



St Mark's West Essex Catholic School

an Academy Trust School

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Headteacher Miss E Heaphy BSc MA PGCE NPQH

Dear Parent / Carer,

November 2017

St Mark's offers a range of instrumental and vocal tuition to pupils in all year groups, and we are very fortunate to have some excellent instrumental tutors: Mr Peter Foster (wind), Mrs Sarah Kinsella (voice), Mrs Alison Mo (strings and keyboards), Mr Tim Reyland (drum kit) and Mr Phil Ball (guitars and ukulele).

Instrumental lessons are organised as individual 15-minute sessions (**at a cost of £70.00 per term**) or as individual 30-minute lessons (**at a cost of £140 per term**). For those wanting to try out or continue with a wind instrument, there is the option of 15-minute paired lessons (**at a cost of £35.00 per term**). A term consists of ten lessons and the fee includes the provision of instrumental groups, giving pupils the opportunity to involve themselves in ensemble work. Ensemble work has particular benefits to the student musician when working alongside more advanced and experienced instrumentalists. St Mark's offers an exciting array of extra-curricular groups catering for pupils of all ages and instrumental experience, and there are many opportunities throughout the year for musicians to showcase their talent.

Singing lessons are organised as individual half-hour lessons (**at a cost of £140 per term**), paired lessons (**£70.00 per term**) and in a small number of cases, lessons in a group of three pupils (**£35.00 per term**). The cost includes the supply of music required for each pupil. A term consists of ten lessons and includes vocal ensemble work. Some parents request an individual singing lesson for their child, while others prefer to have a shared lesson and often this has particular benefits to them as young singing pupils.

Pupils are also prepared for examinations in both practical musicianship and music theory. It is expected that all pupils having instrumental lessons will attend at least one extra-curricular activity on a weekly basis. Those having singing lessons benefit enormously from attending Music Theatre Ensemble.

Cancellation of lessons: should your child decide not to continue with instrumental lessons, we will need to be advised of this through a letter and given at least **half a term's** notice. This ensures that that timetables and staffing structure can be appropriately dealt with. If notice is not given you may well be charged for lessons your child has not been attending.

In circumstances where parents are in receipt of Income Support and Jobseeker's Allowance and in some cases where Child Tax Credit is being claimed, a voucher worth **£46.50** per pupil can be claimed against the cost of tuition each term for vocal lessons and some instrumental lessons. The voucher application process is via the Essex Music Services website at www.essexmusichub.org.uk/site/parents-carers/tuition-vouchers/.

Should you wish to take up this opportunity, please confirm that you are in agreement with both the length of lesson and the cost and return the attached slip via the drop box in Reception, or using the online form in Parentmail by **Friday 8th December**. Places will be allocated on a 'first-come-first-served' basis. Our preferred method of payment is through Parentmail PMX, although we accept cheques. Please indicate your chosen payment method on the return slip. Cheques should be made payable to St Mark's West Essex Catholic School. Please note that we cannot start your child's lessons without receipt of payment and the attached slip returned. It is important that the payment date given is adhered to as a delay in processing payments has an effect on the provision of lessons for students in the new term.

The Music Department very much hopes that your child will consider continuing with or learning a new instrument. Please do not hesitate to contact me at the school, should you need further information.

Yours sincerely

N Coplestone - Crow

Dr Natasha Coplestone-Crow (Head of Music)



ST MARK'S INSTRUMENTAL & VOCAL LESSON ENROLMENT

Please return VIA THE DROP BOX IN RECEPTION or using the online form via Parentmail by Friday 8th December

Pupil's Name: Form:

SINGING LESSON ENROLMENT

Please tick preferred session

- Half hour solo £140
- Paired £70.00
- Group of three £35.00

INSTRUMENTAL LESSON ENROLMENT AT £70.00 PER TERM (all 15-minute individual)

- Drum Kit
- Wind (please specify) flute oboe clarinet saxophone
- Guitar (please specify) acoustic electric bass
- Piano Violin / Viola ukulele

INSTRUMENTAL LESSON ENROLMENT AT £140.00 PER TERM (30-minute individual)

- Drum Kit Guitar Wind Ukulele

INSTRUMENTAL LESSON ENROLMENT AT £35.00 PER TERM (15-minute shared)

- Wind (please specify) flute oboe clarinet saxophone

PAYMENT METHOD

I have paid via Parentmail PMX

I enclose CHEQUE

Signed: Parent / Carer

Date:

Email:

Mobile: