

# Music tuition application

Pupil name
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Instrument(s)
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## Contact details

Parent name
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Email
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Telephone
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## Declaration

Having discussed with my child the commitment associated with music lessons, I would like to register his/her\* interest in learning the instrument(s) indicated above. As such, I have made a payment, using the details overleaf, for the first term (£115 per discipline).

I have read and accept details of the Absence and Refund Policy and understand that my son/daughter\* will be required to attend at least one school ensemble.

Signed  (Parent/Guardian)	Date
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*\*Delete as appropriate*

**Once completed, please return to Mr Walton in the General Office.**



music  
AT RIPLEY ST THOMAS



If you have any questions or concerns about music tuition, or for advice on choosing, buying or hiring an instrument, please contact:

**MR D. GILLTHORPE**  
Director of Music and Performing Arts

RIPLEY ST THOMAS CHURCH OF ENGLAND ACADEMY  
Ashton Road, Lancaster LA1 4RS

[www.ripleystthomas.com](http://www.ripleystthomas.com)

[@Ripley\\_Music](https://twitter.com/Ripley_Music)

# Music tuition

## 2019/20



**BEST SCHOOL  
MUSIC DEPARTMENT  
2017**

We believe that every child should have the opportunity to learn a musical instrument and, as such, pupils at Ripley may opt to receive **individual instrumental or vocal tuition** from our team of **specialist musicians**. Lessons currently cost £115 per discipline, per term, for ten twenty-five minute lessons.

## Why should my child take music lessons?

Aside from the fact that research has shown that playing a musical instrument **stimulates your brain and can increase your memory**, learning an instrument can also help to develop the following transferrable skills:

- **Organisation** and **self-discipline**
- **Team work**
- **Perseverance** and **concentration**
- **Hand-eye coordination**
- **Breath control** and **stamina**
- **Literacy** and **numeracy**
- **Cultural literacy**
- **Confidence**

Above all, learning a musical instrument is **highly enjoyable** and something from which your child will benefit for the rest of their life.

## Will we need to buy an instrument?

We would always advise pupils to get their own instrument, but understand that this can be a difficult decision when starting out. As such, we have a stock of instruments in school which can be borrowed (contact us for details) or we can advise you on rental or hire-purchase schemes which are available locally.

## What next?

Complete the attached application form and return it to Mr Walton in the General Office.

## Absence & refund policy

### Timetable

In September, January and April, pupils will be given a timetable showing their lesson times for the forthcoming term. We endeavour to give each pupil a rotating time slot to ensure that there is minimum regular disruption to other subjects. We guarantee to give an average of **ten lessons each term** to all pupils, adding up to **30 lessons over the course of the year**.

### Absence

If a pupil is going to be **absent** as a result of a school activity, excursion or examination, he/she should notify the instrumental tutor **at least a week in advance**. The tutor will mark the register with an R (refund) and if the lesson can not be made up at another time then these sessions will be refunded.

If a pupil is away from school **on the day of a lesson**, parents should ring school on 01524 64496, and leave a message to **notify the instrumental tutor** of the absence. This absence will be recorded with an E (excused). In these situations we will strive to make up the 30 contracted lessons, but we will not be able to refund any shortfall.

If a pupil misses a lesson **without prior notification**, an X (no explanation) will be marked in the register. These **lessons will not be refunded** and it may not be possible for pupils to receive the full contracted number of tuition sessions.

If the instrumental tutor sees a **pattern of absences** developing then school will endeavour to contact parents so that the matter can be properly addressed. Genuine problems will be dealt with as generously as possible, but **absences due to forgetfulness or lack of organisation will not be considered**.

### Practice

Pupils will be issued with a Practice Diary in which progress will be monitored and targets for the forthcoming week will be set. There is space for feedback each week if you wish to communicate with the instrumental tutor about any matters arising. With regard to practice, it is difficult to generalise on the subject, but if a minimum of **20 minutes per day** is not being maintained then adequate progress is unlikely to be made.

### Stopping lessons

If your child does experience difficulty progressing on his/her instrument and you wish to terminate the tuition, we ask that you give us **at least a half term's notice in writing**.

### Ensembles

Pupils are eligible to receive free instrumental tuition in school via lunchtime and after-school ensemble practices; **it is expected that pupils who have lessons in school will take part in at least one ensemble**. The ensembles will be rehearsing for public performances and a good standard of performance will be expected. Pupils who take part in ensembles make much faster progress with their skills in sight-reading and aural awareness.

## Tuition options

Lessons are available in the following following disciplines† at Ripley during the school day:

**Strings:** Violin, Viola, 'Cello, Double Bass

**Guitar:** Classical Guitar, Electric Guitar, Bass Guitar

**Woodwind:** Flute, Oboe, Clarinet, Bassoon, Saxophone

**Keyboard:** Piano, Organ

**Brass:** Trumpet/Cornet, French/Tenor Horn, Trombone, Baritone/Euphonium, Tuba

**Singing**

**Drum kit**

† *It is not uncommon for pupils to study more than one instrument, although please do bear in mind that the current fee is £115 per discipline, per term, for ten twenty-five minute lessons.*

## Payment

### Current Ripley pupils

Payment can be made through your ScoPay account.

### New pupils (Yr 6)

Direct payment can be made to the Academy bank account using the following details:

Bank: Lloyds Bank  
Sort code: 30-14-60  
Account number: 13235460

Please ensure that you reference the payment with the initial and surname of the child.

If, for any reason, you are unable to make a BACS payment, please contact the finance office at school.