



Ysgol y Foel



Ffordd y Llan, Cilcain, Mold, Flintshire, CH7 5NW

Headteacher/Pennaeth – Mr Spencer Williams

'Happy, United, Inspired Achievers'

Wednesday, 22 April 2015

Dear Parent/Guardian

Flintshire Music Service (FMS) is committed to enabling all young people to access high quality music education that will engage, inspire, challenge and support them throughout their school career. The Service is very much a partnership between schools, specialist instrumental/vocal tutors, pupils, parents and Flintshire LA.

Scientific evidence confirms that learning a musical instrument/voice has many benefits, beyond that of the musical development. The evidence shows that it boosts brain power, stimulating parts of the brain that are related to reading, mathematics and emotional development. It helps to develop social and life skills, especially when relating to others and working as part of a team. It also promotes self – discipline, determination and time management skills. Most importantly music gives pleasure, enables young people to discover the joy of music making and allows them to unlock their true emotional and creative potential. **It is also great fun!**

Instrumental/Vocal Tuition

Instrumental teaching develops specific instrumental and musical skills through group teaching delivered by specialist instrumental/vocal tutors. The range of instruments taught varies depending on the size of the school, availability of suitably qualified teacher and instruments. It includes the full range of orchestral, wind band and brass band instruments, harp, guitar, piano, keyboard and percussion. Vocal teaching, by specialist vocal teachers, is also offered to all schools.

The group size and the duration of the lessons will be determined by the school in partnership with FMS. FMS recommends that lessons should be of 30 minutes length, with a group size that enables all learners in that group to learn effectively at their own level. Flexibility may be required when there is a wide range of standards and/or instruments to be taught in the allocated time. Learners will be required to purchase copies of published music which may be required for their tuition and Associated Board of the Royal Schools of Music (ABRSM) external examination repertoire.

Learners will receive a minimum of 30 lessons across the full academic year. The cost for this is £150.00 per annum, which works out at £5.00 per lesson, which I am sure you will agree is very reasonable!

Instrument Loan

Learners taught by Flintshire Music Service tutors will have access to its stock of instruments (subject to availability) through the County's Instrument Loan Scheme. (NB Harps, Guitars, Pianos, Keyboards and Percussion are not available through this scheme.) Learners who utilize the loan scheme will be required to pay an annual maintenance charge of £25 to enable FMS to maintain the condition of its stock of instruments.

FMS will manage and administer the maintenance charges directly with Parent/Guardians, which will be collected during the Spring Term. **The maintenance fee applies to all learners, including those registered for Free School Meals.** It is hoped that most learners will require a loaned instrument for a maximum of two years. All learners will have access to the Assisted Instrument Purchase Scheme. This is a government initiative that enables learners to buy instruments for lessons in school without paying VAT.

On the back of this letter is an Expression of Interest Form, listing all available lessons provided by FMS. Please indicate whether your child is currently taking tuition and wishes to continue, whether your child is currently taking tuition and does not wish to continue in September, or whether they wish to start tuition in September 2015, by ticking the relevant box. Please return all forms to Mrs Robinson by Friday 8th May 2015.

Yours faithfully,

Mr S J Williams

Telephone/Rhif Ffon: 01352 740197

E-mail/Ebost: yfmail@yfoel.flintshire.sch.uk

Website: www.ysgolyfoel.org

Twitter: @ysgolyfoel

Telephone/Rhif Ffon: 01352 740197

E-mail/Ebost: yfmail@yfoel.flintshire.sch.uk

Website: www.ysgolyfoel.org

Twitter: @ysgolyfoel