

Music at AGGS

Y6 Music Information
Evening
June 4th 2025

Ms J Mayall
Head of Music



Why is music so good for us?

- ‘Students involved in musical activities often experience *heightened interest in academic study*... they also practice *leadership and team skills*... and have a healthy use of their leisure time’
- (Annual review of research for school leaders)



Music in Year 7 at AGGS



What does this mean for your child?

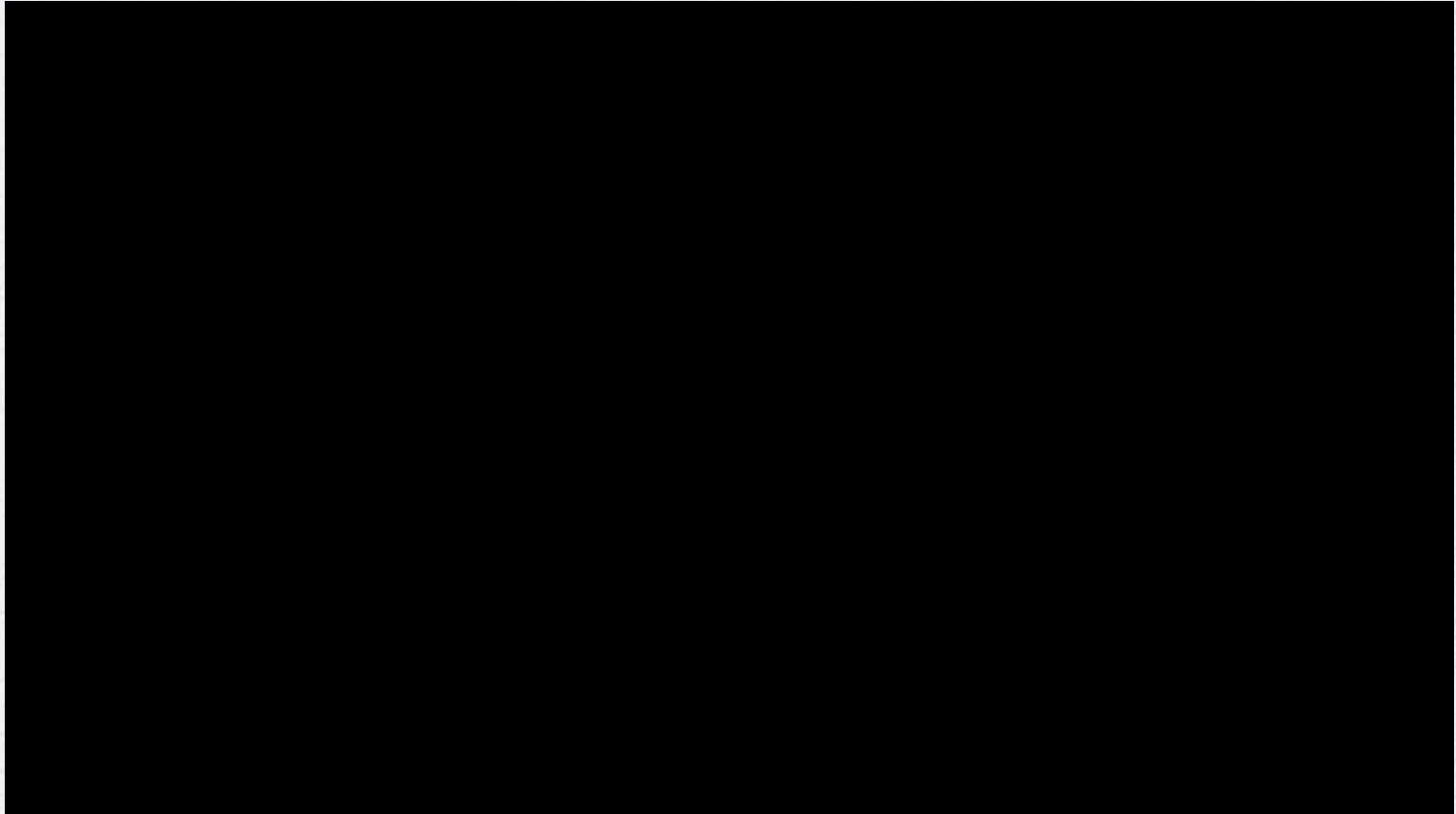
- **Curriculum Music** – 3 lessons per cycle –
Listening/Performing/Composing
– topic based curriculum
teaching a wide range of musical
skills. See AGGS website.
- **Extracurricular Music** –
15 choirs/orchestras/ensembles/
bands
- **Instrumental music lessons** –
‘peripatetic lessons’ – 12 Visiting
Music Teachers

