





Music School Instrumental and Vocal Tuition Information Booklet 2025-26

Dear Parents/Carers

Learning to play an instrument can be an exciting and enjoyable experience for young people. We are fortunate to have our own team of highly skilled tutors offering a wide range of instruments for all students to learn.

The Music school has grown over many years and currently, over 200 students are learning to play instruments, successfully passing exams as well as performing in concerts and productions.

Please read the following information carefully before completing the online Application Form. Acceptance of the conditions under which lessons are offered is required for enrolment. Your details will be passed to a tutor who will send you an invoice. Prompt payment secures your child's place and conformation of the first lesson day and time will be emailed home once payment is received.

We hope you will find the booklet helpful, however, if you have any further questions, please contact us.

Yours sincerely

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Head of Music Department
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Ms C Cook
Administrator, Music Department
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Music School Tuition Information

Tuition is available to all year groups in a wide variety of instruments:

Woodwind: Flute, Clarinet & Saxophone

Brass: Trumpet, Cornet, Tenor Horn, Trombone, Euphonium & Tuba

Upper Strings: Violin & Viola

Guitar: Acoustic, Electric and Bass

Piano & Keyboard

Drum kit

Music Theory

Voice

Lessons

• **Format and frequency:** 30 one-to-one lessons per academic year split into three blocks of ten lessons.

- **Duration**: 20-minute lessons, during the school day.
- Timetabling:
 - Years 7-11: Lessons are on the same day weekly but rotated to minimize academic disruption.
 - Sixth Form: Lessons are scheduled at fixed days and times during noncurricular periods like study periods
- **Timetable Display**: Timetables are posted on the Instrument Tuition Notice Board in the Music Department. Students must check regularly for updates.

Tuition Fees

- **Cost**: £457.50 for 30 lessons per academic year, invoiced at £152.50 per block of 10 lessons.
- Payment Dates (these vary according to each tutor)
 - 31st July for Teaching Block One (starting September)
 - 1st November for Teaching Block Two (starting December)
 - 1st February for Teaching Block Three (starting March)
- Additional Costs: May include sheet music, examination entry, study materials, and consumables (e.g., reeds, strings).
- **Financial Assistance**: Available for looked-after children and students receiving pupil premium. Contact musictuition@combertonvc.org for confidential enquiries.

Enrolment: please complete the online Application Form

FAQs

Instrument Hire: We have a few instruments available for pupil premium students. However, unfortunately, we are unable to offer instruments for hire but are happy to recommend: The Cambridge Pianoforte & Music Gallery – www.cambridgemusic.net or Wood, Wind & Reed – www.wwr.co.uk.

Instrument Storage: We have a secure cupboard with a number-coded lock. Ensure all instruments/cases are clearly labelled with name and tutor group. Due to lack of space, student must take instruments home at the end of each day.

Extracurricular Days and Whole School Events: Lessons are scheduled to accommodate events like Curriculum Immersion days and the annual sponsored walk.

Tutor Absence: Notice will be posted on the Instrument Tuition Notice Board, and the lesson will be rescheduled.

Pupil Absence: For unexpected pupil absences from the lesson (where insufficient notice is given) we are unable to make up the time.

Conflicts with Lesson Times: With at least one week's notice, lessons can be rescheduled for unavoidable commitments. Short notice may not allow for rescheduling.

Mid-Year Applications: Applications welcome at any time, but you may be placed on a waiting list.

Learning Multiple Instruments: Due to scheduling during the school day, students may only learn one instrument.

Progress Reports: Formal reports are sent out in the Summer Term. Lesson notebooks can be used for communication with tutors at any time.

Withdrawal from Lessons: Provide a minimum of five school weeks' written notice to the tutor. Payment commitments must be honoured for this notice period.

Extracurricular Activities: A wide range of activities is offered, with details available at the beginning of each term.

Terms and Conditions

Parental/Carer Responsibilities:

- Meet all payment commitments.
- Communicate payment concerns in writing to the instrument tutor and copy musictuition@combertonvc.org.
- Communicate timetable concerns to musictuition@combertonvc.org.
- Provide a minimum of five school weeks' written notice to discontinue tuition.
- Give at least one week's notice if a student is unable to attend a lesson / requesting a time change due to a timetable clash
- Inform us of any change in contact details.

Student Responsibilities:

- Must check the timetable regularly (especially on the morning of a lesson), taking note when the lessons are scheduled
- Attend all lessons promptly and be fully prepared
- Notify staff of any queries or concerns.
- Give at least one week's notice of minor timetable changes.
- Practice regularly and thoroughly

School/Tutor Responsibilities:

- Offer 30 lessons per academic year.
- Recommend withdrawal of students are not making progress or enjoying the course.
- Cancel lessons if payment remains outstanding after two email reminders.
- Reschedule lessons with sufficient notice of planned absences and timetable clashes.

PLEASE KEEP THIS BOOKLET FOR FUTURE REFERENCE

For any questions or further information, please contact <u>musictuition@combertonvc.org</u>.