

Oaklands Catholic School and Sixth Form College

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Executive Headteacher: Richard Cunningham BA (Jt Hons), PGCE (Cantab), MSc, CMgr, FCMI, NPQEL
Head of School: Amy Bonnington BA (Hons), PGCE, MA

Edith Stein Catholic Academy Trust
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)
Registered in England and Wales, Company No 07721932

Our Ref: AB/KB/SM

July 2026

Dear Parents

MUSIC TUITION – 2026/2027

I am delighted to introduce an exciting opportunity for your students to engage in high-quality music tuition, designed to nurture creativity, confidence, and discipline, and led by exceptional team of visiting music practitioners. Music education remains a vital and transformative part of a young person's school experience.

Students can elect to be taught either individually or within a group ranging from 2 to 3 students, provided the peripatetic staff can accommodate for your chosen instrument. Please note, students opting for group lessons for Drums, will receive one 30 minute lesson once a fortnight as there is only one Drum Kit in the teaching room.

The number of lessons provided across the academic year will be 30 and the fees will still represent outstanding value at £21.80 per session for an individual lesson and only £10.70 per session for a group lesson. This equates to the following termly charges:-

Individual	£218 per term
Group	£107 per term

Despite significant rises in costs, the Governing Body has agreed to continue to subsidise the cost of tuition for the next academic year. The level of subsidy and costs passed on to parents will be reviewed annually. From receiving this subsidy, the governors strongly encourage students to take part in further extra-curricular activities e.g. Band, School Choir, Ensembles, Workshops, Concerts, etc.

Students who study GCSE music will be entitled to a 15% reduction in lesson costs and will be charged at a rate of £185.30 for individual lessons, and £90.95 for group lessons, per term. If they wish to receive tuition for a second instrument then they will be charged at a rate of £218 per term for individual lessons.

Students who study A level Music receive free music tuition for one instrument. If they wish to receive tuition for a second instrument then they will be charged at a rate of £218 per term for individual lessons.

Parents who are in receipt of Income Support are asked to write to me in the same way as they do for Educational Trips.



Community Unity Opportunity



Instruments taught at present:

Strings	violin, viola, cello
Brass	trumpet, trombone, French horn, tenor horn, tuba, euphonium
Woodwind	flute, clarinet, saxophone, recorder
Guitars	classical, electric, bass, ukulele
Keyboard	piano, electronic keyboard
Voice	
Drums	

A small number of instruments may be borrowed for a short period of time. In particular, we are able to offer violin and brass instruments to borrow and we would like to encourage new students on these instruments to take advantage of this opportunity. Should there be an oversubscription to this we will draw a ballot. This is usually no longer than one term. Please contact musictuition@oaklandscatholicschool.org for availability.

It may be useful to know that instruments can be bought through the school, free of VAT using the Assisted Instrument Purchase Scheme (AIPS). This is a Government initiative designed to increase the number of students learning to play an instrument. There are certain conditions that have to be met to benefit from this initiative and if any parent wishes to take up this opportunity then they should email the Finance department for details.

Would you please carefully read, complete, sign and date the attached form; a separate form should be completed for each instrument. **Please return the form(s) with payment to the Finance Office at the school.** Please make cheques payable to Oaklands Catholic School or pay online using the school's online payment system. **Please note that a full term's notice must be given if you wish to cancel tuition, please see point 7 in the application form.** For students in Year 11 and 13, lessons will end automatically at May half term, however arrangements can be made to continue tuition through until July on a pre-arranged basis.

If you have any queries the Performing Arts Department or the Finance Office will be happy to offer advice and can be contacted via the main school telephone number or please email musictuition@oaklandscatholicschool.org. In any event, all completed forms should be returned to the school as soon as possible to ensure that you are guaranteed a place from September. Late applications in early September are accepted but there may be a waiting list, therefore early applications before the end of July are encouraged.

Yours sincerely



Mrs Amy Bonnington
Head of School

INSTRUMENTAL TUITION - AT OAKLANDS

Name of Student:

Year and Form in September 2026:

Musical Instrument

(please be specific regarding eg. Electric or acoustic guitar)

Please indicate:

Complete beginner ☐ Number of years played ☐ or Current Grade

1. I hereby apply for my son/daughter to receive Instrument Tuition at Oaklands from September 2026.
2. I would like my son/daughter to be taught in a:
Group Lesson ☐ Individual Lesson ☐
3. I acknowledge that I have read the Headteacher's letter and agree to pay the total sum of £..... per term to cover payments towards the cost of Instrumental Tuition.
4. The school reviews the cost on a yearly basis.
5. I understand my child will be taught for about 30 weekly ½ hour lessons throughout the year.
6. I agree to pay at the start of each term and agree that **if payment has not been received within 2 weeks of the start of the term lessons will be cancelled with payment liable for the rest of the term.**
7. I understand that if I decide to cancel the arrangements for Music Tuition I must give a full term's notice, otherwise I agree to pay the cost of those lessons already arranged.

Notice must be received within two weeks of the start of each term to

finance@oaklandscatholicschool.org.

Latest date notice can be given	Term
25 th September 2026	Spring Term
22 nd January 2027	Summer Term

I also understand that if my child falls ill or is unable to take lessons then I will still be liable for the payment of lessons for that term during which time an agreement must be made with the school and confirmed in writing about the ability of the child to continue lessons beyond that term.

8. I understand that tuition will go on during normal lesson times and that wherever possible a rotation of tuition times will be organised.
9. I agree that my child will be strongly encouraged to attend and take part in weekly musical extra-curricular activities (e.g. Band, Choirs, Workshops, and Concerts etc). All students should be willing to be part of music ensembles and to take part in all rehearsals if required. Failure to do so will result in music tuition being stopped.

Signature.....Date.....

Email address.....

(If school staff need to contact you regarding this application)

Please return this form to the school for the attention of the Finance Office by the end of July 2026. Late applications in early September are accepted but there may be a waiting list. Thank you

School Privacy Notice

Please follow the link <https://www.oaklandscatholicschool.org/about-us/privacy-notice/> or visit our website for more information