

Music lessons at Ash Manor School 2023/24

Dear Parents/Carers

I am writing to you as the parent or carer of a student who has shown an interest in learning to play an instrument, here at Ash Manor School.

One-on-one tuition

The music department at Ash Manor School is pleased to announce a new structure for its instrumental tuition programme, including the addition of Mr Geary and Mr Abott to its teaching staff.

Ash Manor School can now offer the following instrumental lessons:

Mr Smith: Drums

Mr Abbott: Guitar and Bass

Mr Tonkmor: Piano

Mrs Geary: Vocals

More information on each instrumental tutor can be found on the next page.

Music lessons take place during the school day and are timetabled so that students can still maximise their studies alongside instrumental tuition.

All lessons are 30 minutes long and priced at £16.00 per lesson. Lessons are paid for in advance; either in blocks of ten, or in complete half terms. Students are expected to catch up on any class work missed.

All applications should be returned to Mr Carter & Mr Lankshear in the music department.

Ensembles

Ash Manor offers a range of ensembles for students to take part in. This is a great way to develop musical skills, meet new friends, and perform at school concerts and community events. The prospect of joining an ensemble can be daunting at first and we would encourage any student who is feeling unsure to come and speak to a member of the music department staff. We can arrange for students to 'sit-in' on a rehearsal, without taking part, so they can get a real feel for what it's like to join the group.

I hope you find this booklet useful but should you have any further questions, please feel free to email the music department staff.

jcarter@ashmanorschool.com

jlankshear@ashmanorschool.com

Sincerely

Mr Carter

Instrumental Tutors

Mr Abbott

Guitar, Bass, Keys and Cello

Bio:

James Abbott is a songwriter and musician who has played guitar and bass across the UK, as well as touring across the Netherlands with the indie band 'The Night Society'. He has also played cello at Newday festival and featured on recordings from artists such as: Son Of Cabe, James Collins, Kizzie and HXLMXS.

James has been teaching guitar and bass for the last two years and has taught students of all ages across various genres. He has recently graduated from the Academy of Contemporary Music with a First Class Honours degree in Music Industry Practice with a songwriting specialism.

Examination board: Rockscool

Theory Exam Tuition: Mr Abbott can teach classical (ABRSM) and contemporary (Rockscool) theory, as well as jazz harmony.

Days available: Monday and Tuesday



Mr Smith

Drums

Bio:

Jack Smith is a freelance drummer and tutor, based in Hampshire, England. He has worked with various acts across the UK in both live performance and studio environments, some of which include signed country artist Nia Nicholls, Alex Tracey, Alex Krupa and a handful of entertainment agencies.

Jack has been teaching both drums and theory for 8 years and is experienced with all age groups, abilities and special needs. He graduated in 2017 with a degree BMus (Hons) Professional Music Performance from the Academy of Contemporary Music, where he studied under Pete Riley (Republica, Guthrie Govan), Frank Tontoh (Amy Winehouse, Craig David) and Tony Drummond (Wicked, Billy Elliott, Lion King, Chicago, Jersey Boys).

Examination Board: Rock School

Days Available: Thursday and Wednesday



Mrs Geary

Contemporary Singing

Bio:

Sarah Geary has been a professional musician for over 25 years and has extensive experience in touring and live work across the UK, Europe and Russia. One of the many highlights of her career was performing at Glastonbury in 2008 on the Pyramid Stage with 80's musical legend Shakin' Stevens. Sarah has been working as a backing singer for Shaky since 2008 and has appeared with him on BBC1's Strictly Come Dancing's Christmas special as well as ITV's Dancing on Ice. A new album was released in 2016 in advance of a 34 UK date tour in April/May 2017. Recent live performances have included BBC's Children in Need and Radio 2's Paul Jones blues show.

Sarah is also an experienced vocal teacher. She has been actively involved for 19 years at The Academy of Contemporary Music based in Guildford teaching to diploma and degree level.



She specialises in vocal technique, along with developing repertoire and session styles.

Examination board: Rock School

Days available: Monday and Tuesday

Mr Tonkmor

Contemporary Piano/Keys

Bio:

Jordan Tonkmor is a professional multi-instrumentalist and songwriter. He has been honing his guitar and keyboard skills for over 15 years, six of which have been professionally. Some notable mentions of people Jordan has worked with include Kirsten Joy (of Clean Bandit), Alice Milburn and Joe Carabine. Jordan has also been support to the band Sea Girls and has played at music festivals such as Victorious Festival, The Great Escape Festival and Vann Fest.

Jordan has been teaching piano and guitar for the last two years with Guildford Rock School. He graduated in 2019 from The Academy of Contemporary Music (BA Hons). He also has experience teaching in a multitude of styles and genres, offering a dynamic selection for students.

Examination board: Rock School

Days available: Thursday



Music Department Extra Curricular Clubs

All students who take additional tuition are encouraged to take part in one or more of our ensembles to support their learning. For GCSE students, this is a prerequisite to their music studies. They offer a great opportunity to develop skills, meet new friends, and take part in school concerts and public performances.

Time Date	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Lunchtime 12:20 - 1:00	Y7 and 8 Rock and Pop		Pop, Funk and Soul - Year 10 & 11	Whole school choir - All years	Y9 Rock and Pop
Afterschool 3:00 - 4:00		Whole school choir - All years	Senior choir - Y9 10, 11	Year 10 and 11 Rock band	GCSE Intervention Y10 & 11
Instrumental Tutors	Mr Abbott Mrs Geary	Mr Abbott Mrs Geary		Mr Smith Mr Tonkmor	



All Hallows joint concert April 2018



Paris Music Tour July 2019

Instrument/Vocal Tuition Reply Slip

If you would like to proceed with arranging for your child to take tuition in one of the instruments listed please complete the form below and return it to the music dept FAO Mr Carter.

Student Name: _____

Tutor Group: _____

Instrument I would like lessons on: _____

Parent/Carer Name: _____

Telephone Number: _____

E-mail address: _____

The small print:

- Lessons are £16.00 per 30 minutes, and payable in advance (either in blocks of ten or per half term by arrangement with the tutor).
- Should your child miss a lesson as a result of illness, forgetfulness or other reasons beyond the tutor's control you will be liable for the cost of those lessons.
- In the case of off-site educational visits, providing 2 weeks' notice is given, the tutors will try their best to either re-arrange lessons or organise a double length lesson to make up lost time
- Tutors will contact parents via text message or e-mail should a student miss a lesson unexpectedly.
- Should the tutor be absent for whatever reason, or if the school is closed unexpectedly, you will not be liable for the cost of the lesson.
- One full half-term's notice must be given if wishing to cease tuition. If suitable notice is not given you may be liable for one half term's tuition costs.
- All our instrumental tutors are self-employed and as such students wishing to take short term leaves of absence from their instrumental studies (for example during exam season) will still be required to pay for lessons missed.

I have read and accept the terms detailed above _____

(Signed Parent/Carer)