



BEVERLEY HIGH SCHOOL



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Dear Parent/Carer,

July 2023

Y6 CONTINUERS - ERSMS INSTRUMENTAL LESSONS **parental letter & online sign-up**

Beverley High has a long tradition of providing high quality subsidised instrumental tuition in partnership with the **ERSMS (East Riding Schools' Music Service)**. Our ten visiting ERSMS teachers offer **voice, percussion** (drum kit and tuned percussion), **woodwind** (flute, oboe, clarinet, saxophone and bassoon), **guitar; keyboard** (inc. piano), **brass** (cornet, trumpet, French horn, trombone and tuba), **upper stings** (violin & viola) and **lower strings** (cello & double bass). We know that learning an instrument and making music with others develops pupils' **cognitive skills, self-discipline, self-esteem, social skills and happiness**. Pupils' musical development has always been valued and supported by the wider school and we look forward to welcoming the Y6 ERSMS instrumental pupils.

Signing up for CONTINUATION of ERSMS lessons

- If your child **currently** has **ERSMS** instrument/voice lessons with a **visiting ERSMS teacher**, you can sign-up to continue them at Beverley High.
- Please read all of the information in this letter then complete our school's online sign-up/financial agreement **by the end of the day on Monday July 17th** by pasting/typing this link into your browser and answering the questions.
<https://forms.office.com/r/43nXhG5ek2>
- We understand that your child might not yet be 100% sure about continuing but we strongly encourage them to do so. If they decide to stop lessons by the end of September there will be no charge.
- If you prefer that your child stops their **ERSMS** instrumental lessons at the end of Y6, it is **essential that you inform the ERSMS** (schools.music@eastriding.gov.uk) **by the end of the day on Monday July 17th**. The ERSMS requires accurate information for the ten instrumental teachers who visit our school so they can plan the September groupings and timetables by the end of this term.

Starting lessons with an ERSMS instrumental teacher

There will be a different letter/form for starting with an ERSMS teacher.

- By the end of September, the 'Y6 ERSMS continuers' will be established in their lessons and our instrumental teachers will then know how many spare places are available for new starters.
- Lessons on particular instruments will depend upon their availability and there may be a waiting list for some.
- There are usually more spare slots for brass, cello, double bass and percussion.



Cost (Parental Contribution) and How/When to Pay

The governing body continues to support the school's significant subsidy of ERSMS tuition (approximately 40%) but the school cannot provide it without the parental contribution.

- *If your child qualifies for PUPIL PREMIUM (Ever 6 entitlement), there is no contribution.*
- The 2023-24 parental contribution towards the cost of lessons is £228 and it is possible to spread payment across three instalments of **£76**. This is for the **PROVISION OF 30 LESSON OPPORTUNITIES ACROSS THE ACADEMIC YEAR**. Because of the school's subsidy, the cost to parents is in the middle range compared with other ER secondary schools and represents excellent value and convenience compared to private tuition.
- At the end of the academic year, if the ERSMS has provided fewer than 30 lesson opportunities, they will reimburse the school and we will then reimburse parents.
- **From October 1st the notice period for stopping payment for lessons is one term, by email to the school office: office@beverleyhigh.net**
- By October half term all 'ERSMS continuers' and 'new starters' should be established in lessons. We will then update **Parent Pay accounts**.

Lessons

In the majority of cases lessons are **25 minutes long** and are for individuals, pairs or small groups depending on age, grade/standard and type of instrument. This is the fairest system as it ensures the needs of all learners are met effectively at a sustainable cost. Each instrument is allocated a specific day of the week and lessons take place on a rota to minimise impact on the curriculum.

Pupils are required to:

- check their school email regularly for lesson times - *at least 24 hours before their first and subsequent lessons, the instrumental teacher will email your child with the date, time and place they need to go*
- store their instrument in the room of the instrumental teaching room/white music room store upon arrival in the morning
- take their instrument home at the end of the same day
- politely inform their class teacher that they need to leave their class
- set a silent 'vibrate' alarm to remind themselves of their instrumental lesson
- attend their instrumental lesson at the allocated time
- catch up on any missed class work
- find out (from a classmate or their teacher) and complete any homework that was set
- practise at home for a minimum of 5 x 20 minutes per week

Instrument Security

An instrument has never been stolen at Beverley High; nonetheless, all instruments, including those on hire from the ERSMS, should be covered by home insurance policies before being brought into school. Many cases look the same so your child's case should be marked with their name and form. Stickers can make cases look distinctive and help prevent an instrument being accidentally taken home by another pupil.

Extra-Curricular Music & Performances

All of our ERSMS instrumental pupils are strongly encouraged to develop their musicianship by making music with others during lunchtime rehearsals and in school concerts.

Ensembles include: Choir; Chamber Choir; Junior Wind Band; Brass Ensemble; Concert Band; Advanced Wind Ensemble; Junior String Orchestra; Senior String Orchestra; Guitar Group; Rock Band; Percussion Ensemble and Keyboard Band. Concerts include the Carol Service in Beverley Minster, Junior & Senior Recital Evenings in the spring and Summer Concerts for Percussion & Piano, Singing & Strings and Wind & Brass.

Yours faithfully



Ms S Japp
Headteacher

