

Dear Parents & Pupils,

We are inviting you to register for **musical instrument or singing** lessons at Banister Primary School from September 2023. All the information about our lessons programme is laid out below. It would be our pleasure to teach and inspire you. *Please note that if you already have lessons with us, please disregard this letter and refer to the email sent to you recently with your lesson report and continue details.*

**Please note that if you already have lessons with us, you will have received your own letter along with your instrument lesson report - Please respond to that correspondence, you do not have to apply again through this letter.**

## Who is Eligible?

Children in years 1-6 can sign up for lessons.

## What Can I Learn, and Can I Loan a Musical Instrument?

Flute | Clarinet | Alto Saxophone\* | Trumpet | Euphonium | Baritone | Trombone | French Horn\* | Singing | Piano | Guitar | Drums | Violin | Viola\*

*\*Denotes limited availability.*

Instruments are available to hire for an annual cost of £22. Sadly, we are not able to loan pianos/keyboards or drum kits.

## Can I Watch Some Videos of Teachers Demonstrating Some Instruments?

You sure can! This is a perfect opportunity for you to explore a range of instruments before deciding which you might like to learn: [www.discoverthemusichq.com/learn](http://www.discoverthemusichq.com/learn) - you can also see our team perform a well-known song all together.

## What Will I Learn?

In September 2023 we will be using our brand-new tutorial books '*Discover the Music and Play*' for all beginner pupils. All pupils will need to purchase a copy of the book to enable their weekly learning. The tutorial book is tailored to provide pupils with a progressive, enriching and fun musical journey. Tailored into the tutorial book is a set of 'awards' that are achieved once certain goals are reached within the tutorial book. This enables pupils an enhanced experience by preparing them for graded examinations later. We appreciate that graded examinations are costly to parents which is why our tutorial books offer a similar award scheme, which is more accessible at the earlier stage of musical development. The books are designed to offer parents and families a more involved part in the learning of their child, as there are areas for our teachers to make notes and communicate home more regularly.

## When Will Lessons Start and When Are They?

There are 32 lessons across the academic year which are highlighted in a calendar that will be sent to you when you sign up. Our first week of lessons will commence from **Monday 11th September 2023**.

Please note that **lessons at Banister Primary School** take place **during the school day** on selected days.

## What is the Cost of the Lessons?

You will be required to pay for lessons in advance of each full school term. There are three payments in total across the year for the lessons. Payment details will be outlined within our parental agreement which will be sent to you via email once your lesson day and time is confirmed.

There will be 32 lessons across the year (unless you start later than September) and the cost **each term** is as follows:

<b>Group Lessons (up to 3 pupils):</b>	£75 per term – (Total yearly cost £225).
<b>Individual Lessons (1-to-1 lessons):</b>	£99 per term - (Total yearly cost £297).

## Are There Any Additional Costs?

The additional costs are as follows – you will be provided with the links to purchase once your lessons have been confirmed via a signed parental agreement:

### Tutorial Book - £12

This will be given to your child during their first lesson in September.

### Discovery Awards Scheme (optional) - £10 per award:

As your child works their way through their tutorial book, parents can pay a small fee which enables their child to be assessed and be awarded a grading for each goal within the book by one of our qualified teaching team. This could take place as regularly as once a term, or longer, as each individual learner's development is different. We will always notify parents via email when your child is ready to be entered should you choose to do so. It is not compulsory. Pupils receive an award should they pass each assessment.

### Instrument Hire (optional) - £22

This is a non-refundable annual donation towards the usage, minor wear and tear of the instrument should it need serviced by our team. You do not have to loan an instrument from us. Please note that parents are subject to the cost to replace or repair the instrument should it become damaged or need replacing.

## Parental Agreement:

A detailed agreement outlining the terms of the lessons will be sent to you to sign before lessons begin. You should take time to read it carefully before signing. This will reassure you of our commitment to ensure children receive all their lessons, our safeguarding commitment and our terms and methods for payment. The agreement also supports us in protecting the livelihoods of our hard-working teaching team.

## Payment Information:

Each term, you will receive an email reminder from [sophie@showcasemusicschool.com](mailto:sophie@showcasemusicschool.com) requesting payment. You will not receive a reminder if you pay by Direct Debit as your payment schedule will be set up and confirmed automatically by GoCardless who will also take payment from you.

