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The West Bridgford School

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Welcome to the West Bridgford School Music Department

Dear Parent/Carer,

I hope your child is looking forward to coming to the West Bridgford School in September.

The Music Department at the West Bridgford School is a thriving hub of activity and learning (and quite a lot of noise!). This letter is to make you aware of the lessons that are available in school that your child may wish to take up. Our team of visiting music teachers also provide other opportunities such as ensemble rehearsals, jazz improvisation classes, and jazz combo groups. More information about these groups will be provided in September.

If you wish for your child to have musical instrument lessons, please email me using the details at the bottom of this letter and I will be able to send an application form and answer any questions that you may have.

Furthermore, we recently started offering individual drama and acting lessons, where students work with a specialist teacher to prepare for LAMDA examinations and develop their skills in drama, performance and public speaking. If you are interested in these lessons, please email me and I will send you a separate application form.

Some Questions to consider -

QUESTION – DOES YOUR CHILD ALREADY PLAY AN INSTRUMENT?

If yes, please, please, carry it on; do not think 'Ah that's just part of my primary school experience.' I promise you will not regret it! If you do not already play an instrument, Year 7 is the perfect time to start, and there are lots of music groups to get involved in.

QUESTION – HOW ARE THE LESSONS PAID FOR?

The instrumental teacher will invoice the Parent/Carer before the lessons are due to start – the contract that is signed is between the Parent/Carer and the particular Instrumental teacher, not the school, but the Music Department are very involved in the implementation of the lessons.

QUESTION – HOW WILL I KNOW WHEN MY LESSON IS?

The teacher will email the timetable to the Parent/Carer usually the week before, so that any tests/assessments can be avoided. There is also a written timetable posted up outside the Music Department for the student to look at and check their time.

QUESTION – WILL I GET INTO TROUBLE FOR COMING OUT OF MY LESSON FOR MY MUSIC LESSON?

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Of course not. Our teachers are very supportive of music lessons, and catching up on the work that has been missed will develop your organisation and self-confidence.

QUESTION – IF I ALREADY PLAY AN INSTRUMENT, CAN I JOIN ONE OF THE MUSIC ENSEMBLES?

Yes of course! In addition, you can join an ensemble even if you decide to have your lesson outside school. Many of our students have lessons outside of school, and still take part in our music groups.

QUESTION – WILL THE MUSIC LESSONS BE TAKING PLACE IN SCHOOL IN SEPTEMBER?

Yes. Our musical instrument lessons have been taking place online since March, but will be back in school from September. Additional steps will be taken to protect both staff and students, including cleaning in between lessons, and wind/brass/voice lessons taking place in larger rooms such as the Theatre.

Lessons are available on the following instruments

STRINGS – Violin, Viola, ‘Cello, Acoustic Guitar, Electric Guitar, Bass Guitar, Ukulele

PERCUSSION – Drum-kit

WOODWIND – Flute, Oboe, Clarinet, Saxophone

BRASS – Cornet, Trumpet, French Horn, E flat Horn, Tenor Horn, Trombone, Tuba

OTHER – Piano, Keyboard, Theory, Harmonica, Voice, Jazz Improvisation

Yours Sincerely,

Mr. L Donnelly

Head of Performing Arts

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