



October 2025

Dear parents and carers,

Instrumental and vocal tuition at Cheltenham Bournside School 2025/26

We are delighted to offer your child the opportunity to learn a musical instrument or receive vocal tuition here at Bournside. Music lessons provide so much more than technical skills. They help students build **confidence, creativity, resilience, and self-discipline**, while also boosting focus, memory, and overall academic achievement. Most importantly, making music is an enjoyable way to express yourself and be part of something bigger. Whether your child is a complete beginner or already experienced, they are warmly encouraged to take part and join our thriving musical community.

What lessons are available?

Students can choose from a wide range of instruments:

- **Strings** – Violin, Viola, Cello
- **Woodwind** – Flute, Oboe, Clarinet, Saxophone, Bassoon
- **Brass** – Trumpet, Cornet, French Horn, Baritone, Euphonium, Trombone, Tuba
- **Other** – Piano, Electronic Keyboard, Guitar (acoustic, electric, bass), Drums, Singing

Our tutors

We are proud to work with an excellent team of specialist peripatetic tutors:

- Piano/Keyboard – Mrs Nia Bennett | music@niabennett.co.uk
- Clarinet & Saxophone – Mrs Sarah Chestney | smchestney@gmail.com
- Violin/Piano – Mrs Helen Calder | helen.calder663@outlook.com
- Guitar – Mr Matthew Hopkins | hopmatkins@hotmail.co.uk
- Flute – Mr Matthew Morris | matt.mormfmusic@googlemail.com
- Voice – Ms Lisa Coleman | lisapearce@hotmail.co.uk
- Drums – Mr Jack Quance | jackquance6@gmail.com
- Brass – *New teacher to be confirmed*

For any general queries, please contact Mr Cutress.

Lesson Information

- **Duration:** 20 or 30 minutes
- **Timing:** During the school day on rotation (so the same lesson is not missed each week)
- **Structure:** 10 lessons per block (not always aligned with term dates)



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- **Cost:**
Prices vary per instrument and tutor, but on average, prices are:
£14 for 20 minutes / £140 per block of ten
£19 for 30 minutes / £190 per block of ten
- **Payment:** Direct to your child's tutor, usually in advance

Support with costs

Means-tested bursaries for peripatetic lessons are available through the GSW Music Hub Glos. Full details can be found here: [Make Music Gloucestershire Grants & Bursaries](#) (we recommend applying early as funding is limited).

Instruments

Students may use their own instrument, hire one from Gloucestershire Music, or from Jazz Shed in Charlton Kings (rent-to-buy scheme available). Some students may be entitled to a free loan instrument.

Further musical opportunities at Bournside

Learning an instrument is just the beginning! Students can also take part in a wide range of [extra-curricular clubs](#):

- **Jazz Band**
 - **Orchestra**
 - **Youth Choir & Senior Choir**
 - **Guitar Group**
 - **Folk Band**
- ...and many concerts and events throughout the year.

How to apply

If you would like your child to take instrumental or vocal lessons this year, please contact the relevant tutor directly to arrange lessons.

We look forward to welcoming many new young musicians!

Best regards,

Mr Matt Cutress

Head of Music

mcutress@bournside.com

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