

INSTRUMENTAL
OPPORTUNITIES
AT ST MARY'S
FROM SEPTEMBER 2025



MUSIC AT ST MARY'S

Music has long played a central role in school life at St Mary's. Music provision includes specialist classroom teaching, worship singing, one-to-one and group instrumental lessons. In addition, we offer a wide range of music clubs such as String Orchestra, Orchestra for All, and Choir.



Below you can find the instrumental tuition opportunities available at St Mary's from September 2025.

INSTRUMENTAL TUITION

At set times during the week, music instrumental tutors visit the school to give lessons in their specialist instrument and children are taken out of class for the duration of their lesson. Mindful of not wanting the children to miss the same class lesson each week, the tutors vary the order they teach their pupils and sometimes the lessons take place during break or lunchtime. If children want to learn more than two instruments, they should try and arrange lessons out of school hours so they don't miss too much curriculum time.

The music teachers invoice you for lessons and fees need to be paid at the beginning of each term. Details for hiring or buying instruments can be arranged with the individual tutors.

Learning to play an instrument is a commitment and children should try their chosen instrument for at least one year to get any benefit. Parents should also supervise practise so it becomes part of a daily routine. Progress is linked to time practised. The more minutes your child practises, the quicker they learn and the more they enjoy it. Your child's instrumental lessons are a private arrangement between you and their teacher. If you have any queries you are very welcome to contact them.

PIANO

Our tutor is Mrs Charlotte Gibbs who offers individual lessons. She charges £12.00 for 20 minute individual lessons. If your child wants to learn to play the piano, they need to have a piano or large keyboard at home to practise on. Please contact primomusicuk@gmail.com if you would like your child to start learning the piano.



VIOLIN, UKELELE & GUITAR

Our tutor is Mrs Julia Hurley who charges £40.50 per hour and this can be split into 20 minutes or 30 minutes. If pupils opt for a shared lesson, they can share 20 minutes between two or 30 minutes between three. However, group lessons are only possible if we have the right numbers.

Costs are as follows:

£13.50 per individual 20-minute lesson

£6.75 per shared lesson (20 minutes between 2 or 30 minutes between 3)

There are some violins and guitars available to borrow from school in very small sizes and children can begin lessons from reception.

Please contact juliahurley@outlook.com if you would like your child to learn the violin, ukulele or guitar.

CELLO

Our tutor is Imogen Hovil who offers individual lessons at £17 for a weekly 30 minute lesson. She teaches 10 lessons each term. Cellos are available in very small sizes and Mrs Hovil teaches children from six years of age.

Please contact ihovil@hotmail.fr or 07483242974 if you would like your child to start learning the 'cello.

FLUTE

Our tutor is Mrs Charlotte Gibbs who offers individual or small group lessons. She charges £12.00 for 20 minute individual lessons. 30 minute small group lessons of 2/3 pupils are £9.00, but will be dependent on numbers. Children need to be big enough to hold a flute so the best age to start is usually Year 3 or above. Please contact primomusicuk@gmail.com if you would like your child to start learning the flute.

DRUM KIT and BRASS LESSONS

Our tutor is Mr Jonathan Jevons who offers individual lessons at £7.50 for a weekly 15-minute lesson or £15.00 for a weekly 30 minute lesson for more advanced students. He teaches 10 lessons each term. Please contact jonathanjevons@icloud.com if you would like your child to start learning the drums or brass instruments.

HIRING AN INSTRUMENT

It is generally a good idea to hire an instrument initially, rather than buying one straight away. You can hire most instruments from Devon Music Education Hub at a subsidised rate. [Hiring an instrument - Devon Music Education Hub](#)

Music shops such as John Packer Ltd, www.johnpacker.co.uk 01823 282386 also offer a reasonable hire to purchase scheme for woodwind instruments.

FUNDING FOR LESSONS

If your child would like to learn an instrument but you feel you can't afford to pay for lessons, please let me know because we can put you in touch with different trusts that may be prepared to help towards the cost of music lessons for your child. If your child is eligible for pupil premium, it may be possible for music lessons to be subsidised if this is supportive of their overall learning and need. This is considered on a case by case basis.

Please bear in mind that if you are successful in receiving help for music tuition, you do have to be committed to helping your child play their instrument regularly to get the most out of their lessons.

If you are interested in any of the above options, please contact the teacher directly by email or phone to arrange a taster lesson before you fully commit to lessons.

If your child is showing an interest in music but has not yet selected an instrument then please speak to me and I will be able to advise you. If your child is interested in learning an instrument that we do not currently offer at St Mary's, it might be worth contacting Axe Valley Academy Music Centre on jmoran@axevalley.bep.ac to see if this is currently something that they can offer.

Charlotte Gibbs
Music Lead





AXE VALLEY ACADEMY MUSIC CENTRE

**EXPERIENCE MUSIC THE
AXE VALLEY WAY!**

Starting 23rd September at Axe Valley Academy
Tuesdays 3.45pm arrival – 5pm

Small group tuition opportunities on Strings, Brass,
Woodwind, Guitar/Bass and Percussion. Ensemble
performance opportunities. 10 sessions per term £40

For more information contact:

Jemima Moran, Lead Teacher of Music
jmoran@axevalley.bep.ac

