

Frequently Asked Questions

Q: Why the price increase ?

A: There will be greater demands on the staff and they will be of the highest calibre. They will have to write reports, run ensembles, etc. and attend regular meetings and training sessions. The lessons themselves will be 30 minutes and 5 additional minutes will be allocated at the beginning and end of each lesson for collecting pupils and returning them to their classrooms (this applies to pupils in PP1- P2).

Q: Will the staff be new?

A: We have advertised for staff and invited all previous visiting musicians to apply.

Q: Will my children have to take the London College of Music exams?

A: No. But they will follow the curriculum of the exams (which has mixed repertoire, carefully chosen for the best pedagogical reasons). We hope that the exams will motivate pupils to learn and progress.

Q: At the moment the tuition is only being offered for strings, piano and voice. Why? Will any other instruments be added?

A: We are aiming to build up the orchestras and choirs that perform at the school, which is why we have this emphasis. Other orchestral instruments (wind, brass) will be offered as Paid After School Activities, along with rock & pop coaching. Pupils having voice lessons will be expected to be part of a choir at the school.

Q: Will there be opportunities for my son or daughter to practise at school?

A: Yes, many more than before. We have more studios and will have a booking system for practising. Pupils having lessons at school will have priority in using these rooms.

Q: How many pupils will be in the group lessons?

We imagine two, but a maximum of three.

For all other queries, please write to our Director of Music, Mr Lee Ward, at lw@stpauls.br

New Music Tuition Programme

Commences January 2016



St. Paul's School

MANIBUS POTENTIA STUDIUM ANIMIS



Now that we have received permission to occupy our new academic centre building, we are even more excited about the new opportunities that the building offers for many aspects of school life and I am writing now to tell you about the new music provision that we will be offering in our new state of the art music centre from January 2016.

Anyone who works in the arts will tell you that, as well as being great fun, it is a serious business. In order to be a successful musician and to progress in one's instrument, it is important to develop those skills in the hands of well qualified professionals and against the backdrop of a well-structured programme which allows progression and integrated assessment.

Hence, from January 2016, we will be offering a new programme of individual music tuition for children in the school which will include the teaching of the London College of Music syllabuses and children will be entered for the practical examinations at appropriate stages on their music journey. The practical exams are internationally recognised and allow progression from initial level (beginner standard) to grade 8 and diploma level (music teacher standard). They are highly valued by universities around the world and they are credited with UCAS points for UK university applications. We will be the first school in Brazil who offers this opportunity to our pupils. The lessons will be part of our co-curricular enrichment programme and will be delivered during the school day on a rotation basis (as in most UK schools).

Alongside the practical qualifications, children who wish to progress further will be encouraged to study the theory of music in order to support their practical skills development. The theory exams will be offered in parallel to the practical tests.

Initially, practical tuition will be offered in piano and strings (violin, viola and cello) as these are the instruments that generate the most interest

among our pupils and which will help to establish a firm basis for orchestral and ensemble playing within the school. We also plan to offer singing lessons, and all pupils who are learning to sing are expected to take part in the school choirs.

In addition to your child learning an instrument or learning to sing, we also encourage you as parents to learn along with your child. This will be, we hope, a way of engaging you as parents with music making and will help to keep your child motivated with their practice!

This new programme will necessitate the appointment of new teachers. In order to plan the recruitment of teachers and allocation of resources, we need to have a commitment from parents who wish their child to be involved in this new programme. I would be very grateful if you could indicate your intention for your child to take classes by completing the form on the parent portal here: <http://parentportal.stpauls.br/parent-surveys/music-tuition-interest-form>

Lessons will last 30 minutes and will cost R\$100 per person per 30-minute individual lesson and R\$75 per person per 30-minute lesson for a shared (small group) lesson. The costs would be charged via the school bill.

Those pupils who are already taught as part of our curriculum music programme (IB, IGCSE and Fukuda) will continue as at present.

Finally, we hope to offer some PASAs (Paid After School Activities) in group tuition/ensemble work for wind and brass instruments (flute, clarinet, trumpet, trombone), for voice and also coaching for rock and pop bands by a visiting professional.

We will be in touch once we have collated your responses and will require a deposit from you to indicate your full commitment to the programme in the New Year.

Kind regards,

Louise Simpson
Head