



# BEVERLEY HIGH SCHOOL



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Dear Parent/Carer,

## **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 **East Riding Schools' Music Service (ERSMS)**. Our nine visiting ERSMS teachers offer: voice; percussion (drum kit and tuned percussion); woodwind (flute, oboe, clarinet, saxophone and bassoon); guitar; keyboard and piano; brass (cornet, trumpet, French horn, trombone and tuba); upper stings (violin and viola) and lower strings (cello and double bass). We believe learning an instrument and making music with others helps children with 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 continuing ERSMS instrument/voice pupils in September.*

### **Signing up for CONTINUATION of ERSMS Instrumental lessons.**

- If your child currently has ERSMS instrument/voice lessons with a visiting ERSMS teacher, you can sign-up to continue these lessons at Beverley High.
- Please read all of the information on the second page of this letter then complete our school's online sign-up/financial agreement (by the end of the day on Monday July 19<sup>th</sup>) by pasting/typing this link into your browser and answering the questions. <https://forms.office.com/r/43nXhG5ek2>
- We understand that you and/or your child might not feel 100% sure about continuing instrumental lessons. We encourage them to continue; should they wish to stop by the end of September there will be no charge.
- **If your child wishes to stop their ERSMS instrumental lessons at the end of Y6 you need to inform the ERSMS ([schools.music@eastriding.gov.uk](mailto:schools.music@eastriding.gov.uk)) by the end of Monday July 19<sup>th</sup> as they require accurate information for the nine instrumental teachers who visit our school, all of whom need to plan groupings and timetables for September.**

### **Starting lessons with an ERSMS instrumental teacher**

**There will be a different letter and form for Starting an instrument.**

- By the end of September, the 'continuers' will be established in their lessons. Instrumental teachers will then know how many spare places are available for new starters. There is a different letter and form for Starting an instrument.
- 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 2021-22 parental contribution towards the cost of lessons is **£207**. This is for the provision of **30 LESSON OPPORTUNITIES ACROSS THE ACADEMIC YEAR**. The amount represents the middle range compared with other secondary schools and is excellent value and convenience compared to private tuition. It will be possible to spread payment across three instalments of £69.
- 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 1<sup>st</sup> the notice period for stopping payment for lessons is one term, by email to the school office: [office@beverleyhigh.net](mailto:office@beverleyhigh.net)**
- By October half term all 'continuers' and 'new starters' should be established in lessons. We will then update **Parent Pay accounts**.

## Lessons

In the overwhelming majority of cases lessons are **25 minutes long** and are taught on an individual, pair or small group basis, depending on age, grade/standard, type of instrument and any 'bubble' restrictions that may be in place. This is the fairest system as it ensures the needs of all learners can be met effectively at a cost that is sustainable. Each instrument is allocated a particular 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 hall upon arrival in the morning, maintaining social distance from pupils in other bubbles
- take their instrument home at the end of the same day
- inform their class teacher that they need to leave their class
- setting 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 completes 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

**We await DfE guidance about covid-safety in schools for the new academic year.** We will then be able to plan for potential bubbles and the length of the lunch break etc.

Ensemble in previous years have included: 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. In 2021-22 it might be possible to consider mixed ensembles for some year groups.

Concerts in previous years have included: Carol Service; Junior & Senior Recital Evenings; Gig Night, Battle of the Bands, City Hall Showcase and Summer Concert. In 2021-22 we might be able to consider the possibility of small-scale or online performances of solo and small group items.

Yours faithfully



**Ms S Japp**  
**Headteacher**