Choirs

- **Weekly rehearsals – Autumn Term**
- Junior Choir (Y7 & Y8)
- Senior Choir
- Chamber Choir (auditioned from Y8)



Junior Choir - Rhythm



Annual musical production

- Spring/Summer Term
- Y7 – Y10
- Chicago July 2025
- Tickets available from Reception



Orchestras

- **Weekly rehearsals – open to all students – whether they learn an instrument in or out of school**
- 2nd Orchestra (beginner – G5)
- 1st Orchestra (G5+)
- String Orchestra (advanced players by invitation)



Bands

Jazz Band

Wind Band



Bands

Rock / Pop bands formed by students:

- Y13 - Navigation Rd
- Y11 - Zenith
- Y10 - Apollo
- Y10 - Aversion
- Y8 - Rise of Aurora
- Y8 – 25

We provide:

- Rehearsal space
- Performance tips
- Advice on repertoire
- Performance opportunities at AGGS and AGSB



Student led ensembles

- **7 student led ensembles on offer at AGGS– younger students love to join these**
- Wind Band
- Flute Ensemble
- Junior Strings
- Guitar Ensemble
- Bollywood Singers



Large scale events at AGGS

- 2010 Centenary concert – Bridgewater Hall
- Large scale concerts at school each term – often 200+ students perform at each concert
- Come to our next concert!....
- **Summer Serenade concert
Tue June 10th**
- **Tickets available from
Reception**



What if my child learns an instrument out of school?

- **Any student** can join an ensemble at AGGS
- It doesn't matter if students learn an instrument in or out of school



What if my child doesn't learn an instrument?

- **All students can join Junior Choir**
- Tue lunchtime
- Everyone has a voice and singing is really good for us





Instrumental lessons on offer at AGGS



- **Strings** – violin viola cello double bass
- **Woodwind** – flute clarinet oboe bassoon saxophone
- **Brass** – cornet trumpet trombone french horn euphonium tuba
- **Percussion** - drum kit orchestral percussion
- **Other** - piano guitar voice

Instruments **not** available

- There are currently **no spaces for**
- **Piano**
- There are currently **very few for**
- **Guitar**
- **Individual singing lessons**
- There may be spaces later in the year if you would like to go onto the waiting list
- Typically 1 –2 terms' wait

Instrumental lessons on offer at AGGS with no waiting list



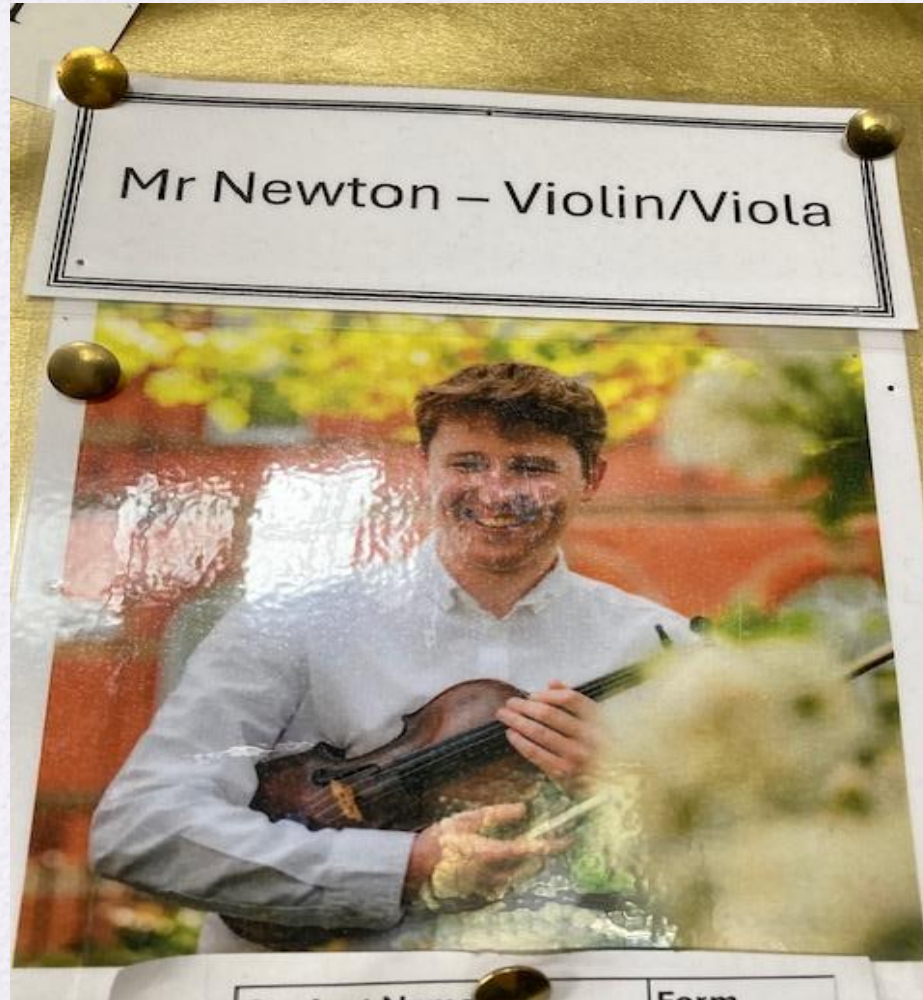
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violin viola cello double
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- **Woodwind** –
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- **Brass** –
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- **Percussion** - drum
kit orchestral percussion

