

BGO/ELO

3 September 2014

Dear Parent/Carer,

At Bedford Free School, we are keen to encourage as many students as possible to learn to play an instrument through the tuition offered by the Bedfordshire Music Service. The opportunity to learn to play a musical instrument can provide your child with a wealth of educational, personal and social benefits, as well as being a fun and rewarding activity.

The purpose of this letter is to inform us of your child's interest in taking instrumental lessons during the academic year 2014/2015. It is important that we know whether your child has been having instrumental lessons in school already OR if they would like to start learning a new instrument. With this information, we can plan for particular instrumental teachers to come to Bedford Free School on a weekly basis.

The Bedfordshire Music Service offers lessons on brass, guitar, keyboards, percussion, string and woodwind instruments and singing lessons. Lessons will take place in school time and last between 20 - 30 minutes depending on the size of the group. If your child is interested in starting to learn an instrument, or learn a new instrument in addition to their current instrument, I suggest you visit the Bedfordshire Music Service website (www.bedford.gov.uk/music). Here, you will find the prices of lessons* and answers to some questions you may have. Furthermore, on **Thursday 11th September**, your child will be attending a short concert, in school; The 'Music for Bedford Borough peripatetic teacher band' will be coming in to perform to all of our Year 7 students. Here, your child will, not only benefit from watching a professional concert, but they will also have the opportunity to see what instruments are available to start learning.

Remember, learning an instrument is a serious commitment and children are expected to work hard in their lesson and to practice at home a minimum of three times a week. However, there is no doubt that playing an instrument is fun and opens up so many opportunities and possibilities!

Please return the slip on the next page, to me, before **Thursday 18th September**. Please note, this slip does not mean your child is automatically signed up to have instrument lessons; you are just expressing a keen interest. A follow up letter will then be sent out to you, along with a registration form. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me either through the school reception phone number (01234 332299) or via email on bgoodship@bedfordfreeschool.co.uk.

Kind regards,



Miss Belinda Goodship
Music Teacher

**Children entitled to free school meals are eligible to a 50% discount on lesson costs.*

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To Parent/Carer of Year 7 Students,

I am interested in BEDFORD FREE SCHOOL MUSIC LESSONS for:

Name of Child.....

Form Tutor.....

Please tick the box that applies to your child and return this slip to **Miss Goodship ASAP but before Thursday 18 September 2014.**

1) My child had instrument lessons at their previous school and would like to carry on at Bedford Free School.

Instrument.....

Grade.....

Teacher.....

2) My child has private instrument lessons outside of school.

Instrument.....

Grade.....

Teacher.....

3) My child would like to learn a new instrument at Bedford Free School.

Instrument.....

Parent/Guardian signature.....

Pupil signature.....