

## **Instrumental Tuition at Ashmole Primary School**

At Ashmole Primary School, we are proud to offer high-quality instrumental tuition, giving pupils the opportunity to develop musical skills, confidence, and a lifelong love of music.

We offer specialist one to one tuition across a wide range of instruments, including piano, guitar, drums, violin, woodwind and brass. Most instruments are available to pupils from Year 3 onwards, with the exception of Violin and Guitar, which can begin from Year 1.

### **About Our Lessons**

Instrumental lessons are delivered by experienced visiting music teachers. These teachers are not employed directly by Ashmole Primary School and also teach at a range of other schools, bringing with them a wealth of expertise and a broad musical perspective.

Lessons take place during the school day and are rotated each week to ensure pupils do not consistently miss the same class.

### **Performance Opportunities**

Pupils learning an instrument are given regular opportunities to perform in school assemblies. These experiences help build confidence, motivation, and a sense of achievement.

### **Exams and Progression**

Students have the opportunity to take ABRSM graded music exams, which are hosted at Ashmole Academy at the end of each term. This provides a clear progression pathway and allows pupils to work towards nationally recognised qualifications.

For pupils who continue their education at Ashmole Academy, continuity is a key advantage. The same music teachers often teach at both schools, supporting strong musical progress and consistency in learning.

### **Instruments and Practice**

- Pupils are expected to have access to their own instrument for regular practice at home.

- Instruments can be hired through Enfield Music Service (please note that drum kits and pianos are not available for hire).

<https://traded.enfield.gov.uk/musicservice/hirestore>

- All pupils receive a practice notebook, which should be checked and signed weekly to support consistent practice habits.

### Where to Buy Instruments

- **Recorders:** Students should have their own recorder (Aulos or Yamaha recommended), available from Amazon or any good music shop.

- **Flutes:** Visit Gear4Music

<https://www.gear4music.com/orchestral/woodwind/flutes/concert-c>

- **Guitars:** A  $\frac{3}{4}$  size classical guitar is required. Suitable options include the Valencia VC203NA (approx. £75) or Yamaha CS40 (approx. £100), available from Amazon, Argos, or music retailers.

- **Pianos/Keyboards:** Students should have access to a piano or full-sized keyboard at home. Many companies offer 'rent to buy' schemes, which can be a good option for beginners. Some suggestions to buy are:

Casio LK-200S (keys light up & internal teaching assistant)

Casio LK-125 (keys light up)

Yamaha YPT-260

Gear4music SDP-2

Yamaha Clavinova CLP920

Roland HP1300E

Gear4music DP-10X

Yamaha Clavinova CLP-430

Yamaha Clavinova CLP-360

Yamaha P-125

Kawai ES110

Casio AP33

Yamaha Arius YDP-162

- **Violins:** Most Year 2–3 pupils require a  $\frac{1}{4}$  size violin. Recommended brands include Stentor or equivalent. For a higher-quality instrument, Yita Music (model MV5800) is also an option.

<https://www.gear4music.com/orchestral/string-instruments/violin>

## **Fees**

Lessons are offered in blocks of 10 per term and must be paid in advance:

- £256.00 for 10 × 30-minute lessons
- £170.70 for 10 × 20-minute lessons

Please ensure you read the full terms and conditions before enrolling.

## **Financial Support**

For pupils eligible for Pupil Premium, lesson fees may be covered where sufficient funding is available.

## **Administration**

Please note that instrumental lessons are not part of the local council music hub. The programme is independently administered and managed by Ms Beacon (Ashmole Academy).

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## **Why Learn an Instrument?**

Learning a musical instrument offers a wide range of benefits for children:

- **Improved concentration and memory** – Music develops focus and strengthens cognitive skills.
- **Confidence and self-expression** – Performing and progressing builds self-esteem.
- **Discipline and perseverance** – Regular practice teaches commitment and resilience.
- **Creativity** – Music encourages imagination and emotional expression.
- **Academic support** – Studies show links between music education and improved performance in subjects such as maths and literacy.
- **Social skills** – Playing music, especially in groups or performances, fosters teamwork and communication.

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We encourage all pupils to take advantage of this enriching opportunity and discover the joy of making music.