

REDBRIDGE MUSIC SERVICE

Application for Redbridge Music School Membership 2018/2019

It is vital that all pupils and parents familiarise themselves with these notes before applying for membership. Applications are invited from any young person aged under 19 on 1 September 2018.

All pupils are admitted to the Music School as members of one of the Music Service's centrally organised ensembles. These are currently as follows:

Symphony Orchestra	Friday	7.10pm – 9.45pm
Intermediate Orchestra	Saturday	10.30am – 12.45pm
Junior String Orchestra	Saturday	9.30am – 11.30am
Symphonic Band	Friday	5.00pm – 7.15pm
Intermediate Wind Band	Saturday	8.30am – 10.30am
Junior Wind Band	Wednesday	5.30pm – 7.15pm
Percussion Ensemble	Wednesday	6.30pm – 8.00pm
Brass Band	Wednesday	7.30pm – 9.00pm
Youth Choir	Wednesday	6.00pm – 7.30pm
Intermediate Choir	Thursday	6.00pm – 7.15pm
Guitar Ensemble	Monday	6.30pm – 7.30pm
Recorder Ensemble	Thursday	6.00pm – 7.30pm

These groups currently rehearse at the above times during 35 term-time weeks. As pupils progress and move into a different ensemble (normally at the beginning of a school year), they will need to attend sessions at different times or on different days. A limited number of 30 minute individual lessons are available to those who are particularly successful at audition or who later occupy key positions in senior groups. These lessons usually take place at the John Savage Centre on weekdays after 4pm and on Saturday mornings. Every effort is made to ensure that, as far as possible, pupils attend the Music School only once per week.

The selection of pupils for ensembles is limited to the number of vacancies available; the availability of teaching time for 30 minute lessons is also limited. Auditions are therefore intended to identify the most able and committed applicants in a particular year. Those who are not offered places when they first apply are very welcome to apply the following year. It is possible that pupils who are not accepted in the first instance will be regarded as a waiting list for any vacancies, which might occur mid-year. Some may be invited to join a 'club level' pre-Music School group for one year if it is felt they are not quite ready for ordinary admission. Please note that there is no automatic transfer from 'club' to full membership.

Pupils admitted to the Music School remain in membership until they leave school subject to good conduct, progress and attendance. If progress is not maintained pupils may be required to re-audition.

Pianists are not normally members of orchestras or bands however they are required to sing in a choir, take up percussion or double bass so that they can enjoy ensemble playing after preliminary training and play an active part in the activities at Music School. Percussionists (including those auditioning on Drum Kit) are expected to expand their skills across a range of percussion instruments, both in lessons and through participation in percussion ensemble and Music School ensembles.

Audition Procedure

- Auditions of about 15 minutes duration will take place at the John Savage Centre during the summer term.
- Applicants will normally be auditioned by the Deputy Head of Service and the appropriate Head of Department.
- Applicants other than those for voice must prepare one short 'set' piece which is issued about one month before the audition and one 'own choice' piece.
- Singers should prepare two 'own choice' pieces, one of which should be a folk song.
- Scales and sight-reading tests will also be given.
- Accompanists are not required as set pieces are unaccompanied. 'Own choice' pieces should also be played without accompaniment in order to make the audition process as fair as possible.
- Results will be available in June.

Conditions of Membership 2018/2019

- Members of orchestras and bands must be receiving regular instrumental lessons, either through the Redbridge Music Service scheme, a similar scheme elsewhere, or privately.
- Reasonable technical progress and a worthwhile contribution to the ensemble must continue to be made in order to justify the place allocated. Pupils receiving 30 minute lessons must maintain a rate of progress commensurate with this level of tuition.

- Pupils must commit to membership for the whole of the school year and we expect them to organise exam revision around their commitments to Music School.
- Members of ensembles must be available for all concerts listed initially in the Music School Calendar (July) and updated on the Music Service website.
- Members receiving 30 minute lessons must play solos in 'pupil concerts' arranged annually by their individual teachers.
- Fees must be paid promptly following receipt of invoice at the beginning of each term. Fees for the 2018/2019 academic year have not yet been set however fees for the 2017/2018 academic year were as follows (fees in brackets are applicable to out of borough pupils – see below):

(i) Annual Membership	£45.00 per term (£145 per year)
(ii) Individual 30 minute lessons	£164.00 (£254.00) per term
(iii) Shared 30 minute or 15 minute individual lessons	£82.50 (£127.00) per term

Pupils who do not live in the London Borough of Redbridge nor attend a Redbridge maintained school will be charged the fees in brackets. These pupils will not be eligible for fee remission.

- The Music School will guarantee to provide a minimum of 30 individual lessons during the 35 week Music School year.
- Apart from illness pupils are expected to attend all lessons and rehearsals. Occasional absence for important family events, days of religious observance etc. is allowed at the discretion of the Deputy Head of Service, Mr. Simon Roberts, provided at least 14 day's notice is given in writing.
- For last minute absence through sickness, please call and leave a message with the office. Such calls may be required to be confirmed in writing. All correspondence regarding absence should be sent to the Deputy Head of Service and not to individual teachers.
- All Redbridge Music School members are expected to make a full and proper contribution to the musical life of their day schools. This is a condition of music school membership.
- A high standard of self-discipline is required since the Music School is staffed only for a timetable of lessons and rehearsals. General supervision is caring and careful but necessarily more limited than in a day school. Pupils are in a position of trust to conduct themselves sensibly and with consideration for others. The service provided is not statutory and can be withdrawn at any time if a pupil behaves in an unacceptable way.
- There are no set 'session' times and pupils are constantly arriving and departing. Therefore, it is not possible to monitor when individual pupils leave the premises. Local shops are a temptation and Fencepiece Road is very busy. It is expected that parents will give their children the same guidance about leaving the John Savage Centre as they would give about being 'out' from home.
- It is the responsibility of parents/carers to provide the Redbridge Music Service office with a care plan if your child has a medical condition we need to be made aware of. The care plan must be left in an envelope addressed to the Deputy Head of Service clearly marked detailing the contents and who it is from. It is also the responsibility of the parent/carer to update Redbridge Music Service if there is any change to their child's care plan. We also request that pupils do not bring any foods on site that contain nuts or have been cooked using nut oils. Sesame which is contained in certain food items is not be brought into the building either. Redbridge Music Service aims to practise a nut free policy although we recognise that this cannot be guaranteed. This policy serves to set out all measures to reduce the risk to those children and adults who may suffer an anaphylactic reaction if exposed to nuts to which they are sensitive. We would also request that parents/carers encourage their children to take responsibility as to what foods they eat and not to put others or themselves at risk.

Spring 2018