

WALTON MULTI ACADEMY TRUST

Music and Performing Arts Department

May 2026



Instrumental Tuition 2026-27

Current Walton Students:

A reply is required from everyone who receives this letter, whether you plan on continuing/ starting or not. Please return to the Music Office.

Current Year 6 Students:

Please return this letter to your school office if you would like to start or continue lessons when you join Walton High School in September. If you have older siblings at Walton already, please send the letter in with them and ask them to deliver it to the music office.

WALTON MULTI ACADEMY TRUST

Music and Performing Arts Department



Instrumental Tuition 2026-27

Dear Parents,

Your child may have been having instrumental lessons either at Walton High School or one of our feeder Primary Schools during the past year, or wishes to start lessons in September. So that we can continue to ensure this excellent provision from the Entrust Music and Performing Arts Service teachers, I would be most grateful if you would complete and return this form by **Friday 22nd May 2026**. See first page for instructions on where to hand the letter in.

<u>Student Name:</u> 	<u>Current Tutor Group or Primary School:</u>
<u>Instrument(s):</u> 	

- I would like my child to continue instrumental lessons next year and I have completed the attached contract for 2026/27
- I would like my child to start instrumental lessons next year and I have completed the attached contract for 2026/27
- My child has been having lessons this year, but would like to stop having lessons next year

COST:

£280 per year – **payable in full on ParentPay. Payment will be required by October half term, and will appear on ParentPay in the first few weeks of September.**

Students in receipt of free school meals will be charged £100 per instrument for their lessons. Many schools charge 50% for students in receipt of free school meals, but we have decided to charge a lower price in order to enable students to obtain lessons.

Please be aware that if your child's tuition is not paid for on ParentPay by October half term, we will remove your child from the music tuition registers. If you are struggling with the cost of lessons, please do contact the music department on L.everill@walton.staffs.sch.uk.

I have read and understand the full details of the tuition scheme. Payment for lessons will be made via Parent Pay.

Signed: _____ (person with parental responsibility)

Print Name _____ Date: _____

INSTRUMENTAL/SINGING MUSIC TUITION 2026-27:

CONTRACT

I understand that this signed form constitutes a binding contract between myself and Walton High School and an acceptance of the conditions set out on the reverse of this form.

Name: _____	Tutor Group or Primary School: _____
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I wish my child to *start/continue lessons on the following instrument(s):

- Instrument(s) 1.
 2.

Tick either A, B or C:

- I will pay the full fee of £280.00 per instrument, via Parent Pay, for the school year 1st September 2026 to 31st August 2027.
- I will pay £100 per instrument, via Parent Pay, due to my son/daughter being entitled to receive free school meals.
- I have applied for support from FOSYM, in correspondence with the school, but agree to pay any remaining balance.
- I have made no payment for the first instrument/voice above, my child receiving the instrumental music tuition as part of the **A Level Music** course. For other instruments/voice see A above.

Signature: _____ (person with parental responsibility)

Print Name: _____ Date _____

CONDITIONS

1. There will be a commitment for lessons to be undertaken either for the whole School Year 1st September 2026 to 31st August 2027 or from the date of commencement to 31st August 2027.
2. No refund will be made for lessons lost through student absence or termination of lessons.
3. It is a condition that each student must join at **least one** of the school's musical ensembles as appropriate. Students will attend rehearsals of these ensembles on a regular basis. Poor attendance at rehearsals may lead to the school withdrawing tuition with no refund.
4. Lessons will continue to be available during periods of Study Leave in Years 11, 12 and 13. Students will be expected to attend instrumental lessons during periods of Study Leave and in the weeks following their exams, but can arrange lesson times with their teacher so as not to affect their exams. Refunds cannot be made for lessons missed during such times.

INFORMATION ABOUT MUSIC TUITION AT WALTON HIGH SCHOOL 2026-27

WHAT DO WE OFFER?

All students in Years 7 to 13 are offered tuition on the following:

Flute	Oboe	Clarinet	Alto Saxophone
Tenor Saxophone	Bassoon	French Horn	Trumpet
Trombone	Tuba	Violin	Viola
Cello	Double Bass	Electric Guitar	Bass Guitar
Classical Guitar	Singing	Keyboard	Piano
Drum Kit			

WHO ARE THE INSTRUMENTAL TEACHERS?

All tuition is given by fully qualified, professional staff of Entrust Music and Performing Arts Service, which is a department within the Local Authority. Many of our teachers also work in our feeder primary schools.

HOW MUCH DOES IT COST?

£280 for the school year: 1st September 2026 to 31st August 2027.

WHAT DOES THIS PAY FOR?

1. 33 lessons during the school year 1st September 2026 to 31st August 2027.
2. Opportunities to rehearse and perform in the many School music ensembles.
3. Access to FREE instrument hire if required from Entrust Music and Performing Arts Service.
4. Access to Entrust Music and Performing Arts Central ensembles and Staffordshire Youth Music ensembles.

