

YEAR 5 INSTRUMENTAL PROGRAMME



METHODIST
LADIES'
COLLEGE

As part of the College's commitment to inclusive instrumental music learning, all Year 5 students participate in the Instrumental Programme, either as continuing instrumentalists or by commencing lessons on a band instrument.

The Year 5 Instrumental Programme tackles myths about musical skills and provides high quality instrumental learning opportunities for all girls in Year 5. We are delighted to be able to ensure at least two significant instrumental music learning opportunities - a truly "fair go" - during the Junior Years journey.

Whilst all girls in Year 3 take part in the College's String Programme, the violin, viola, cello or double bass will not turn out to be the most suitable instrument for all students. The Year 5 Programme gives students a second chance to find a musical niche where they can develop life enriching music skills. At the same time continuing instrumentalists in Year 5 have the opportunity to consolidate their emerging skills in a supportive environment.

Students commencing an instrument in Year 5 as part of this programme receive free shared/individual lessons with one of the College's Music Tutors and take part in a weekly ensemble session. Students enjoy free use of a College instrument for the duration of the programme. Continuing/enrolled instrumentalists receive 24 individual lessons at 50 per cent of the tuition fee, providing they are learning at the College*.

The Year 5 Band Programme is designed to provide a fun, dynamic and stimulating environment for students to learn how to play a woodwind, brass or band instrument or to continue learning on instruments that girls have been playing in Year 4.

The programme is carefully tailored to suit the needs and interests of this particular age group. The students will be encouraged to have fun and to develop a strong technical foundation for their musical studies, whatever their prior musical experience and achievements.

Ensemble sessions are timetabled as part of Year 5 classroom music sessions. The weekly shared/individual lessons will be arranged within the existing school day, with one of our expert instrumental tutors. Instrumental lessons take place during the school day and are timetabled by the Music Department. Music Tutors use their discretion to teach students in pairs (40 mins per week) or individually (20 mins per week).

During Term 1 of the year, girls who are not presently learning an orchestral or band instrument are given an introduction to a range of wind/band instruments. Towards the end of Term they will then be asked to consider which instrument they would like to learn to play, ranking preferences from the following instruments:

- Flute
- Oboe
- Clarinet
- Alto saxophone
- Bassoon
- Trumpet
- French Horn
- Trombone
- Euphonium
- Percussion
- Bass (Electric or String)

These selections should be made carefully with parental consultation. The logistics and suitability of specific instruments need to be taken into account. Wherever possible, first or second preferences will be accommodated. Availability of instruments may impact allocations. As part of the Instrumental Programme, girls receive free lessons and take part in an ensemble session each week for the equivalent of one semester. The weekly lessons will be arranged within the existing school day with one of our expert instrumental tutors.

The programme culminates in a special Year 5 Assembly performance in Term 3. Parents will then be invited to formally enrol their daughters for on-going instrumental lessons if they are not already enrolled in the College's Instrumental and Vocal Tuition Programme. Subject to satisfactory student progress, commitment and availability, the College will provide on-going, free tuition for the rest of Year 5. From formal enrolment at the beginning of Term 4, the College's Terms and Conditions for Instrumental Tuition apply**. Students then remain enrolled until they are formally withdrawn***. Fees will not apply until the beginning of the following College year.

* Participation in this programme does not incur any extra fees on student school accounts. Costs only occur if an instrument or book is seriously damaged or lost. All the girls are taught how to care and look after the instruments and resources they will be given.

** Available on the Wyvern Parent Handbook – Music

*** Forms for Withdrawal from Instrumental and Vocal Tuition are available on the Wyvern Parent Handbook – Music