



2025-26

Dear Parents and Guardians,

### **Instrumental and Vocal Tuition at Trent College**

Music is embedded into the life of Trent College, and to that end, we offer a wide range of opportunities for musicians of all styles and abilities. If you would like to arrange instrumental or vocal lessons for your child, please complete the online registration form as soon as possible.

<https://forms.office.com/e/VbfcdTLvXb>

The Music Department has live music at its heart. Whether beginning their musical journey or continuing down a well-trodden path, Trent pupils take part in school-based and external ensembles, large or small, which perform to a high standard whilst maintaining a key sense of fun. There are orchestras, choirs, bands and much more to enjoy, and plenty of scope to further musical horizons. Performance opportunities are regular, and for all pupils, whatever standard.

#### **Which instruments are offered?**

Strings: violin, viola, cello, double bass, harp,  
classical guitar, electric or acoustic guitar, bass guitar  
Woodwind: flute, oboe, clarinet, bassoon, saxophone  
Brass: French horn, trumpet, cornet, trombone, tuba, euphonium  
Other: singing, piano, jazz piano, percussion, church organ (grade 4 piano required)

Music Technology: Information available on request

#### **How do I choose?**

Our music teachers are happy to advise anyone who would like to start learning an instrument for the first time. Children normally continue instruments they are already learning.

We are keen to recruit pupils across all instrumental disciplines. There is a waiting list for some instruments, so you might wish to consider a second option with which to start your journey; the Director of Music is happy to provide guidance, and some minority instruments may be eligible for financial assistance in the first instance.

#### **Staying motivated**

Performing regularly and playing in ensembles are the best ways for students to make progress and stay motivated. The Music Department puts on regular concerts that provide performance opportunities for all, and these are a necessary part of enjoying an instrument: there is no substitute for an audience's appreciation of your playing! The importance of regular, thorough and targeted practice is also paramount. Many students find examinations an important tool in making progress or goal setting, and Trent provides opportunities for students to take ABRSM, TLC, LCM and Rockschoool examinations through the year (chargeable as per current rates).

#### **How much do music lessons cost?**

Standard tuition consists of 30-minute lessons at £35.30 per lesson (or £353.00 per term of 10 lessons) totalling 900 minutes per year, arranged over 30 weeks. Extra top-up lessons can be added towards the end of the year if require.

Advanced tuition consists of 60-minute lessons at £70.00 per lesson (these lessons may be delivered as 60, 50 or 45-minute lessons) totalling 1500 minutes per year, arranged over 30 weeks. Extra top-up lessons can be added towards the end of the year if required.

E: [nick.parrans-smith@trentcollege.net](mailto:nick.parrans-smith@trentcollege.net) T: 0115 983 6950 (Music) or 0115 849 4949 (Reception)

Trent College, Long Eaton, Nottingham NG10 4AD [www.trentschools.net](http://www.trentschools.net) Head: Mr Bill Penty BA  
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The fee for tuition does not include sheet music, instrument hire or replacement consumables such as valve oil, strings, rosin, reeds, drumsticks, guitar leads.

### **When does music tuition happen?**

Lessons take place throughout the day, across other lessons or activities, on a rotation basis to minimise disruption to learning. Students in Years 11 – 13 have fixed lesson times to avoid academic lessons in examination subjects; this is not possible for other year groups. Students are expected to liaise with their academic teachers to ask permission to miss their lesson **at least 24 hours** in advance of the music lesson. Lesson timetables are published well in advance, so there should be no excuse for unavoidable clashes with good planning and organisation.

### **Obtaining instruments and insuring them**

We have some of our own instruments available for hire (see attached form). Many music shops offer a hire-purchase scheme where hire payments contribute to the purchase cost if you later decide to buy.

Instruments should be insured: the Music School has plenty of storage, but we cannot accept any responsibility for loss or damage occurring at Trent. Similarly, any accessories such as guitar leads and drumsticks should be stored securely – they are left at the owner's risk.

### **Missed lessons**

If students miss music lessons without good reason and notice (**at least 24 hours**), we will email them to let them know. For all pupils, including those in receipt of a Scholarship or Exhibition, the lesson will be charged at the full price, since the teacher's time cannot be rescheduled at short notice.

If a student misses more than three lesson in a term, an email is sent to parents explaining this, and the student's tutor will be informed. If a student misses multiple lessons in one term, they will be asked to discuss their attendance with the Director of Music. We reserve the right to give a full term's notice that the tuition will cease (although this can be reversed if things dramatically improve).

If a teacher misses a lesson for any reason, the lesson will be credited or rearranged.

### **Stopping lessons**

A full term's notice is required in writing to the Director of Music. The deadline for that term's notice is always 6.00pm on the Friday of the first week of the term.

Yours faithfully



Mr Nick Parrans-Smith  
Director of Music