Violin, viola



- Ms
Barnicoat

Violin, viola

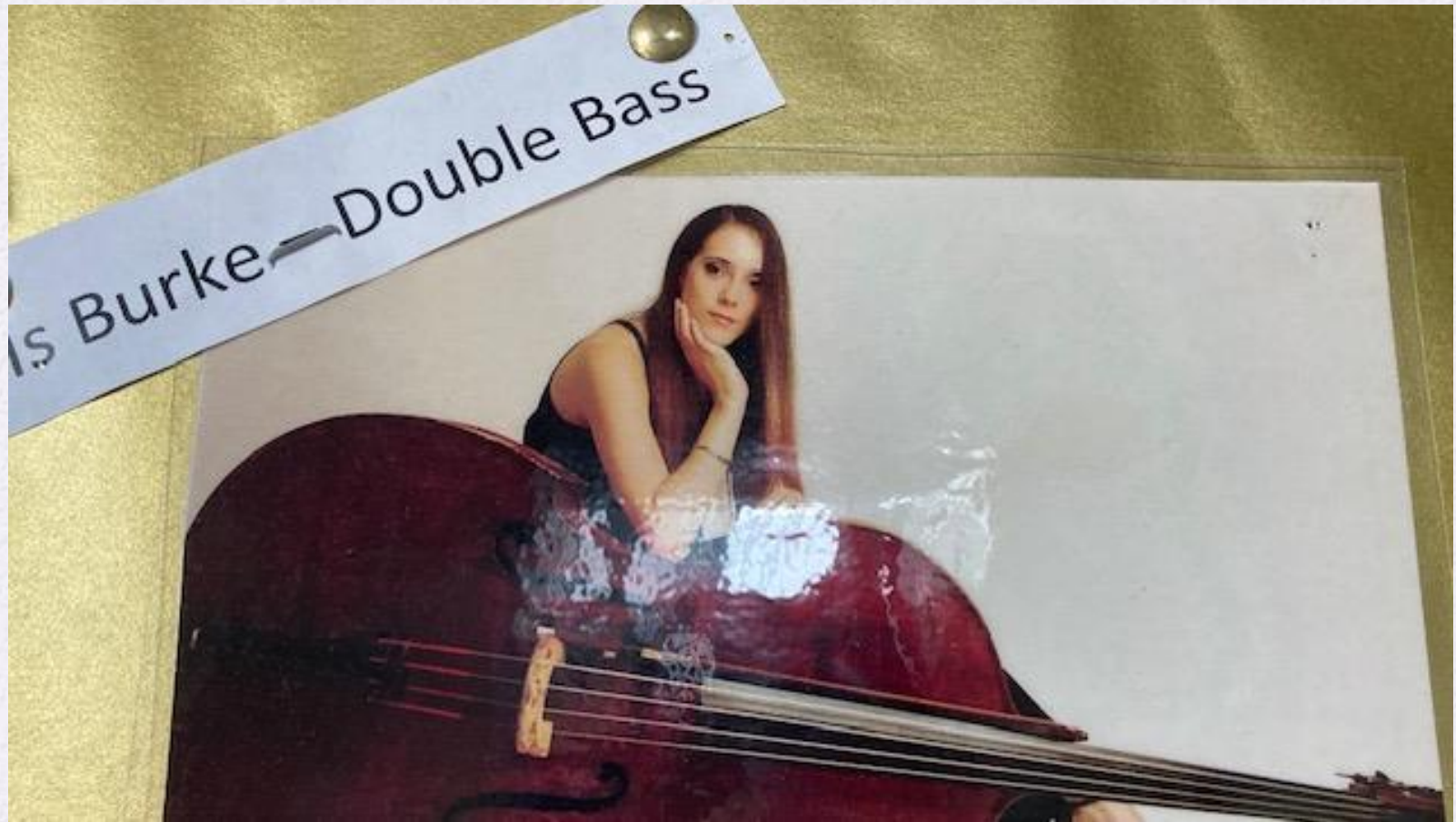


Cello

Ms Fussl



Double Bass



Guitar – Ms Reynolds



Trombone French horn Trumpet Tuba,
Euphonium – Mr Lewis



Flute – Miss Hunter



Clarinet and oboe – Mrs Lewis



Saxophone – Miss McCallum



Bassoon – Ms Peller



Percussion – drum kit and orchestral – Miss Crossley



Voice – Miss Johnson



Piano – Ms Bentall



Cost of lessons at AGGS

£21.00 for a weekly individual 30 min
lesson

- **Instrumental teachers at AGGS
are all**
 - **Highly qualified**
- **Specialist on their instruments**
 - **Experienced teachers**



Pupil Premium students

- AGGS can help with the cost of lessons and/or the hire of instrument – if your child is eligible for *Pupil Premium*
- Parents of *Pupil Premium* students will receive a letter in September if they are eligible for free lessons
- If your child is in receipt of Free School Meals currently at primary school they are likely to qualify for Pupil Premium funding at AGGS



Thoughts from the Y10s..

- Video
- Freya
- Sarah

Trafford Music Services/AGGS instrument hire

**Your child's instrumental teacher can advise
parents on the best option for hiring/buying
an instrument**

Instrumental hire subsidized by Trafford
Music Services – Visiting Music Teachers can
advise

**Instrumental hire free for a year from AGGS
on double bass and subsidized hire for a year
on viola, clarinet, oboe**

**Instruments can be purchased without VAT
through school** – email [Finance@aggs.bright-
futures.co.uk](mailto:Finance@aggs.bright-futures.co.uk)



**Y7s to be
ask yourselves these
questions.....**

Which instrument do you
like the sound of?

What kind of music do you
like?

Which instrument your
'heart sing?'...

Learning an instrument is
great fun and real asset...
but it does require
committed practice!

You need to choose well!



‘Endangered’ instruments in the UK

- Some instruments are in short supply!
- Viola and Double Bass
- Oboe, Bassoon
- Trumpet, Trombone, French Horn



**Benefit of learning these? Fairly immediate access
to external orchestras/bands/ensembles**

Feeling ‘special’ as a player – always in demand!



'Endangered wind/brass instruments' at

AGGS..

- WE NEED YOU at AGGS to play one of these.....
- Any **brass instrument!**
- **Cornet, trumpet, French horn, trombone, euphonium, tuba**
- **Some wind instruments- Clarinet Oboe and bassoon**
- **Saxophone**



'Endangered string instruments' at AGGS..

- WE NEED YOU at AGGS to play one of these.....
- Lower strings -
- Cello
