive community. We promote friendship and growth within a framework of respect and consideration for others.
 - **Generosity**
We uphold strong moral values and expect everyone to behave with honesty and integrity. Service to others is central to our company. This is demonstrated in the sums we raise each year for charity, in our work in the community and in our mentoring and development schemes.
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Music Lessons Information

Our visiting instrumental staff provide an exemplary service to all pupils under their tutelage and we hope that your child gains maximum benefit from learning their chosen instrument or voice. In order to achieve progression, it is vital that your child maintains regular practice routines at home. Children will be given guidance as to how to practice by their instrumental teacher. Each parent will be provided with access to our Online Music Portal online area where the instrumental teacher will write in during their lesson each week. This will give details of what has been covered in each lesson, with homework requirements for practising at home. Parental support is vital in this regard.

Instruments & Hire

We recommend as strongly as we can and encourage that children have access to their instrument discipline at home for regular practice. We advise a good keyboard with a weighted key action could be used to start with or a starter keyboard for absolute beginners. A 1/2 or 3/4 sized guitar will be suitable for beginners.

Instrumental teachers will be happy to advise on purchasing instruments and can give guidance on which model of instrument might be best for your child. Please contact your child's instrumental teacher or our administration office for further assistance as necessary.

Resources Required

Here is a list of the resources we advise are purchased for lessons by instrument discipline:-

Piano

(Beginner) Me and My Piano Part 1 - <https://www.amazon.co.uk/Me-My-Piano-Part/dp/0571532004>

(Beginner) Me and My Piano Part 2 - <https://www.amazon.co.uk/Me-My-Piano-Waterman-Harewood/dp/0571532012/>

Piano Prep Test - <https://www.amazon.co.uk/Piano-Prep-Test-revised-Pieces/dp/1848499345>

ABRSM Piano Pieces Grade 1 - <https://www.amazon.co.uk/Piano-Exam-Pieces-ABRSM-Grade/dp/1786010194/>

Keyboard - <https://www.amazon.co.uk/MK-1000-54-Key-Portable-Keyboard-Gear4music/dp/B00H2RIAGU/>

Guitar

(Beginner) Guitar Basics: (with Free Enhanced CD) [Guitar Basics] (Faber Edition) - <https://www.amazon.co.uk/Guitar-Basics-Book-ECD-Faber/dp/0571532284/>

Trinity Rock and Pop 2018 Guitar (Initial) - <https://www.amazon.co.uk/Trinity-Rock-2018-Guitar-Initial/dp/0857366475/>

Trinity Rock and Pop 2018 Guitar (Grade 1) - <https://www.amazon.co.uk/Trinity-Rock-2018-Guitar-Grade/dp/0857366483/>

Trinity Rock and Pop 2018 Guitar (Grade 2) - <https://www.amazon.co.uk/Trinity-College-London-Guitar-Grade/dp/0857366491/>

Trinity Rock and Pop 2018 Guitar (Grade 3) - <https://www.amazon.co.uk/Trinity-College-London-Guitar-Grade/dp/0857366505/>

Guitar - <https://www.amazon.co.uk/Music-Zone-String-Beginners-Acoustic/dp/B00NY3JBJG/>

Voice

(Beginner) Trinity Rock and Pop 2018 Vocals (Initial) - <https://www.amazon.co.uk/Trinity-College-London-Vocals-Initial/dp/0857366653/>

Trinity Rock and Pop 2018 Vocals (Grade 1) - <https://www.amazon.co.uk/Trinity-College-London-Vocals-Grade/dp/0857366661/>

Trinity Rock and Pop 2018 Vocals (Grade 2) - <https://www.amazon.co.uk/Trinity-College-London-Vocals-Grade/dp/085736667X/>

Trinity Rock and Pop 2018 Vocals (Grade 3) - <https://www.amazon.co.uk/Trinity-College-London-Vocals-Grade/dp/0857366688/>

Drums

(Beginner) Trinity Rock and Pop 2018 Drums (Initial) – <https://www.amazon.co.uk/Trinity-College-London-Drums-Initial/dp/0857366386/>

Trinity Rock and Pop 2018 Drums (Grade 1) - <https://www.amazon.co.uk/Trinity-Rock-2018-Drums-Grade/dp/0857366394/>

Trinity Rock and Pop 2018 Drums (Grade 2) - <https://www.amazon.co.uk/Trinity-College-London-Drums-Grade/dp/0857366408/>

Trinity Rock and Pop 2018 Drums (Grade 3) - <https://www.amazon.co.uk/Trinity-College-London-Drums-Grade/dp/0857366416/>

Ukelele

(Beginner) Ukelele from Beginning - <https://www.amazon.co.uk/Ukulele-Beginning-Uke-Various/dp/1847723357>

Recorder

(Beginner) Recorder from Beginning - <https://www.amazon.co.uk/Recorder-Beginning-John-Pitts/dp/1844495248/>

(Beginner) Recorder (Instrument) - <https://www.amazon.co.uk/Ferris-FR400S-Descant-Soprano-Recorder/dp/B007ZBO3E6/>

If both recorder and book are bought together, there is a bundle discount!

