

## HGS Peripatetic Music Lessons

Thank you for signing up your son/daughter for peripatetic music lessons at HGS. I hope they really enjoy them and have a great experience developing their musical ability in whatever discipline they have chosen.

Please note that there are some changes to lessons for the time being due to Covid-19 restrictions and these are highlighted below. These will of course be reviewed regularly and if there are any changes required, we will amend these as soon as it is feasible. However, we have worked incredibly hard to set up the service to run as smoothly as possible and are confident we have the required protocols in place.

I would be grateful if you could read through the information below with your son/daughter.

Thank you

Mr Cole

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### Covid-19 Health & Safety

- All students should follow standard school protocols. These currently include regular hand sanitising and hand washing, the wearing of face covering in corridors, following the one-way system to/from lessons and social distancing whenever possible. Please refer to the general school policies for up to date information.
- The teacher and pupil should always aim to be 2 metres apart. Some staff will be using Perspex screens in between themselves and the student.
- Great care should be taken that all musical instruments are safe to use. Brass and woodwind instruments should **never** be shared with other students/staff. Any instruments that do have multiple users should be carefully cleaned before use (e.g. piano). Our staff will advise you on these at the start of lesson time.
  - *Brass & Woodwind. Please discuss with your teacher or Mr Cole about bell coverings.*
  - *Brass & Woodwind students should use paper towels to release any instrument water. These should be disposed of in the bin after each lesson by the student.*
  - *Piano students should wipe down the piano keys with the wipes provided. Your teacher will direct you.*
  - *Drums. Students should bring their own sticks to each lesson. We can provide a pair of sticks to keep in lesson 1 if required.*
  - *Strings/Guitars. Ideally instruments should not be shared. Speak to your teacher if you wish to use a school instrument and how to clean it before use.*
- Your teacher may send you digital copies of music to print out before your next lesson. This will be kept to a minimum.
- Practise booklets should be completed by the student under the teacher's direction.

## Shared Lessons

- We have decided that for this half-term students who have signed up for weekly shared lessons will receive fortnightly individual lessons instead at an equal cost. This is to increase the space per student in the room and to avoid mixing year group bubbles.
- This will be **reviewed** at half-term with the aim to get more shared lessons back as soon as we can.
- During this half-term we may trial some shared lessons with some staff. Students will be contacted directly about this if and when we do.
- If your child has shared lessons, please check whether their lesson is on week A or B.

## Timetables

- As in previous years, these will be displayed on the school website and updated regularly. Please visit the website here

<https://www.heckgrammar.co.uk/school/extra-curricular/music/>

- We will not be printing these out and displaying them on our notice board this year as it is not accessible in the same way during the day.
- Form teachers have been notified of the website timetables if students wish to ask in the morning.
- In the first few weeks year 7 tutors will have additional prompts for their students each day as per normal.
- **Please can you check the timetable carefully with your son/daughter and ask them to write the time in their planner. Please remind them on the day too.**
- If you are unsure how to read the timetable, please see the additional document attached.

## Payments

- Unfortunately, there has been a large delay in adding many of the fees to ParentPay. The business office are working hard to reduce the backlog.
- As soon as fees have been added to ParentPay we will contact you with a new deadline of payment. Failure to pay will result in students being removed from the timetable, but we will provide plenty of time for payments to be organised.
- Timetables will not be affected in the short term.

## Instrument Storage

- Large instruments can be stored safely in the usual music store room F104. This will be open from 8.30am so please mention to your form tutor if you are taking instruments there before/during form time.
- It may be better for students to keep smaller instruments such as flutes, clarinets, trumpets, etc with them during the day.
- At the end of school please speak to your class teacher to ask if you can collect it on the way out of school. It is essential you follow the one-way system still.

## Instrument Loans

- We only have a small stock of school instruments to hire out and students currently cannot share instruments.
- I would be grateful if students who have been playing for a few years and borrow an HGS instrument could consider purchasing or hiring their own. It would be a better quality one and improve your development.
- A popular option is to hire from a company. Please refer to *instrument rental schemes for students*. These usually follow the same sort of pattern - you pay a rental fee for a number of months which goes towards the cost of the instrument, then either re-rent it and pay some more, or pay off the remaining balance to purchase it outright. It is a good system because if a student does not want to continue (or wants a higher model) you can just give it back.
- There are some examples here from Normans, Dawkes and Band Supplies in Leeds. There are plenty of others too. HGS have no connections with any of these companies.

<https://www.normans.co.uk/blog/2019/04/musical-instrument-rental-scheme/>  
<https://www.bandsupplies.co.uk/pages/rental-information>  
<https://www.dawkes.co.uk/instrument-rental>

## Extra-Curricular Music

- Unfortunately, all our music ensembles are currently suspended due to Covid-19 restrictions.
- We will inform students and parents when we are able to resume these.