- Double bass



Apply to learn **one instrument at AGGS**

- **One instrument limit in Y7**
- Students find this is enough to organise
- Fewer class lessons to miss/catch up with work
- If learning 2 instruments set up one instrument with a teacher outside school
- **If your child wishes to take up another instrument wait until Y8 to apply, if things have gone well in Y7**

Parents - what if your child is really musical?

- **Encourage them to learn 2 instruments** – though we do suggest just learning one in school and one out of school
- **Piano/guitar** – ability to play harmony – to compose in a more ‘complete way’
- **AND – SING!** Massively develops aural skills, sight reading and is great fun to **sing in a choir**



Looking after your instrument/insurance

- **Instrumental cases MUST be named!**outside and inside of case – contact details
- **Storage available** at AGGS for instruments during the day
- **Tie a ribbon around the case handle** – make it easy to recognise
- **Instruments must be insured** - add the instrument to your house insurance policy
- **Instruments must be taken home** each night



How do the music lessons work? Do students miss class lessons to attend?

- Students will miss 30 mins of an hour lesson at AGGS to attend their instrumental or singing lesson.
- This could be any lesson eg french, maths, science, art, music.....
- **DO NOT apply for lessons in school if you are not happy with this**
- Students have their instrumental lesson rotated as evenly as is possible – and are rotated out of any lesson
- The system usually works well and students benefit from music lessons in school with specialist



What if my child has an appointment during a music lesson?

- Teachers must be given **at least one week's notice** eg hospital appointment/ music exam, orthodontist.
- **Please do not apply for lessons if you are not in agreement with this**
- Teachers are **not** able to reorganize a lesson to accommodate a test/specific lesson
- Instrumental teachers **are empathetic** to the girls and will try to reorganize lessons if there is a good reason and with enough notice



Learning an instrument outside of school

- Another option for your child
- **Why?** Occasionally, your child may find the organisation of lesson rotations hard to manage

Learning an instrument in school

- **Why better to learn in school?** Travelling time to external lesson/finding a good teacher sometimes difficult – easier for parents.
- And we have a highly experienced, talented instrumental teachers here at AGGS !

