Christ Church Academy

Music Tuition Policy 2026-2027

In addition to weekly class music lessons which form part of the curriculum for all pupils, we offer tuition on the following instruments (subject to the availability of the instrument and the availability of tuition slots): -

Alto Saxophone **	**Double Bass**	**Oboe**	**Violin**
Cello	**Drum Kit/Percussion**	**Tenor Horn**	**Voice (singing)**
Clarinet **	**Euphonium**	**Trombone**	
Guitar - Classical	**Flute** **	**Trumpet/Cornet**	
Guitar - Rock/Pop	**French Horn**	**Viola**	

** May not be suitable for smaller hands.

Who are the Instrumental Teachers?

All tuition is given by fully qualified, professional music staff, the majority being from the Entrust Music Service, Staffordshire.

Are musical instruments provided?

Yes and no! There is a very limited stock of County music instruments available for hire. Hired instruments are used to get pupils started or when pupils cannot provide their own instruments. Wherever possible, instrument ownership is encouraged. There is no charge for the hire of Entrust stock instruments. Guitar pupils will have to provide their own instruments (these are not available to hire).

What are the commitments involved?

1. Pupils will be committed to undertake lessons for the academic year commencing 2nd September 2026 (or part year, if starting later).
2. Pupils will be expected to attend at least one of the Academy's musical ensembles on a regular basis and to attend music centre groups on the instrumental teacher's advice and recommendation. Pupils will then be expected to attend rehearsals on a weekly basis and to perform in school concerts.
3. No pupils will be allowed to change instruments during the academic year due to teachers' timetabling.
4. If a school trip or church service coincides with the day and/or time of an instrumental lesson, then it is the responsibility of parents/carers to have a discussion with their child and choose whether they attend the trip or stay in school to have their instrumental lesson. If a pupil misses a lesson because of a school trip or church service then a replacement or extra lesson will not be given in this instance.

What performance opportunities are there for pupils?

There are regular concerts in which pupils perform both as soloists and in ensembles. Performance is also an integral part of the class music curriculum. There are opportunities for performing in class and school assemblies, in pyramid and community events, and as part of a music centre ensemble when a high enough standard is reached.

Why play an instrument?

There are many benefits from playing a musical instrument. It is widely recognised that the self-discipline required to learn an instrument also shows itself in other subject areas, where pupils tend to develop commitment and confidence generally. It increases a pupil's cultural knowledge and understanding and contributes greatly to his or her social development through participation in bands, orchestras and ensembles in school or music centre. In some cases, county youth organisations can offer wonderful opportunities for foreign travel. Above all, particularly by becoming involved in ensemble playing, it should be fun and give pupils positive feelings such as satisfaction and self-worth.

Notice to terminate lessons

Notice to terminate lessons must be given in writing by a parent/carer to both the Academy Finance Office and the instrumental teacher. One whole term's notice, given in advance, is required to allow the Academy to terminate the relevant agreement with the Entrust Music Service in a timely manner. Fees for any remaining terms will be refunded via ParentPay. If parents/carers do not give a whole term's notice in advance then unfortunately they will be required to pay tuition charges for that term.

How much does it cost and how is payment made?

Music tuition is £252 (per instrument) per academic year. The payment for music lessons will be added to your child's ParentPay account. There are two payment options:

Full Payment	£252	By 2nd September 2026
Termly Payments	£84	2nd September 2026 and 4th January 2027 and 12th April 2027

Incidental payments for music sheets, reeds, strings, examination fees etc may also be required.

Please note - the payment of the tuition is payable in advance of the year/term they are booked for.

Free school meal children at Christ Church Academy are entitled to a 50% discount in music tuition for one instrument per year.

What does the £252 tuition fee pay for?

There is a charge for tuition in the playing of a musical instrument, unless it is required by the National Curriculum. The Entrust Music Service aims to give a minimum of 34 lessons during the period of 2nd September 2026 to 21st July 2027. We aim to deliver the lessons in groups of no more than four pupils wherever possible.

Instrumental lessons are delivered during the school day and although we try and rotate when your child has their lesson, they could miss some core subject lessons such as Maths and English to have an instrumental lesson.

The charge for music tuition will be reviewed each year in line with costs to provide the tuition. The cost will be notified to parents in advance of the school term and is payable in advance of tuition being provided.

If you would like your child to receive instrumental music lessons, please complete the Instrumental Tuition Form and Agreement at the link below, or scan the QR code.

Music Tuition - Booking & Agreement Form: 2026-2027

Places for new pupils starting in September 2026 will be allocated on a first come first served basis.

If your child is already receiving instrumental tuition at their current school, you should still complete and return the application form. Although the Academy will endeavour to accommodate all new pupils, there are occasions where demand for places exceeds the number of places available. Should this occur, a waiting list will be drawn up with applications kept in the order of their arrival date.

The Academy will write to parents/carers should there be any problems securing a place. If your child does not secure a tuition place for September their name will be kept on a waiting list and should a place become available, we will contact you.

Finally, we would ask parents/carers to carefully consider all information given before making a commitment. Once the 'Music Tuition Booking and Agreement Form' is submitted by you, and the Academy has confirmed that your child has secured a place, the tuition for your child will be booked and you and the Academy will be billed accordingly. Last minute changes of mind should be avoided as this has, on occasions, proved to be very costly.