Term	Payment Due by	Cancellation Guidelines
<b>Autumn Term</b> September – Dec 2023	<b>1<sup>st</sup> September 2023</b>	You agree to sign up for the whole year of lessons. If you withdraw throughout the year, you are liable for the full cost of the lessons. Should lessons be unable to take place in school due to further restrictions, lessons will resume temporarily via ZOOM. Please note lessons are non-refundable and are offered in strict terms of our parental agreement.
<b>Spring Term</b> January – March 2024	<b>1<sup>st</sup> January 2024</b>	
<b>Summer Term</b> April – July 2024	<b>1<sup>st</sup> April 2024</b>	

## How Do I Apply?

### STEP 1 – Sign Up:

Please register for lessons by **July 10<sup>th</sup>, 2023**, by clicking on or visiting this link:

[www.discoverthemusichq.com/september](http://www.discoverthemusichq.com/september).

### STEP 2 – Review Your Lesson Confirmation:

Please keep an eye on your **INBOX** and **SPAM folder** for communications from [debbie@showcasemusicschool.com](mailto:debbie@showcasemusicschool.com) and [sophie@showcasemusicschool.com](mailto:sophie@showcasemusicschool.com) who are the only team members who will contact you.

Debbie will reach out to you with a confirmation of your lesson day and time along with a teaching calendar of dates. You will need to respond to this as quickly as possible to secure your lesson slot.

### STEP 3 – Confirm Lessons & Payment:

Once you have confirmed your lesson day and time with Debbie, Sophie will send you a parental agreement to sign. This will be sent back to us electronically and Sophie will set up your preferred payment method in our system and send you a reminder ready for the first payment in September.

### STEP 4 – Begin Lessons:

Your child will begin their lessons during the week beginning 11<sup>th</sup> September 2023. During their first lesson, they will be provided with their tutorial book and instrument (if applicable).

## Who Should I Contact with Any Queries?

Not a problem, simply email [debbie@showcasemusicschool.com](mailto:debbie@showcasemusicschool.com) who will be able to support with all the answers you need.

We are excited to work in partnership with you and your family next year.

Kind Regards

Debbie Willis

**Director, Discover the Music Ltd**

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

Twitter - [@DiscoverMusic](https://twitter.com/DiscoverMusic)

Instagram - [@showcasemusicschool](https://www.instagram.com/showcasemusicschool)

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## JOIN AN ENSEMBLE

**If you learn to sing or play, why not join an ensemble with us?**

### **Young Players Orchestra**

Saturday mornings from 10am – 12pm in Southampton.

### **Youth Jazz Orchestra**

Saturday mornings from 9.00am – 10.00am in Southampton.

### **Fiddlesticks Junior Strings Ensemble**

Saturday mornings from 9.00am – 9.45am in Southampton.

### **No Fret Guitar Ensemble**

Saturday mornings from 10.30am – 11.30am in Southampton.

### **Hear Our Voice Vocal Group**

Monday evenings from 6.00pm – 8.00pm in Southampton.

**Simply visit [www.discoverthemusichq.com](http://www.discoverthemusichq.com) for more information or to sign up for a free taster session.**

## **\*NEW\* MUSIC THEORY CLASSES** **Starting September 2023**

We are proud to be launching a series of music theory classes in September. They will take place:

**Wednesday** - 4.30-5.30pm - Holy Family Primary School - Beginners + | £4 per session

**Thursday** - 4.30-5.30pm - Holy Family Primary School - Grade 5 Specialist Support | £4 per session

**Friday** - 4.30-5.30pm - Bitterne Park Primary School - Beginners + | £4 per session

Learning music theory in dedicated classes alongside your instrument or singing lesson helps children to further develop their musical knowledge, skills and understanding of reading music in a faster and more structured way.

We will guide you through an exam syllabus in a fun and engaging group / class setting that will enable you to rise through the grading structure. Although the exams are encouraged, they are not compulsory. However, if you are looking to take music as a GCSE or A-LEVEL, most education settings would prefer for you to have the Grade 5 qualification. College's generally expect you to have Grade 5 theory before enrolling.

At this stage, we are simply registering interest, and you can do so by clicking the below and completing our form. We will then be in contact nearer the time to confirm that sessions will take place.

**Register Interest: [www.discoverthemusichq.com/theory](http://www.discoverthemusichq.com/theory)**