



ST. AIDAN'S

CHURCH OF ENGLAND HIGH SCHOOL

5 May 2022

Dear Parent/Carer

Would your child like to learn to play an instrument?

As many of you will know, St Aidan's has a long tradition of excelling in all areas of music. We have over 200 young people from years 7-13 participating in at least 13 different ensembles each week, playing a huge range of instruments. Many of our pupils take music lessons in school with our peripatetic music teachers and progress to become extremely competent musicians. The benefits of participating in music are extensive and the opportunities that students have at St Aidan's is exceptional - both to play locally, nationally and internationally.

However, we are also aware that many children have not had the opportunity to experience playing an instrument and three years ago we introduced a new scheme, 'Start the Music' enabling students to try an instrument over the course of a year. This has proved to be very successful and we are delighted to be able to offer this scheme again as the Music Association have raised enough funds to support six pupils for one year to learn an instrument, with the hope that they would then continue to play and develop. The scheme is aimed at years 7-9 and full details and eligibility criteria are available on the school website (music section). The scheme also provides an instrument on loan for at least one year.

Therefore, we warmly invite you and your child to the Start The Music Year 4 launch evening for further information on Friday 13th May at 7pm in the main hall at school.

Applications will be open on Friday 13th May after the launch evening and close midnight Friday 27th May. Late entries will not be accepted. The online application can be found on the school website under the music section.

Attached is a copy of the leaflet with further information which your child will be shortly bringing home.

Also if you are interested in supporting the scheme, we would be delighted to hear from you. There are two main ways you could offer support - through a financial donation (please contact me, Lisa Dennis on lisadennis@btinternet.com) - a gift of just £20 will pay for one lesson or, if you have any instruments that you could lend or donate, we would also be delighted to hear from you.

We very much hope that through this scheme more young people will be able to have the opportunity to learn an instrument and participate in bands and ensembles at school.

With kind regards

Lisa Dennis Vicki Elliott
Start the Music Vocal and Instrumental Studies Manager

Headteacher: Mr C Burt

St. Aidan's Church of England High School, Oatlands Drive, Harrogate, North Yorkshire HG2 8JR
Tel: 01423 885814 • Email: admin@staidans.co.uk • www.staidans.co.uk

