

24 October 2025

Dear Family,

Instrumental Lessons – Half Term 2 (November - December 2025)

There are a variety of musical instruments your child can learn at Thorns Collegiate Academy in our first block of 6 lessons beginning from Monday 3 November. Instruments we offer are:

Provided by Thorns:

- Drum kit*
- Keyboard
- Clarinet
- Voice

Provided by Dudley Performing Arts (see page 2 for further information):

- Guitar (electric, acoustic, bass, ukulele)
- Woodwind (flute, saxophone, oboe, bassoon)
- Brass (trumpet, cornet, French horn, tuba*, trombone*)
- Strings (Violin, viola, cello, double bass)
- *Others upon request*

*=one to one lessons only

Lessons provided by Thorns:

Lessons will be held for 20 minutes each week on a rotating basis, so your child does not miss the same lesson regularly. They will be issued with a timetable which will act as an instrument pass to allow them to leave their lesson and attend instrumental teaching as well as allowing access to the music department to practice.

Lessons must be paid for through Arbor and are charged at a rate of £12 per one-to-one lesson, or £6 for a group lesson (maximum of 3 students). **This is non-refundable if your child chooses not to attend a lesson or stop attending completely at any point in the block. Please pay the full amount of £72 by Wednesday 10 December.** This can be done in instalments of your choice. Failure to pay the full balance on time may result in your child not receiving lessons next term. A missed lesson by the teacher will be recuperated.

Lessons will commence from **Monday 3 November**. This will appear as a one-to-one lesson to begin with until there are students to group them with and the amount owed will drop. Any excess payment will be refunded upon request, or you can choose to use it to help pay for the next block.

Payment will be on a 'rolling contract' basis in which the amount owed will continue to increase on the same item on Arbor. If your child, no longer wishes to continue with lessons payment will be expected until we are notified before the next block commences.

We have a small number of instruments to loan to students (except drum kit and keyboard) to support the initial learning, but individual purchase is encouraged. This can be done online or in person at instrument shops. You can find information about accessing financial support in purchasing an instrument at www.takeitaway.org.uk.

Please complete the form linked here: <https://forms.office.com/e/te2M3RgKcQ> before Friday 31 October. This confirms your child's place and will immediately allocate time for your child's lesson. The payment amount will then be added to your Arbor account. If your child wishes to learn more than one instrument, please complete a separate form for each instrument. **Your child will continue to be registered for lessons and payment expected termly until we are notified, they no longer wish to continue.**

Please note that if your child has previously had lessons, please complete the form to sign up for 25/26 lessons.

Lessons provided by Dudley Performing Arts (DPA):

To sign up for these instruments please follow the instructions on

<https://www.dudley.gov.uk/things-to-do/dudley-performing-arts/information-for-parents-and-young-people/music-lessons-in-schools>

Teacher, lesson time and payment are all handled by DPA. You will be able to contact the teacher following sign up.

If you have any questions about either of the instrument lesson options, please email me using dwormald@tca.shirelandcat.net

Yours sincerely,

D Wormald

Miss D Wormald
Head of Music