



Diocese of Birmingham

## ST LAURENCE CHURCH JUNIOR SCHOOL

Bunbury Road, Northfield, Birmingham B31 2DJ

Telephone: 0121 464 6499

Website: [www.stlrcnj.bham.sch.uk](http://www.stlrcnj.bham.sch.uk)

Email: [enquiry@stlrcnj.bham.sch.uk](mailto:enquiry@stlrcnj.bham.sch.uk)

Headteacher: Mr Andrew Murphy

### Music Tuition Opportunities at St Laurence Church Junior School



Instrumental lessons are open to children who show interest and aptitude. They are not part of the music curriculum and extra-curricular activities that the school staff provide. They are provided by specialist visiting teachers. We have to pay for their services so we have to charge for lessons to offset our costs.

#### ❖ Why do we offer Music Tuition?

All children have talents. Playing an instrument might be one of them. It can give enormous pleasure, become a lifetime pastime and, for the gifted, may even become a career.

#### ❖ What tuition do we offer?

1. Clarinet, flute, saxophone (Years 4-6)
2. Recorder (Years 3-6)
3. Guitar (Years 4-6)
4. Keyboard (Years 4-6)
5. Rocksteady rock band (Years 3-6)

#### ❖ Can all children learn to play an instrument?

Year 3 children will only be offered recorder lessons from the Music Service. This is to give the children a taste of having to practise regularly, turn up for lessons and continue for a whole year without having the urge to drop out. With recorders, we ask children to buy their own. They can be bought from school or one of the music shops in town – the recorder teacher will advise which is the correct type. If recorder is over-subscribed, children may have to join a waiting list until spaces become available. There also has to be a degree of selection, and if children do not show commitment to their lessons, their space may be given to another child. Children may also need to purchase a tutor book.

The school also offers 'Rocksteady' lessons, where children can join a rock band, choosing to play the guitar, bass guitar, drums, keyboard or to sing. These sessions are open to all students (Years 3-6) and are booked directly online with the provider and are on a first come, first served basis. There is no requirement to practise at home, and children do not progress through their grades as with other instrumental provision. Fees for this are currently £42.79 per month and sign up for this is directly through the provider's website (click here): [Home - Rocksteady Music School](#)

#### ❖ How are the children selected?

If you would like your child to have instrumental lessons from the Music Service, please click on the link and complete the online form (click [here](#)) **no later than Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2025**. This will enable me to book the Music Service for the right amount of time. Your child will then begin lessons in September.

**Even if your child is already having Music Service instrumental lessons, please complete the form again to indicate their wish to continue with these in September.** Fees are paid at the beginning of each half term and the notice period to stop lessons is a half term, i.e. if your child wishes to stop their lessons at Easter, you would need to inform the school of this before the February Half Term break.



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### ❖ **How much will the lessons cost?**

A lesson, which usually lasts 20 minutes, costs £7.50. This is based on the Music Service's current rates; if these change, parents will be notified in writing. Because we can put children into small groups for tuition, this cost is a fraction of private lessons. For students who are Pupil Premium, the cost is reduced by half. The school will discuss finance if it is a problem.

### ❖ **What if the instrument is damaged or lost?**

Routine maintenance is provided by the Music Service staff free of charge, but parents are responsible for damage or loss. Please check that your household insurance covers the instrument.

We hope your children will want to take advantage of the opportunity to learn to play an instrument. It is a big commitment for both you and your child. Practice at home is essential for progress. There will be times when the children struggle and want to give up. They will need your support and encouragement, but the opportunities and pleasure to be gained from making music are enormous. If you have any queries at any time please contact me either in person or by calling the school office and leaving a message.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs S Camwell  
Music Co-ordinator