

Wiltshire Musical instrument hire scheme (schools information)



A version for Families is online [here](#). Associate Tutors have full details.

The purpose of the scheme is to make instruments accessible to children and young people in a way that supports their participation and progression *particularly* when first starting and / or where the cost of purchasing an instrument may limit a young person's ability to participate.

The instruments we can provide are serviceable and suitable for young musicians; they are not all brand new, shiny and pristine. There are other places you can hire brand new instruments but they cost a lot more!

The scheme is administered on behalf of Wiltshire Music Connect by [Wiltshire & Swindon Learning Resources](#) (WSLR) within Wiltshire Council. A Steering Group of stakeholders, supported by Wiltshire Music Connect, oversees its development and helps make decisions about the scheme.

We are trying to make this scheme self-sustaining - meaning that, over time, it should become able to re-invest in stock and continue providing instruments for young people regardless of any potential cuts in funding. **To make this work, we need those who use the scheme to support the 'spirit' in which it's being run and to try to help it run as smoothly as possible.**

Whilst the scheme needs to generate income and meet costs, support with costs is available for those who need it. This is provided through Wiltshire Music Connect.

Who can use it?

- **Instruments can be hired for pupils receiving instrumental tuition in / through Primary, Secondary and Special Schools in Wiltshire.** This includes Council supported Schools, Academies, Faith and / or 'Private' Schools.
- **Instruments for these pupils are only available where tuition is being provided by one of Wiltshire Music Connect's growing pool of quality assured [Associate Tutors / Organisations](#).** Please follow the link to see this list which is growing weekly.
- **Instrument Sets can be hired by Primary Schools** working with Associate tutors delivering First Access whole class tuition at **£130 per school year** (subject to availability as we have limited stock). These can be flagged up when requesting subsidy for First Access Tuition. **Schools delivering their own First Access work** can [request sets](#) to hire but priority will usually be given to those using Associates. Instruments in First Access sets cannot be taken home by pupils. Details on the booking process are [outlined on Page 5](#).

If you have a tutor in mind who is not an Associate of Wiltshire Music Connect and you want to use this scheme, you can point them towards the [process for 'applying' to be one](#). We cannot process requests for support from non-Associates.

What will it cost?

Please see the attached list on Page 4.

Charges apply to an academic year in whole or in part. A hire starting mid-year incurs the same charge as one for 12 months.

I think some of our parents / families might need help with the costs...

As with Instrumental and Vocal Tuition (see separate sheet), we know some families need help with the costs of instrument hire.

We can offer the following remission (please note that rates are different to those applied to Tuition costs):

- **100% reduction** for pupils eligible for **Pupil Premium** (inc those entitled to **Free School Meals**).
- **100% reduction** for pupils with **Special Education Needs and / or a Disability**.
- **100% reduction in fees for pupils who are Looked After / In Care (LAC)** – this is through a partnership with Wiltshire Virtual School.
- **50% reduction for pupils who schools classify as vulnerable for other reasons** and who are **unlikely to be able to take up (or continue) lessons** as a result of economic or social circumstances. This is at your school's discretion.

How does booking an instrument (and requesting support with the costs) work?

Requests for Instruments need to come from Associate Tutors or, in the case of Firsts Access sets from schools when requesting subsidies (see below).

- **Tutors submit a request on your pupils' behalf** including any request for a reduction in hire costs. They may need to check with your school about eligibility. You will need to give them an active email address
- Availability is checked.
- **Parents / Carers are emailed to confirm availability and will be asked...**
- To make a payment (if one is required)
- To agree with Terms and Conditions which include taking responsibility for the instrument whilst in your / your family's possession including any maintenance / repairs or replacement of strings / reeds. You may want to make sure you have appropriate insurance cover.

- **Once they have agreed to the Terms and made the payment** (if applicable) the status of your order is confirmed.
- **The instrument will be delivered to your school by WSLR by an agreed date** or if a request has been processed after a certain date parents / carers may need to collect it from Wiltshire & Swindon Learning Resources in Trowbridge. All instruments will usually be checked before they're issued (this can depend when they've been requested) and will come out ready for immediate use. *(Clarinets and saxophones will be supplied with a standard reed. Oboes and bassoons will not be issued with reeds. It is the responsibility of the hirer to replace any broken or worn out reeds).*

Or

- **If a pupil / family is already hiring an instrument they can keep it over the summer** if they pay by an agreed date – Associate Tutors have details.

I have other questions - what about....

Please check the [Wiltshire Music Connect website](#) for Frequently Asked Questions (FAQS).

If you really can't find what you need, your next point of call should be the Associate Provider/Tutor. If they are unable to answer your query you can contact WSLR directly at WSLRInstrumentLoans@wiltshire.gov.uk

Other instrument sources

Our partners at [Wiltshire Rural Music School](#) can provide access to some types/levels of instruments and both [Salisbury Area Young Musicians](#) and [Wiltshire Young Musicians](#) have some instruments available for young musicians attending their groups/clubs. Their offers are separate to this scheme.

You may also be interested in other schemes and funding. A continually updated list can be found on the [Wiltshire Music Connect website](#)

Hire Charges for academic year 2016-17

Charges apply to an academic year in whole or in part. A hire starting mid-year incurs the same charge as one for 12 months.

