



INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC LESSONS AT ROCKMOUNT

The peripatetic instrumental teachers are an important and valued part of Rockmount's Music department. We currently offer tuition in: **Piano, drum kit, violin, cello, flute, recorder, trumpet, trombone, guitar and bass guitar, plus Rocksteady band sessions.** All teachers are experienced and DBS checked and are provided through Croydon Music and Arts (CMA), Rocksteady, or are self-employed specialists.

WHEN LESSONS TAKE PLACE

- Approximately 10 weekly lessons per term
- Lessons take place during the school day
- Lesson times are rotated where possible to avoid pupils missing the same lessons repeatedly
- Timetables are shared via noticeboard and/or emailed by teachers



FEES & PAYMENT

- Payment is made directly to the teacher, CMA or Rocksteady
- The school does not invoice or collect payments
- Payment must be made in advance
- Financial support may be available for eligible families

LESSON TYPES:

- Piano & drums: 1:1 30-minute lessons
- CMA instruments: group, paired or individual lessons
- Rocksteady: subscription-based band sessions
- **Instrument Assisted Purchase Scheme (CMA):** CMA also offer an Instrument Assisted Purchase Scheme, allowing eligible families to purchase instruments free of VAT. Further details are available on the CMA website.

HOW TO APPLY:

 **Piano &**  **Drum kit:** Apply via school office (waiting list only): office@rockmount.croydon.sch.uk

 **Strings** /  **Brass** /  **Woodwind** /  **Guitar & Bass:** Apply via CMA: www.croydonmusicandarts.co.uk

 **Rocksteady:** Apply directly: www.rocksteadymusicschool.com

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

- Piano and drum kit lessons are taught by our current private teachers and are not available through CMA. Both instruments are in high demand and places only become available when a pupil leaves, so waiting times may be several years. Parents/carers are encouraged to consider other instruments or external lessons while waiting. To check waiting list position, email: office@rockmount.croydon.sch.uk (FAO Music Teacher – WAITING LIST UPDATE).
- CMA provides tuition in school for: trumpet, trombone, flute, recorder, violin, cello, guitar and bass guitar. Additional tuition and wider musical opportunities are available at CMA centres outside school hours.

HELP CHOOSING WHICH INSTRUMENT TO APPLY FOR:

Instrument	Detailed information
Piano	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Year 1 upwards although younger children are taken, depending on the child's maturity and hand size (they need to be big enough to cover 5 notes comfortably)• Piano or touch sensitive keyboard (preferably with weighted keys) will be needed at home for practice.
Drum kit	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Generally, Year 2 upwards.• No need for a full drum kit at home, but you would need a pair of drum sticks and practice pad. The drum teacher will advise on this.
Guitar & Bass guitar	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Generally Year 2 upwards.• Guitars are not available to hire, but you will be advised by the guitar teacher which type and size of instrument to buy. These are relatively inexpensive. Rockmount has a limited number of guitars that can be loaned out.
<u>String:</u> Violin & Cello	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Generally Year 2 upwards, although the violin comes in smaller sizes for almost any age of beginner.• Violins/cellos can be hired from CMA. Do not purchase an instrument at this stage. The instrumental teacher will recommend a suitable instrument.
<u>Brass</u> Trumpet & Trombone	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Children will need to have their top adult teeth and need to be of a certain size so that they can not only handle the instrument comfortably, but have enough puff to blow it!• Instruments can be hired from CMA. Do not purchase an instrument at this stage. The teacher will recommend a suitable instrument.
<u>Woodwind:</u> Flute & Recorder	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Children will need to be large enough to hold the flute comfortably (although can use a recorder to start). Usually Year 3 is a good age to start playing the flute.• Rockmount has a limited number of flutes that can be loaned out. Instruments can also be hired from CMA. Do not purchase an instrument at this stage. The teacher will recommend a suitable instrument.
Rocksteady	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Children learn to play an instrument in their very own rock or pop band. Children have the opportunity to become the guitarist, bass player, keyboard player, drummer or lead vocalist.• A band leader comes to Rockmount weekly, equipped with all the required instruments. Children cannot take instruments home, so instruments will eventually need to be purchased.

BUYING OR HIRING INSTRUMENTS:

- It is strongly recommended that parents/carers do not purchase instruments until seeking guidance from the instrumental teacher.
- Instruments may be purchased or hired depending on the instrument and stage of learning. Croydon Music and Arts (CMA) offer instrument hire for many orchestral instruments, and teachers will advise before any purchase is made.
- Rockmount has a small number of flutes and guitars that can be loaned out on a first come first served basis.

For more details about learning an instrument at Rockmount please refer to the Instrumental Music Lessons policy available on the school website.