

## Luton Music Service Charging and Remissions Policy 2024/25

This policy applies only to tuition and Music Centre activities provided directly by the Music Service. Some schools may operate differently regarding lessons that take place in school time and may charge pupils directly. If you have any queries, please contact the Music Service office.

### Instrumental and singing lessons

Lessons in school are offered to pupils at Year 3 and above, in discussion with Music Co-ordinators and where there is teacher availability. Group sizes will be determined by the teacher and will have up to a maximum of 6 pupils. A waiting list is held when lessons are not available immediately.

Charges for 2024/25 are for 10 lessons per term, as follows:

Charging category	Termly charge
Tuition - Group of 5-6 for 30 mins	£80.88
Tuition - Group of 3-4 for 30 mins	£99.64
Tuition - Paired for 20 mins	£124.55
Tuition - 1:1 for 20 mins	£149.46

Parents/Carers will be charged for a full term, if the pupil starts lessons before a half term break, and will be charged for half a term, if the pupil starts lessons after a half term break.

### Music Centre activities

Fees for Music Centre are based on the number of weekly sessions each pupil attends:

Package	No. of weekly activities	Termly charge
Mini Music or Beginner Bass	1 of either Mini Music or Beginner Bass	£24.38
Copper	1	£43.67
Bronze	2	£52.86
Silver	3	£72.94
Gold	4	£94.37
Platinum	5+	£113.20

Mini Music and Beginner Bass are 30-minute sessions.

Parents/Carers will be charged for a full term, if the pupil joins an activity before a half term break, and will be charged for half a term, if the pupil joins the activity after a half term break.

### Loan and purchase of Instruments and other equipment

If required, the Music Service will provide the loan of an instrument in return for a fixed termly charge of £39.00 (subject to terms and conditions). This instrument must be returned once lessons have stopped. Guitars and pBones can be hired for £17.00 per term.

Parents/Carers will be charged for a full term, if the pupil hires an instrument before a half term break, and will be charged for half a term, if the pupil hires an instrument after a half term break.

To support the learning of *Endangered Species*, i.e. more unusual instruments, we offer free instrument hire. Your child will also be encouraged to join a suitable ensemble as soon as the teacher recommends that they are of an appropriate standard. Instruments currently included in this category are tuba, bassoon and oboe.

Parents/Carers are expected to provide other equipment such as music, tutor books and consumables (ie. reeds, cork grease, strings, etc.) to support their child's continued progress. The teacher will advise what is needed.

### **Fee remissions**

Looked After Children and pupils in receipt of Free School Meals are eligible for full remission of fees. Parents/Carers on a low income can currently apply to Friends of Luton Youth Music (FLYM) for a 50% bursary. This will be initially be awarded (subject to criteria) for one year, when it will then be reassessed. Please contact the Music Service office for more details. We offer a 10% discount for younger siblings.

### **Assisted Instrument Purchase Scheme (AIPS)**

Parents/carers of any child who attends a Luton school, academy or college and uses their instrument on a weekly basis in school or the Music Centre can access the Assisted Instrument Purchase Scheme. The scheme allows instrument purchases to be made without VAT via the Music Service rather than directly from retailers.

For more details go to [VATGPB7825 - VAT Government and Public Bodies - HMRC internal manual - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)

A small administration charge will be added to each purchase dependant on the cost of the instrument.

The administration charge is currently based upon instrument value inc. VAT:

Up to £100	£6.00
£101 - £350	£11.00
£351 - £999	£16.00
Over £1000	£21.00

For more information about this scheme please email [lutonmusicservice@luton.gov.uk](mailto:lutonmusicservice@luton.gov.uk)

### **External examinations**

It is expected that external examination fees will be met by parents/carers in all cases. Parents/carers will also need to factor in the cost of purchase of the relevant music books (as photocopies will break copyright laws) and the cost of an accompanist as well as the cost of the examination itself.

You will be notified by your child's teacher when they are ready to be entered for an exam.