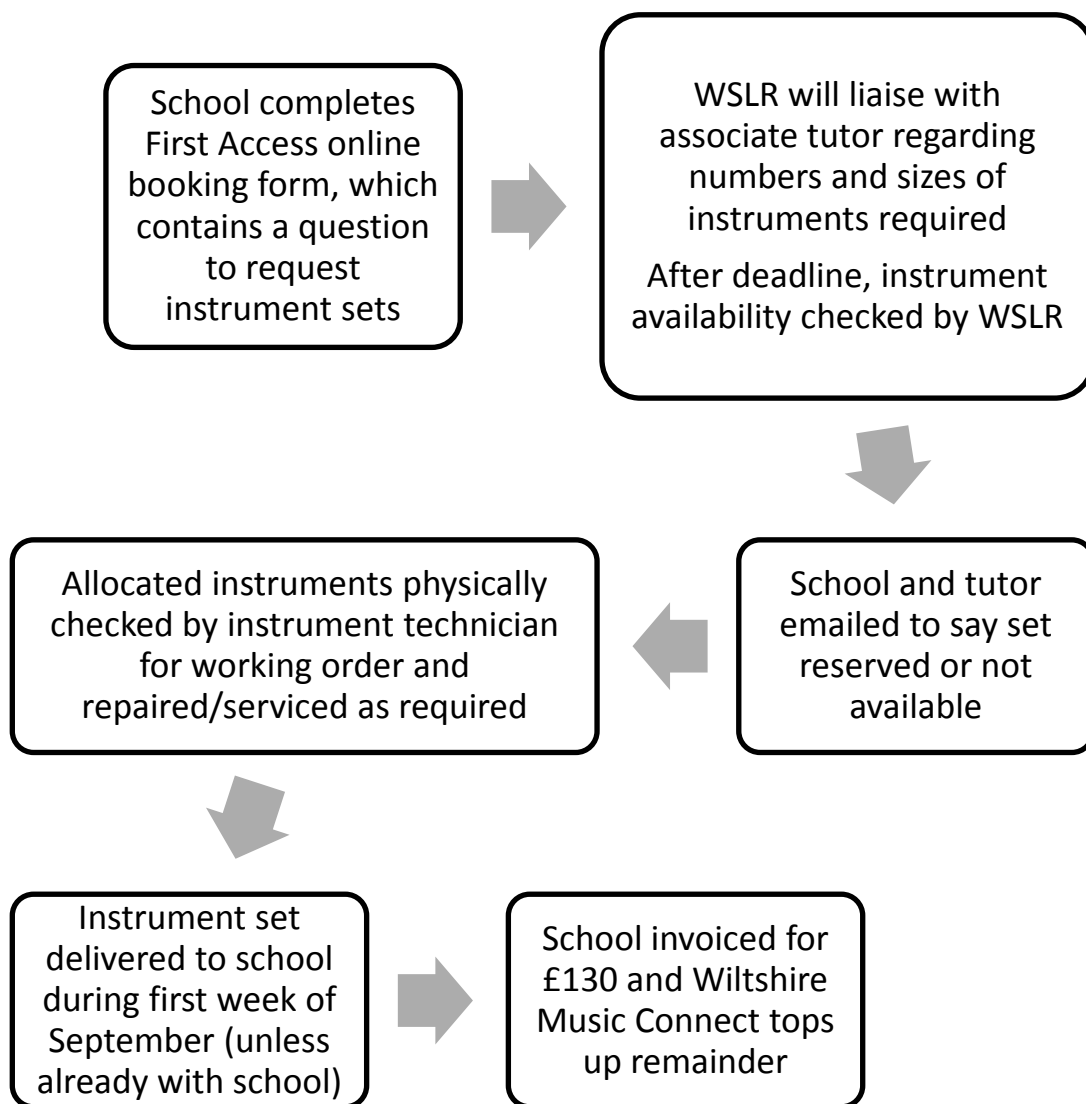
Instrument	First Year of hire	Subsequent Years	Weekly cost (52 weeks) in First Year	Cost of buying from stores (inc. VAT)
Violin ($\frac{1}{8}$, $\frac{1}{4}$, $\frac{1}{2}$, $\frac{3}{4}$)	£27.00		£0.52	£70 - £350
Violin (Full size)	£57.00		£1.10	£70 - £350
Viola	£27.00		£0.52	£70 - £180
Cello ($\frac{1}{4}$, $\frac{1}{2}$, $\frac{3}{4}$)	£40.00		£0.77	£300 - £700
Cello (Full size)	£57.00		£1.10	£300 - £700
Double Bass	£40.00		£0.77	£800
Flute	£40.00		£0.77	£300 - £500
Piccolo	£40.00		£0.77	£230 - £600
Oboe	£40.00		£0.77	£665 - £1,500
Clarinet	£40.00		£0.77	£350 - £400
Alto saxophone	£40.00	£48.00	£0.77	£600
Bassoon	£40.00		£0.77	£4,000
Trumpet	£40.00		£0.77	£140 - £500
Cornet	£40.00		£0.77	£165 - £260
French Horn	£40.00		£0.77	£1,200
Trombone	£40.00		£0.77	£240
Euphonium	£40.00		£0.77	£450
Baritone	£40.00		£0.77	£450
Tuba	£40.00		£0.77	£800

Whilst these fees are higher than those initially established for 2015-16, they are highly competitive when compared to commercial instrument hire. They will also move the scheme into breaking even sooner.

Not seeing the instrument you need? [Contact us](#) and check if anything has been added to the scheme.

Process for booking First Access Sets

These must be requested annually by the school, according to the following steps:



Tutors should periodically check First Access sets for any maintenance or repair issues. This is especially important at the end of each academic year. If necessary, sets will need to be collected from schools for servicing.