



Saturday Music Classes

Music is Fun!

Our long established popular Saturday Music Classes for children aged 4 - 12 take place during term time at St Mary's Music School. In a safe, caring and relaxed social environment, some 150 children discover the wonders of music, helped by experienced staff, all highly qualified in working with children through the arts. Senior pupils of the school act as class assistants. Dalcroze and Kodály classes begin for children in their final pre-school year, encouraging musicianship and listening skills, nurturing their enjoyment of music and building their confidence. We offer Choirs for children in P1 to P7 on Friday afternoons and Saturdays. By the age of 7, children can start beginner instrumental lessons. Taster sessions are available to allow children to meet the teacher and try an instrument. Classes are child-friendly, fun and engaging. There is a Café for parents to refresh themselves while waiting.

Musicianship through Dalcroze Eurhythmics (Pre-school – Final year, Primary 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5)

Learning fundamental musical skills through movement is the basis of the Dalcroze Method. These classes involve children in feeling music through movement. These classes allow children to develop an embodied understanding of music and are excellent pre and co-instrumental training. Pupils develop the following skills: physical awareness and control, including posture; co-ordination; listening skills; understanding of rhythm and metre; awareness of pitch and the ability to be expressive. Longer-term, the musical skills learned through Dalcroze stay with the children forever, informing their listening and increasing their enjoyment of all types of music. We recommend (though it is not imperative) that these classes are taken with the appropriate Kodály class.

Kodály (Pre-school – Final year, Primary 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5)

The Kodály Method uses rhythmic movement, hand signs, and vocal sounds to develop musical understanding and development in a manner that is appropriate to the age and stage of the child. Studies have shown that the Kodály Method improves intonation, rhythm skills, music literacy, and the ability to sing in increasingly complex parts. It has also been shown to improve perceptual functioning, concept formation, motor skills, and performance in areas such as literacy and numeracy. It is recommended (although not imperative) that these classes are taken with the appropriate Dalcroze class.

Choirs (P1 to P7, Friday afternoons and Saturday mornings)

P1/2 in this class the young singers will be encouraged to pitch match in a range suitable for their age and stage.

P3/4/5 Children will extend their range and be encouraged to make a lovely sound. Skills in listening, concentrating and memory will be practised. Early aural skills will be encouraged.

P6/7 Children will begin to sing in parts and practice reading notation. Memory work and tone production will continue.

PLEASE NOTE: CHILDREN MUST RE-APPLY EVERY ACADEMIC YEAR

If you would like more information please contact St Mary's Music School on 0131 538 7766
Email smc@st-marys-music-school.co.uk

Beginner Group Instrumental Lessons

These classes are for children in P3 upwards. It is an advantage for children starting an instrument to have attended Kodály classes, and more developed co-ordination and physical size are important. However, recorders and clarineos can be suitable for younger children. Group instrumental lessons are offered for beginners for up to three years of tuition.

In order to make progress and enjoy an instrument, it is strongly recommended that instrumental pupils practise for 10 - 15 minutes five times a week.

Theory

Theory forms the basis for reading music and is taught in small classes. 'Beginners' introduces Grade 1, 'Intermediate' encompasses Grades 2 and 3, and 'Advanced' deals with Grades 4 and 5. Pupils should provide their own books (ABRSM publishing, "Music Theory in Practice" by Eric Taylor, appropriate grade, and "Theory is Fun" by Maureen Cox, appropriate grade).

Special Offer

We strongly recommend that all children learning an instrument should attend Choir and Theory classes to support the work going on in the instrumental class. In order to encourage pupils to start a complete musical training, we offer a reduction of 10% in fees to pupils learning an instrument who also attend Choir and Theory classes.

Term Dates 2019 - 20

Autumn Term	13/14 September – 13/14 December	(12 weeks)	(half term 11/12 & 18/19 October)
Spring Term	10/11 January – 20/21 March	(9 weeks)	(half term 7/8 & 14/15 February)
Summer Term	17/18 April – 19/20 June	(9 weeks)	(half term Tbc.)

SMC Notices

Urgent messages will be displayed on the white board near the school office. Our SMC Administrator will be on duty in the school office from 8.30am to 1.30pm. Eleanor Parker, Head of SMC, is generally available for consultation.

Saturday Music Classes Café

The Café will be open in the Dining Hall from 9am to 12.30pm on Saturdays. Parents are requested to wait for their children in the Dining Hall rather than elsewhere in the school. There is no requirement to make a purchase, but there are pastries, baking, sandwiches, tea, coffee and juice available to buy if you wish.

SMC Fees 2019 - 20	Duration (minutes)
Dalcroze/Kodály Pre-school Theory (all levels)	30
Dalcroze/Kodály P1/P2/P3/P4/P5 Singing/Choir (all levels)	45
Instrumental Group Lessons (except recorder)	45
Recorder Group Lessons/Ensemble	45
Instrument Hire (violin and cello)	-

SMC Fees 2019-20

Fees are currently being revised and will be publicised shortly. Registration is for a full academic year and payment is due termly in advance.

Fee Assistance

Reduced fees are available according to need. If you would like to apply for fee assistance, please contact smc@st-marys-music-school.co.uk. Please note that this is means-tested and you will be asked to provide evidence of family income to the School Bursar.

Saturday Music Classes Rules & Safety Information

We ask for your co-operation in observing the following rules which help to make St Mary's Music School a safe and pleasant environment for all our children.

PLEASE

- do not bring cars into any part of the school grounds, even for a moment
- use the door by the Chapel as your entrance to the building
- use the Dining Hall as your waiting area
- keep any children who are not involved in a class with you
- do not leave any obstruction eg. prams or musical instruments, in corridors or stairways
- supervise your children if they are playing in the grounds
- observe signs and do **not** go upstairs
- consume food and drink only in the Dining Hall, not in the corridors or classrooms
- respect the privacy of St Mary's Music School pupils, many of whom are boarders at Coates Hall

Please note that by returning your payment, you are agreeing to observe these rules.

For the protection of pupils and staff, a CCTV system is in use in the school building and grounds.

Procedures

Classes finish promptly – please arrive in good time to collect your child at the end of their class. Please wait outside the classroom until you are invited to go in by the teacher.

If you are delayed, your child will wait in the class for 5 minutes. After this time, your child will be escorted to the school office from where you can collect them.

If your child wishes to use the toilet during class, a class helper will accompany them.

If any problems arise during the class, the teacher will attend to your child while the class helper assists with other pupils.

Fire Safety

In the event of the Fire Alarm sounding, teachers will guide their classes safely and quickly to their assembly point. Parents who are in the school should leave the building by the nearest exit and proceed to the North East Lawn with any children who are not in class. Please stand away from the doors in order to allow others to leave the building. Please assemble on the North East lawn beside the Principal's House. See map on right.

DO NOT attempt to collect your child from their class/group as this will considerably delay the clearing of the school.

DO NOT remove your child from their class/group – staff will inform you when you may collect them from their class/group.