Practice

All lessons require a child to practice on a regular basis. If a child does not follow the practice/homework routine recommended, the lessons will lose their value. We all want the children to achieve success and lessons are a commitment for everyone concerned. The children need to be aware of this and should be encouraged to value the experience, be willing to practice and arrive well prepared for lessons.

Insurance

Parents should have suitable insurance for children's instruments which are brought into school. The company takes the best care possible to see that instruments are kept sensibly during the day, but cannot take responsibility against damage or theft.

Notice of Termination

If you wish to cancel individual lessons at any time, **you must give half a term's notice**, otherwise half a term's fees will be charged in lieu of notice. Please complete the relevant form to cancel lessons which is available from the parents peripatetic page.

Trial Lessons

All of our peripatetic teachers are happy to offer an initial block of 5 lessons, after which progress and aptitude can be discussed without any further obligation. The charge for these five trial lessons is 50% of the term fee. You will receive an email at the end of the fourth lesson, for you to state whether or not you wish your child to continue after the fifth lesson. It is important that this is completed before the fifth lesson, otherwise you will be charged for further lessons. Trial lessons are run in the Summer term in preparation for the following academic year.

General Information

If you would like your child to take individual music or voice lessons during the school day, please complete the Application Form on our website. Some lists are full as priority is given to existing students, but if that is the case, your child can be placed on a waiting list.

Lessons are normally arranged during the school day. The lessons are timetabled on a 'rolling' rota basis during the day so that it is unlikely for a child to miss their lesson.

Lesson times are posted on our Online Music Portal which is our electronic attendance register, scheduler and communications platform. If there are problems/conflicts with a specific lesson time, the Accounts Manager will make adjustments as needed, where possible.

Instrumental & Voice Lessons Terms with FAQs

When do lessons start for the autumn term?

Music lessons for the autumn term will start on the week commencing **Monday 9th September 2019**. If a pupil joins a lesson part way through the term you will receive verbal confirmation followed by a Booking Confirmation letter. Please check your booking confirmation for your start date.

Does A-Star Music accept Music Tuition vouchers?

A-Star Music does not accept Music Tuition vouchers as these are issued by Essex Music Services for use against the cost of their own lessons only.

Do I get credit or refund for a missed lesson?

If a pupil misses a lesson due to a school INSET day or because the teacher is not available, then this lesson is made up later in the term by crediting your account or rescheduling the lesson. If you think your child may have missed a lesson, please refer to the Online Music Portal, which is an area that records a log of each lesson held and is used for communication between teacher, pupil and parent.

There may be occasions when your child is unable to attend a lesson (for example sickness or family holidays), however, as these occasions are beyond our control we cannot offer any credit or refund. When a lesson is missed due to a school trip, this will be re-arranged if it is reasonable and feasible to do so (at the discretion of the instrumental teacher and within the constraints of the school timetable).

When and where do lessons take place?

Lessons take place weekly during the school day on school premises.

Do we provide group or individual lessons to beginners?

In most cases, beginners will be offered group lessons as most pupils find it more fun to learn with their friends. Group lessons give pupils the chance to learn from each other and to start playing ensemble music. Group lessons may change over time to accommodate pupils' individual needs and in these cases we will offer the most appropriate group or individual lesson.

We invite requests for instrumental lessons from parents with children in Year 1 upwards. We would recommend that Year 1 pupils begin with a 15 minute lesson and then progress to a 20 minute lesson in Years 2-6. There will be opportunities for your child to switch to a longer or shorter lesson if this is suitable and necessary. Changes cannot be accommodated half way through a term as you will appreciate.

Will an instrument be provided?

We have partnership with organisations who will provide hire and we sell a number of instruments on our online store. Please contact us for more information.

Will learning an instrument help my child's education ?

Yes, very much so. There is an increasing body of evidence to suggest that children learning an instrument do better at school. Learning an instrument allows pupils to express themselves and grow in self-confidence whilst developing other skills such as hand and eye coordination, spatial and social skills, and self-reliance. They also develop better memories and are more likely to enjoy being at school.

Does A Star Music offer any other opportunities?

Regular workshops on various instruments are held throughout the year. There are also local concerts on offer for the children.

How do I apply for music lessons?

By completing the form on the A-Star Music Education website – www.a-starmusic.com

If I sign up and my child is placed the waiting list, what happens next?

After you apply for lessons your child may be placed on a waiting list if we are over subscribed. When a suitable lesson slot is available we will contact you with the lesson details and terms and conditions after which lessons can be set up and confirmation will be sent.

Will my child be able to take Grade exams?

A-Star Music pupils can be entered for grade examinations through Trinity Guildhall, ABRSM or RGT. Your child's teacher will notify you when they are ready and provide you with the relevant information. We prefer to only enter a candidate when their playing is at a secure merit level.