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17th September 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

East Riding Schools' Music Service Instrumental Lessons

Your child has the opportunity to learn the violin (Year 3), cello (Year 3/4) or percussion (Years 3–6) at school, beginning lessons in the coming weeks, taking advantage of the lessons offered by the East Riding Schools' Music Service.

Learning to play a musical instrument demands considerable time, effort and commitment from the pupil. Progress is dependent upon the amount and quality of practice done at home, together with the support and encouragement received from parents.

The cost implications of learning an instrument need to be considered. Each child receives a **minimum 5 lessons per half-term/10 lessons per term/30 lessons per year** (in reality the number of lessons actually received is often higher). Whilst we recognise that this is a big commitment, we also recognise that it represents excellent value at approximately £10 a lesson (charge can vary), half the price of some private tutors. We very firmly believe that it is an excellent opportunity to learn an instrument. By signing up below, you are only expressing an interest but if you decide that your child will take up this instrument you will be committing to paying for a minimum of a term's lessons.

The Schools' Music Service has a limited number of instruments available on loan for an initial free period of one term, after which the charge will be £20 per term. If there are no available instruments, you could hire one from a music shop. You could also purchase one, either through the Schools' Music Service, which offers a purchase scheme at a competitive educational price which is not subject to VAT, or from a reputable music retailer.

A short informal assessment will be carried out with the instrumental teacher to determine if your child is suited to beginning instrumental lessons in school.

Please be aware there are a limited number of places and therefore this is not a guarantee of a place.

Complete the link <https://forms.gle/ES2rS9hwuXwhJP3D7> by **Wednesday 23rd September 2020** to express an interest in your child taking up lessons, whereupon they will be given the opportunity to have a trial lesson.

If your child is found to be suitable, further information will follow. Please do not hire or purchase an instrument until you have been notified that your child has been accepted.

Yours sincerely

Hannah Stephenson
Head Teacher