Free tuition will be given to those students who have opted to study A Level Music.

Should you struggle to pay for your music tuition, support can be applied for via FOSYM (Friends of Staffordshire Young Musicians) who work closely with Entrust Music Service.

Points to note:

1. Lessons take place during the school day on a rota basis, with students coming out of their curriculum lesson for 20 minutes once a week.
2. Initially students may share lessons in groups of no more than three. Students will have individual lessons where the timetable permits.
3. Decisions as to who will have individual lessons will be taken by the Head of Department, in consultation with instrumental staff.
4. Students studying the A Level Music courses in Y12 and Y13 will be entitled to lessons on **one** instrument free of charge as performance constitutes 30% of their examination.

WHEN DO I PAY?

Via Parent Pay in full in September 2026, Via Parent Pay. If tuition is not paid in full by October half term, lessons will be removed.

WHAT IF THE COST OF TUITION FEES PUTS PRESSURE ON FAMILY FINANCES?

Students entitled to free school meals will receive lessons at the reduced cost of £100 per year on one instrument or voice. Other circumstances can be considered on a case-by-case basis provided that suitable evidence is submitted. Should you struggle to pay for your music tuition, support can be applied for via FOSYM (Friends of Staffordshire Young Musicians) who work closely with Entrust Music Service.

CAN STUDENTS TAKE UP TUITION AT ANY TIME DURING THE YEAR?

Yes! The cost will be adjusted according to when the student starts lessons. Please speak to the Head of Music in such cases.

ARE MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS PROVIDED?

Entrust offer Free instrument hire for students taking instrumental lessons were appropriate. Wherever possible, instrument ownership is encouraged.

WHAT IS THE COST OF A MUSICAL INSTRUMENT?

Hiring an instrument through Entrust is FREE at the present time, and this may be preferable for a beginner student initially. As mentioned earlier, it is preferable for a student to own the instrument. The instrumental teaching staff will be happy to recommend a particular model if you wish to purchase an instrument.

IS PROGRESS MONITORED?

Yes. Any student who is under-achieving is reported to the Head of Music and Performing Arts who takes appropriate remedial action. An annual report is issued for each student by the instrumental/singing staff during the Summer Term.

IS ATTENDANCE OF LESSONS MONITORED?

Yes. Instrumental/singing staff complete the school register each week in addition to keeping their own registers. Parents are notified of repetitive absences. We do expect students to notify their instrumental or singing teachers of an absence prior to the lesson, if at all possible. This cuts down on administration.

ARE STUDENTS EXPECTED TO JOIN A MUSICAL ENSEMBLES?

Yes! The Music Department staff at Walton High School, together with the instrumental and singing staff, believe in the absolute necessity and tremendous value of ensemble playing. It is through ensemble work that students have a real opportunity to achieve their maximum potential whilst enriching the life of the school. We look to parents and carers in supporting their children and the school in the quest to make music together whilst having fun and enjoyment during this process. Encouragement is the key to success!

WHAT PERFORMANCE OPPORTUNITIES ARE AVAILABLE?

Walton High School Music Department produces two main concerts annually, at which all the School Ensembles perform, and numerous other performing opportunities are arranged throughout the year. There is also the chance that students will be selected to be a part of the school production bands/ orchestras. Many other opportunities to perform arise throughout the year. These may not always be at the school.

PROCEDURE FOR PAYMENTS

The annual tuition fee of £280 should be paid via Parent Pay by the date stated on the contract.

1. You should complete and sign the contract pro-forma, which will then serve as a contract between you and Walton High School.
2. Return the completed and signed pro-forma to the school music department.

REGISTRATION OF STUDENTS

Upon receipt of the contract and payment confirmed via Parent Pay, each student will be registered for the chosen instrument/ voice with the appropriate teacher. If payment has not been made, students will not be entitled to lessons and will not be registered.

ARE THERE ANY CONDITIONS ATTACHED TO THE INSTRUMENTAL TUITION?

Yes – and these really do need to be considered very carefully before making a commitment to instrumental tuition:

1. There will be a commitment for lessons to be undertaken either for the whole School Year 1st September 2026 to 31st August 2027 or from the date of commencement to 31st August 2027.
2. **No refund will be made for lessons lost through student absence or termination of lessons made at student's request.**
3. It is a condition that each student must join at **least one** of the school's musical ensembles as appropriate. Membership is actively encouraged. Students will attend rehearsals of these ensembles on a regular weekly basis. Poor attendance at rehearsals may lead to the school withdrawing tuition with no refund being given.
4. Lessons will continue to be available during periods of Study Leave in Years 11, 12 and 13. Students will be expected to attend instrumental lessons during periods of Study Leave, but can arrange lesson times with their teacher so as not to affect their exams. Refunds cannot be made for lessons missed during such times.
5. All applications and payments in full must be made by the date stated on your contact.

