

Dear Parents and Carers

Co-Curricular Music

We welcome your child to Music at Parmiter's and take this opportunity to explain and reinforce our expectations for students who enjoy co-curricular music activities in school.

We are proud to offer an extensive weekly timetable of co-curricular music activities that are designed to give opportunities to as many students as possible, taking into account ability, experience and individual interest. Alongside the more traditional larger ensembles, such as Orchestra, Senior and Junior Choir, Concert Band and Friday Band, etc., there are many smaller ensembles focused on particular instrumental groupings, or groups tailored to particular levels of experience and/or ability. These are mainly run by classroom music teachers and specialist peripatetic music teachers, but student-led groups are also encouraged when the opportunity arises. The larger groups identified above rehearse at lunchtime, but we also have smaller groups that rehearse during lunch or in the morning before school and sometimes after school.

Our aim is to offer an inclusive programme and students are free to attend as many appropriate clubs as they wish, but please note that some music groups are by invitation only. Our weekly Music co-curricular activities programme details can be found on the school website under the Parent tab or via [this link](#).

Lunchtime Rehearsals

Larger music group rehearsals run from 1.35pm - 2.10pm. Students are encouraged to bring a packed lunch with them or buy a sandwich during breaktime, so they can eat straight after period 4 and start rehearsals promptly at 1.35pm.

After School Rehearsals

Our after-school music groups mostly run from 3.30pm - 4.30pm and students will need to make arrangements to be collected from school at 4.35pm; **there will be no school bus available**.

Morning Rehearsals

Some smaller groups rehearse before school from 8.25am – 8.55am and students are excused from Form Time.

Expectations

There are numerous performance opportunities throughout the school year, both in school and in the local area and beyond, including a foreign tour every other year. With such a packed and varied programme of performances across the year, commitment to rehearsals is essential for maintaining standards and creating a musically rewarding experience for all. There is an assumption that rehearsals take place regularly every week, unless students have been notified in the student e-notices. Any specific arrangements for concerts will also be communicated through the notice system, word of mouth and be posted on the Music department noticeboard as appropriate. With this in mind, we expect students to prioritise regular attendance and to plan ahead, so as to avoid clashes with rehearsals and concerts. If your child is unable to attend, they should personally tell the member of staff running the group in advance, it is not acceptable to simply not turn up for concerts; it is a privilege to represent the school through music and failure to communicate will lead to consequences. Concerts and musical events are advertised in advance in the school calendar. Updates and music news can also be found on our instagram page @parmitersmusic.

Parmiter's has a well-deserved reputation for Music, so consistent commitment by our young musicians to each other and the Music department is paramount for sustaining our high standards.

Thank you for supporting Parmiter's Music and we look forward to a successful and rewarding year ahead.

Yours sincerely



Stuart Bates
Director of Music



Follow us on Instagram to keep up with Music Department news and events
[@ParmitersMusic](https://www.instagram.com/ParmitersMusic)