Performance time

- Cello - Janavi
- Double Bass – Jennifer and Laetitia
- French horn - Olga
- Trumpet – Holly
- Bassoon – Isla
- Clarinet – Maisie
- Oboe duet – Dana
- Saxophone - Xinyue



Time to try meet our endangered instrument teachers

Follow the one way system

Up the stairs

Room 9 Brass

Room 10 Cello

Room 13 Oboe/clarinet

Room 14 Saxophone

Hall Double Bass

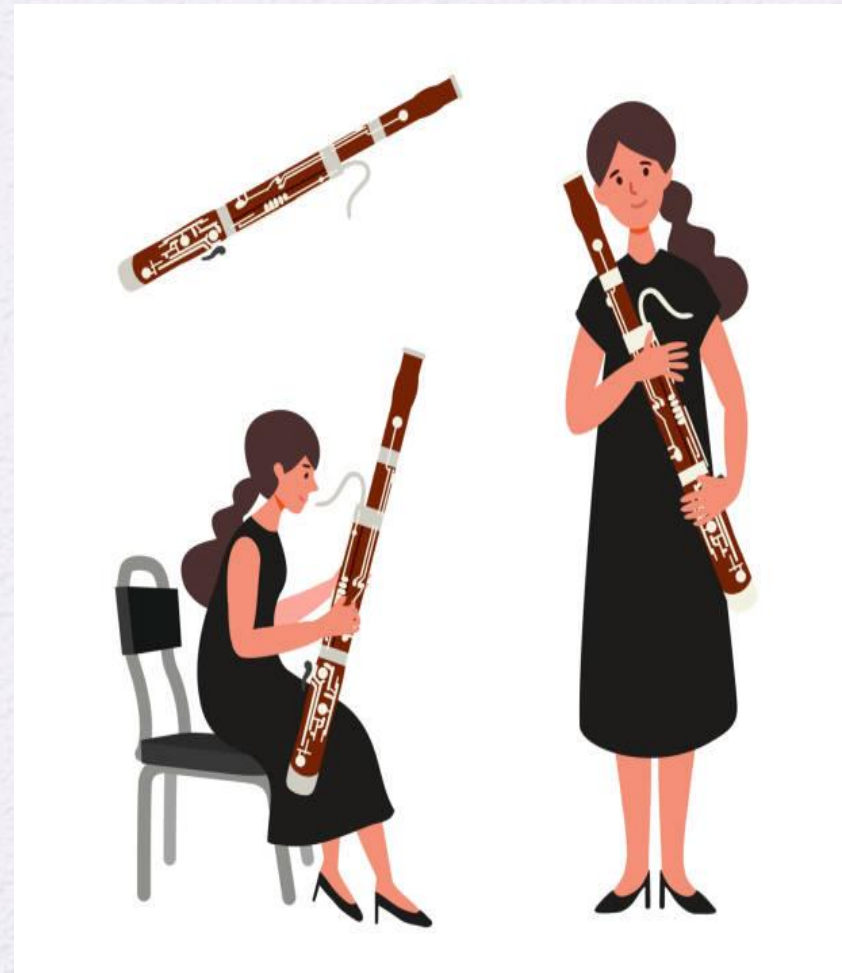
- Oboe/clarinet – Mrs Lewis (13)
- Saxophone – Ms McCallum (14)
- Brass – Mr Lewis (9)
- Cello – Ms Fussl (10)
- Double Bass – Mrs Burke (Hall)

Trying out the oboe and clarinet?

You are welcome to try out the clarinet oboe or saxophone.... and use a reed provided..

But only if you are serious about starting lessons

- Bassoon, oboe and saxophone reeds are expensive to buy and can only be used by one



What next?

Complete an instrumental application form this evening or online at the latest by

Friday June 13th

Return by email to

admin@aggs.bright-futures.co.uk

Ms Mayall (Head of Music) will forward your application to the relevant music teacher who will contact you to arrange lessons.

Your child's instrumental teacher will contact you by phone/email at the latest by the 1st week of Sep

You can also wait and apply mid year for lessons



Any general questions?

- See Ms Mayall after this talk in the Hall

Finally...

- ‘The earlier a child... comes to grips with music, the more the brain growth will be influenced. **It sets them up for life.**’

Music Council of Australia

...Looking forward to seeing you all at the **AGGS Christmas concerts** next term – in December!



