

8 September 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

This letter is a guide for your children's return to their peripatetic 1-2-1 music tuition in September. This letter is for you and your child/ren so that everyone is clear about what will happen when the lessons start, week commencing 14 September.

The information in this letter outlines the organisation of the peripatetic music lessons so that we minimise contact between year groups, and maintain social distancing within the music department. These arrangements will hold until further official guidance is received.

### **Guitar/Ukulele, Piano, Drums, Strings**

These lessons will continue to be taught in the music department practice rooms with visiting music teachers **in person**.

- Lessons will adhere to 2m social distancing.
- Peripatetic teacher will use their own instruments or equipment eg drumsticks to demonstrate and model.
- Peripatetic teachers will be issued with gloves (for cleaning) antiviral/bacterial spray and blue roll.
- Peripatetic teachers will clean points of contact between students (door handle etc).
- Ideally students should use their own instruments eg guitars, drumsticks etc. If students use the school's equipment they will be cleaned after each student has finished their lesson by the peripatetic teacher.
- There will be a requirement of a 5 minute gap between each lesson for safe change-over of students and cleaning.

### **Woodwind, Brass, Voice**

These lessons will continue to be taught in the music department practice rooms with music teachers **teaching remotely via Microsoft Teams**.

- Lessons will be taught remotely due to close proximity and small room environment.
- Students **must** use their own instruments.

- Each practice room will have a laptop and students will be required to log onto their Castle School Office 365 account at the start of their lesson.
- Their instrumental teacher will call their student remotely via teams at the start of the lesson.
- There will be a requirement of a 5 minute gap between each lesson for safe change-over of students and cleaning.
- Students will be required to clean the contact points in the room at the lesson end and will have training on how to do this effectively.

One of the biggest issues we have faced in previous years is students remembering their lesson times and punctuality to lessons. Visiting peripatetic teachers will not be expected to collect students from class. When we have instrumental lesson timetables, they will be displayed in the music department corridor. I will also share them with curriculum teachers and request that peripatetic teachers share them with parents via email to help organise and keep missed lessons to a minimum.

This is a new situation for all of us and I know you will bear with us whilst we settle the school and adjust to this very different situation. We hope we have covered everything but inevitably there may be glitches and I appreciate it when parents contact us with helpful suggestions or concerns. We are very much in this together and contributions are appreciated.

I am really looking forward to welcoming all our musicians and teachers back in September. It will be different, but we will ensure the music department remains a place for an enriching and vibrant education.

Best wishes

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mr Adams', with a stylized flourish at the end.

**Mr Adams**  
**Head of Music**