

## Message from Hertfordshire Music Service:

Brass Cubs (learning a brass instrument) runs on **Fridays from 4:30 – 5:15pm**, at St Albans Music School.

Wind Stars (learning clarinet or saxophone) runs on **Fridays from 5:30 – 6:15pm** at St Albans Music School.

To find out more and confirm your place, please visit [www.hertsmusicservice.org.uk/sams-wind](http://www.hertsmusicservice.org.uk/sams-wind)

The cost of the group is **£43** for the term, including free loan of an instrument if your child wishes. The payment requested by invoice later in the term. The first sessions will run on **Friday 17<sup>th</sup> September**.

Please note that this group has **limited places**. We will allocated places on a first come first serve basis. **Please await a confirmation email from us confirming your place** before attending. Any pupils not successful in gaining a place on this occasion will be kept on a waiting list for when a place arises.

St Albans Music School is based at Townsend School, High Oaks, St Albans AL3 6DR.

If you have any queries, please don't hesitate to get in touch with us at the centre on 01438 844851

**Hertfordshire Music Service**  
**Staying COVID-19 Secure**  
**Information for Parents and Carers - Music Lessons and Groups at St Albans**  
**Music School**  
**Issued March 2021**

**Your support in reviewing and following this information is greatly appreciated.**

**Working Securely with COVID-19**

Please be assured that St Albans Music School is operating in line with COVID-19 government guidance. Safety measures are in place at the centre, arrangements have been reviewed by the HMS senior leadership team and we are confident our centre provides a safe and secure learning environment for your child.

**Rapid Lateral Flow Testing**

HMS can confirm that all our staff are strongly encouraged to take part in regular home testing in order to play their part in stopping the asymptomatic spread of COVID-19. If you as [parents/carers of pupils in a school](#) are also taking part in this testing and you receive a positive test – you **must** follow the [guidance](#), immediately begin self-isolation and your child must not attend the music centre.

**Emergency Contact Details**

Please let us know if your emergency contact details have changed (**your email address and your mobile number**) in reply to this email in order to attend lessons at St Albans Music School. Do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions.

**Symptoms of COVID-19**

To help prevent the spread of the virus, please do not come to St Albans Music School for a lesson if your child or anyone in your household or support bubble with has any of the following:

§ a high temperature

§ a new, continuous cough;

§ a loss of, or change to, their sense of smell or taste;

or if they or someone in their household or support bubble:

§ has been advised to self-isolate as part of the government's test and trace program.

For more information, please visit: [gov.uk website](#).

Please contact us via [stalbanmusicenquiries@hertfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:stalbanmusicenquiries@hertfordshire.gov.uk) at the earliest possible opportunity if your child is unable to attend their lesson.

**Preparation for Lessons**

Your child must bring their:

- instrument (where applicable) and music;
- drink bottle/ container with water.

**Drop-off and Pick-up**

If possible and it is safe do to so, please drop your child outside the centre for their lesson. Stay outside whilst your child enters the centre. If you can see someone at the reception desk, please ask your child to wait a few moments until the area is clear.

Parents who attend instrumental lessons alongside their child (such as Suzuki) may continue to do so. We will continue to ensure the room spacing and layout allows for appropriate distance between household groups.

Please remain outside when you collect your child. **Also include your NHS Test and Trace check-in information here.**

### **Face Coverings**

Face coverings should now be worn by anyone (including pupils) in year 7 and above when moving around the centre such as in corridors and communal areas where social distancing cannot be easily maintained. Children of primary school age do not need to wear a face covering. Those who rely on visual signals for communication, or provide support to such individuals, are currently exempt from any requirement to wear face coverings in schools or in public places.

All tuition will be conducted with at least 2 metres distancing so face coverings will not be required in rehearsal or teaching rooms.

### **Ensembles**

Once ensembles can begin again, in line with the easing of national restrictions, all ensemble rehearsals continue to be limited to a maximum of 15 pupils with a teacher. Numbers may be further limited based on the capacity of the teaching space to account for social distancing and/or adequate ventilation. Groups will not be mixed during rehearsals.

### **Personal Hygiene Measures**

Please encourage your child to follow personal hygiene measures:

- § Washing hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds on arrival;
- § Washing hands regularly, again for a minimum of 20 seconds;
- § When coughing/ sneezing cover mouth and nose with a tissue (or sleeve if they do not have a tissue) (**CATCH IT**), not coughing or sneezing into your hands and dispose tissue into a bin as soon as possible (**BIN IT**);
- § Washing hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds before and after eating;
- § Not touching faces, mouths or eyes before washing hands;

### **Social Distancing**

Please encourage your child to follow social distancing rules, maintaining 2 metres distance from all other people at all times.

### **Safeguarding and Child Protection**

HMS is aware that the COVID-19 outbreak may have caused mental health or wellbeing difficulties for some children and their families. If you have any concerns about how your child may respond to returning to music making face to face, please contact the Head of Centre in confidence – [rachel.curson@hertfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:rachel.curson@hertfordshire.gov.uk) .

### **Parking**

Parking arrangements remain the same as previously. Parking is very limited at SAMS so please ensure you do not get out or in your car at the same time as other car drivers around you. If possible, please park with a space between yourself and adjacent cars.

The contact telephone for St Albans Music School is **01438 845299**.

**If you have any questions**

**please contact [stalbanmusicenquiries@hertfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:stalbanmusicenquiries@hertfordshire.gov.uk)**