

Learning a Musical Instrument

Dear Parents and Carers,

Children in Enfield schools have a wonderful opportunity to start learning to play a musical instrument. Instrumental/vocal lessons can be provided at nearly all schools in the borough.

Five good reasons to play an instrument and playing in an ensemble:

(1) it's fun (2) it helps build teamwork and social skills (3) it is really good for developing the brain (4) it increases concentration and focus (5) it can be a lifelong hobby and stress buster.

Which instrument can my child learn?

Lessons are available on almost any musical instrument including violin, viola, 'cello, double bass, drums, tabla/harmonium, flute, clarinet, oboe, bassoon, saxophone, recorder, guitar, trumpet, cornet, baritone, tenor horn, French horn, euphonium, trombone, tuba, keyboard, piano and voice (singing).

Who organises the lessons?

The lessons are arranged by **Enfield Music Service (EMS)**. EMS will try to organise a tutor to visit the school for any instrument as long as the school has enough children interested in learning to play it.

How much do the lessons cost?

Costs vary for group, paired and individual lessons and range from £67 - £174 (based on 10 lessons for the term) Details are available at www.enfield.gov.uk (search Enfield Music Service)

Can I apply for free lessons?

Students who are in receipt of Free School Meals, who are in Local Authority Care or who are adopted may be able to receive free or subsidised lessons subject to their school being willing to fund the lessons.

Do I have to buy the instrument?

You will need to provide an instrument for your child's lessons and for practice at home. You can hire some instruments from EMS (but not guitars, keyboards, pianos, recorders or drums)

Where and when are the lessons held?

Usually, the lessons take place in school. The EMS tutors arrange their timetable direct with the school and the school then tells pupils what day and time their lesson will be.

You can also apply for lessons at the EMS Saturday Music Centre (*based at Houndsfield School, Houndsfield Road, N9 7RA*) or for lessons at the EMS Tuesday Music Centre (*at Enfield County Lower School, EN2 0SP*) but there may be a waiting list.

How do I apply for lessons?

Go to www.enfield.gov.uk and search for Enfield Music Service for details of the application procedure.

We do hope this information has been helpful and that you will give serious thought to letting your child start to learn to play a musical instrument.

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www.enfield.gov.uk
(search 'Enfield Music Service')

