



Secondary School Music Department Information Sheet - Individual Private Music Lessons

There are now various ways to learn how to play a musical instrument. When learning to play purely for pleasure, and without a set pace, there are many types of apps and resources available. At School, however, we offer a more structured course of study to complement the academic program.

Learning to play a musical instrument requires serious commitment to regular practice at home. We recommend between 20 to 30 minutes daily for beginners, and 45 minutes to an hour daily for more advanced learners.

Private individual music lessons are available on the following instruments:

Violin, Viola, Cello, Double Bass, Flute, Recorder (Flauto Dolce), Oboe, Clarinet, Saxophone, Trumpet, Horn, Trombone, Classical Guitar, Modern Guitar (Acoustic/Electric), Ukulele, Mandolin, Electric Guitar, Bass Guitar, Drums (and percussion), Piano, Electronic Keyboard, and Piano-Jazz Improvisation.

The school year is divided into two semesters of 14 weeks each:

Semester 1: Late September to the end of January

Semester 2: February to early June

Courses for Beginners

We recommend 30-minute weekly lessons for Beginner Level students.

Courses for Intermediate and Advanced Levels

We recommend 45-minute weekly lessons for Intermediate and Advanced Level students. 60-minute lessons can be arranged one a week (after school only).

When can students take lessons?

Beginner Level courses are offered during recess and after school. Intermediate and Advanced Level courses for students in Grades 6 to 10 are offered during class instructional time, during recess, or after school. Grade 11 and 12 students may take lessons during recess or after school. Students may also choose to have their lessons during free periods if their schedule permits.

Students who take their lessons during class instructional time will follow either the ABRSM or Rockschool examination syllabus and will prepare to take these internationally recognized exams when they are ready (usually after one or two years of preparation). More information about these examinations can be found on the following websites - Associated Board of the Royal School - it.abrsm.org, Rock School - rslawards.com

Students who request lessons during recess or after school will not be required to follow an examination syllabus unless they request to do so.



Cost of lessons*

14 lessons of 30 minutes - 330 Euro per semester

14 lessons of 45 minutes - 495 Euro per semester

14 lessons of 60 minutes - 660 Euro per semester

*Examination entrance fees are not included.

Extra Lessons

Depending on the school calendar, should the 14 lessons be completed before the third week of June, extra lessons will be offered and be billed separately.

Payment

The School Business Office will send bills to parents via email.

Refund

Students are expected to attend for the entire semester (14 lessons) and refunds will not be made should the student withdraw before the end of the semester.

Lessons missed due to illness

If a student will be absent due to illness, please inform the Music Lessons Coordinator before 8 am on the day of absence via email at rwilliams@marymountrome.com and the lesson will be rescheduled. Lessons missed due to early dismissal, extended vacations or external appointments, such as medical/dental/administrative, will not be rescheduled or refunded. Lessons missed due to the teacher's unavailability will be rescheduled.

Practice

Commitment to daily practice at home is an essential requirement for learning to play a musical instrument. A *Student Practice Log* will be given to the student and will need to be kept up to date and signed by the parent for the teacher to review at the lesson. If it becomes clear that a student is not able to keep up a regular practice schedule, parents will be contacted to discuss options the following semester.

Exams

Students that have lessons during class instructional time will follow either the ABRSM or Rockschool examination syllabus and will be entered for these examinations when they are ready. These examinations are recognized internationally and are highly regarded by educational establishments and universities in their admissions processes.

Public Performance

Students who are comfortable with performance are encouraged to play at School recitals and concerts.

Study texts and music

Students must provide their own music and bring it to each lesson. The teacher will provide guidance on how to purchase the music.



Availability and maintenance of instruments

Students taking piano or drum lessons must have instruments (piano/weighted keyboard, acoustic/electronic drum kit) at home on which to practice.

Violins, Violas, Cellos, Brass, and Woodwind instruments can be loaned to students by the school at a cost of 50 euros per semester.

Band instruments can be bought or hired from the shop *Scatola Sonora* (tel. 0644702991). The cost of instrument replacement due to theft, or repairs due to damage, will be met in full by the parent.

How to request private music lessons

Deadline First Semester 2024/25 - Friday September 13th

Please complete the *Private Music Lessons Request Form* for the Secondary School and return it to Mr. Roger Williams via email at rwilliams@marymountrome.com.

The number of places that we can offer is limited. Priority placement is given to students who have previously taken lessons at Marymount or at their previous school.

If the School is able to offer the requested lessons, a confirmation email will be sent from Mr. Roger Williams, informing of the start date and time. Lessons typically start in the final week of September.

For any further enquiries please contact Mr. Williams at the above email address.