



# *Saturday Music Classes are 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 can act as class assistants. 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 Preschool to P7. By the age of 7 (P3), children can start beginner instrumental lessons. Taster sessions for all classes are available, and if you decide not continue there will be no charge. Classes are child-friendly, fun and engaging. There is a Café for parents to buy refreshments while waiting.

## **Kodály (Final year of Pre-School, Primary 1 to Primary 7)**

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.

## **Singing & Choirs (Final Year of Pre-school, Primary 1 to Primary 7)**

P1/P2 In this class the young singers will be encouraged to pitch match in a range suitable for their age and stage. Kodály hand signs will be used to practise early musicianship. Rhythm and listening skills will be developed.

P3 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. Kodály hand signs continue to help musicianship.

P4/P5 Children will be introduced to part singing. Kodály signing will be used. There will be opportunities to sing individually if wished. Early notation, posture, breathing and sound production will be practised.

P6/P7 Pupils will sing regularly in 2 or 3 parts. Music notation will be used and recognised choral repertoire will be covered. Aural skills will be practised.

## **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 2022-2023**

Autumn Term	17 September – 17 December (12 weeks)	(half-term 15 & 22 October)
Spring Term	14 January – 25 March (9 weeks)	(half-term 11 & 18 February)
Summer Term	22 April – 24 June (9 weeks)	(half-term TBC)

## **SMC Notices**

Urgent messages will be displayed on the white board/screen near the school office. Our SMC Administrator will be on duty in the school office from 8.00am to 1pm. Eleanor Parker, Saturday Music Classes Manager, 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, bacon rolls, sandwiches, tea, coffee and juice available to buy if you wish.

## SMC Fees 2022-23

	<b>Duration (minutes)</b>	<b>Term 1 £</b>	<b>Term 2 £</b>	<b>Term 3 £</b>
Kodály and Singing Pre-school only Theory (all levels)	30	86.40	64.80	64.80
Kodály Primary years Singing/Choir Primary years	45	129.60	97.20	97.20
Instrumental Group Lessons (own or hired instrument required)	45	216.00	162.00	162.00
Instrument Hire (cello, clarsach and violin)	-	47.50	47.50	47.50
<b>Individual Lessons</b> <i>Individual lessons can be offered after 3 years of group tuition, subject to approval.</i>	<b>Duration (minutes)</b>	<b>Term 1 £</b>	<b>Term 2 £</b>	<b>Term 3 £</b>
One hour	60	756.00	567.00	567.00
45 minutes	45	567.00	425.25	425.25
30 minutes	30	378.00	283.50	283.50

**Fees are payable in advance of the first class and we require 4 weeks notice of any withdrawal.**

### **Fee Assistance**

Reduced fees are available according to need for families who may struggle to afford SMC fees. If you would like to find out more about fee assistance, please contact [smc@st-marys-music-school.co.uk](mailto:smc@st-marys-music-school.co.uk). Please note that fee assistance is means-tested and you will be asked to provide evidence of family income to the School Bursar.

**PLEASE NOTE: CHILDREN MUST RE-APPLY EVERY ACADEMIC YEAR**

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## 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 e.g. prams or musical instruments, in corridors or stairways
- supervise your children if they are playing in the grounds
- observe signs
- 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

### 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. Pupils may be looked after in the office while you are telephoned, if serious.

### 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.

### Car Parking

Please note that young children may be near the school entrances and **parents are not permitted to use the school car park on Saturdays**. Parking is strictly for **STAFF ONLY**.

