



ST. AIDAN'S

CHURCH OF ENGLAND HIGH SCHOOL

27th March 2025

Dear Parents and Carers

St Aidan's Start the Music Scheme

We hope that your child is looking forward to joining St Aidan's in September. Please find some information below that our Faculty of Performing Arts Department has asked us to share with you:

- Would your child like to play a musical instrument for the first time?
- Does your child already play an instrument but would like to play another?
- Would your child like to join the exciting music ensembles at St Aidan's?

We are pleased to be launching our sixth year of our Start the Music scheme on Tuesday 29th April at 7.00pm in the Main Hall at St Aidan's.

St Aidan's 'Start the Music' applications are open to all pupils starting in Year 7 who want to learn a musical instrument. On a successful application, pupils will receive free lessons for a year and the loan of an instrument if appropriate. Our scheme is open to pupils who have not played an instrument before and also pupils who are looking to start a second instrument from the endangered instrument list (double bass, oboe, bassoon, French horn, tenor horn, trombone, euphonium, tuba, alto or tenor saxophone). We would welcome applicants in particular wishing to learn the saxophone, tenor horn, trombone and oboe. Please note, there are some instruments we don't support in the scheme this year such as piano, percussion and drums.

For more information, please come along to our launch evening on Tuesday 29th April at 7pm when St Aidan's Junior band will be performing. We are also excited to have a visiting band to perform this year. The Arrhythmic, Leeds University Medics' and Dentists' Big Band, featuring one of our ex-pupils Ellie Kidd. If you are unable to attend, further information can be found on the school website. The online application form will be available on April 29th.

[Start the Music - St Aidan's \(staidans.co.uk\)](http://staidans.co.uk)

We would also like to invite you to some of our other events in the Music Department this year.

- Charity Concert on Friday 25th April 7pm, St Marks Church, Harrogate. Featuring Chamber Choir and Symphony Orchestra. Tickets on sale soon.
- Summer Concert – Thursday 19th June 7pm MHL. Featuring our lower school ensembles. Junior Band, Junior Choir, West African Drumming Ensemble, SAJE (jazz band), APE (percussion ensemble) and the String Ensemble.
- Spotlight – KS3 Performing Arts Show. – Wednesday 2nd and Thursday 3rd July 7pm CGH. Singing, dance and drama extravaganza!

We look forward to welcoming you.

Yours Faithfully

Mrs Elliott

Director of Learning : Performing Arts