

Terms and Conditions for Lessons at Musicale

The Lessons: We teach 10 lessons a term. You will be assigned a tutor who will teach your child each week, encourage their playing, advance their skills and, if appropriate, enter them for graded exams. We have a parent portal, Teachworks, for which you will be given log in details to access times and dates of scheduled lessons and ensembles, lesson notes from the tutor and your family profile.

Tutors try to be flexible if they are given enough warning (at least 48 hours) about a student's future lesson absence. However, **if a student misses a lesson with less than 48 hours' notice the lesson is usually forfeited.** If a lesson is cancelled by the tutor or Musicale, the student will be given credit on their account or offered another lesson time that is mutually convenient. We also now have the option of online lessons for those unable to come to Musicale in person.

St George's Students: All of the above applies with the added bonus of lessons on rotation so that the same school lessons are not missed each week. The school are given a weekly timetable that is put on their registration system which allows all the school teachers to see when a student has a music lesson at Musicale. If you have a sports match or academic test just let your music tutor know well in advance and they will arrange a suitable time for your next lesson.

The Payments: Musicale acts as the agent introducing teachers with students and for your security Musicale Ltd collect the lesson fees and will email your invoice before the start of each term which will include details about the payment options. **If you wish to stop lessons you must give half a term's notice or pay half a term's fees in lieu.** For all invoice queries please contact accounts@musicale.co.uk

The [James Marshall Foundation](#) and the [Harpenden Music Foundation](#) provide grants to individual students living in Harpenden and the surrounds where financial commitment for music lessons is a barrier. We have an excellent relationship with these charities and would recommend visiting their websites for more information.

The Instruments: You will need to purchase or hire an instrument before your child begins lessons. We currently hire out violins, violas, cellos, alpha saxophones, alto saxophones, trumpets, cornets, trombones, flutes, clarinets and guitars. The string instruments are swapped for larger sizes as the student grows. We can also order certain instruments to purchase through our shop and occasionally Harpenden Music Foundation can help with larger or more unusual instruments.

The Music: Your tutor will ask you to purchase music books and sheet music which will be available in the **Musicale shop** or can be ordered in. Please call 01582 769712 or email shop@musicale.co.uk

The Practice: Little by little build up the habit. Five minutes daily for beginners, then 10 minutes per grade daily is usually a good indication of a well-practiced student. Listen to one thing at the end of each practice session, offer encouragement and praise. You don't need to

know anything about the music or the instrument but if the student can teach *you* something they will be cementing their own knowledge.

The Extras: Did you know that the higher graded exams (Grades 6-8) earn significant points towards University and College Admissions Service (UCAS)? In order to get these higher grades, students usually need to start at primary school, although a dedicated student can work towards these grades even when starting at secondary school.

Students - What do *you* need to know?

Learning an instrument is really hard and it takes effort and commitment. It's a very simple formula: work hard + practice regularly = a great musician!

As soon as you feel confident with a few notes and some written music we will encourage you to join a wind band or orchestra or choir because this offers another dimension to your musical learning – sight-reading and aural skills (listening and playing with others). It also means that you'll get to perform in concerts and events with other musicians which is always great fun. If you look at every professional musician, on YouTube or at a live concert or listen to a recording of a soloist or an orchestra, they ALL started where you are starting, right at the beginning!