

Support towards tuition costs

for children and young people receiving
instrumental or vocal tuition in Wiltshire Schools

As part of its commitment to supporting musical participation in Wiltshire, and its role as a Music Education Hub, Wiltshire Music Connect can assist with the costs of tuition for parents, carers and families who need support.

Support is also available with the cost of instrument hire – see our separate guidance sheet.

Who is eligible?

- **This support applies to pupils in Primary, Secondary and Special Schools - Council supported Schools, Academies, Faith and / or 'Private' Schools.**
- **Support is only available where tuition is taking place in/through schools and where tuition is being provided by one of Wiltshire Music Connect's growing pool of quality assured Associate Tutors / Organisations.** Please follow the link to see this list which is growing weekly.
- **Those Associate tutors must be paid at or over the equivalent of £27 per hour – levels of subsidy don't increase if a tutor charges more than £37 per hour.** Wiltshire Music Connect suggests that tutors should be paid in the range of £32.32- £36.36 per hour. This hourly rate recognises tutors as skilled professionals, covers the costs of self-employment and insurance etc., and allows them some time in their working year for training and skills development.

If you have a tutor in mind who is not an Associate of Wiltshire Music Connect, you can point them towards the [process for 'applying' to be one](#). We cannot process requests for support from non-Associates.

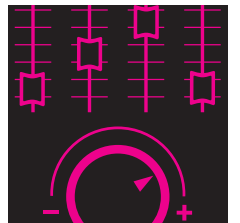
How much help is available?

- **70% reduction** for pupils eligible for **Pupil Premium** (inc those entitled to **Free School Meals** and **Service Pupil Premium**).
- **70% reduction** for pupils with **Special Education Needs** and / or a **Disability**.
- **100% reduction in fees for pupils who are Looked After / In Care (LAC)** – this is through a partnership with Wiltshire Virtual School.
- **40% reduction for pupils who schools classify as vulnerable for other reasons** and who are **unlikely to be able to take up (or continue) lessons** as a result of economic or social circumstances. This is at your school's discretion.

To see how this works out for you, try our **Subsidy calculator 'tool'** which is [on our website here](#).

As an example

A child entitled to Pupil Premium having a 15 minute individual lesson with a tutor charging £8.75 for the lesson (the equivalent of £35 p/h) can receive 70% subsidy (£6.13) reducing the cost to £2.62 per lesson.



How does it work?

Requests for subsidy need to come from schools and subsidy payments are made to schools. We aren't currently able to make payments directly to tutors or families.

The subsidies are available for:

- a 15 minute individual or 30 minute shared lesson
- or a 20 minute shared lesson.

If your child is having tuition for longer than this then our support is 'capped' at one of the above. You may wish to seek further support from other sources – see below.



What to do next

If your, or your child's, circumstances fit into one of the above categories, please make both your **Associate Tutor** and your school aware that you'd like to request support towards tuition costs. If you're unsure if you might qualify, please ask them.

Your school can submit a request for subsidy (schools will be informed of the appropriate forms and deadlines) from March 2016. The details will be on the Wiltshire Music Connect website [here](#) and all Wiltshire Schools will be notified of the information / offer.

If the request is approved then your school and tutor will be notified.

Depending on how your school decides to deal with things and what you agree with your tutor, you will either:

- receive tuition bills from your tutor for the balance of their fee
- receive tuition bills your school for the balance of the fee.

Other sources of support

We are aware that some pupils may need a greater level of support in order to fulfil their potential – perhaps with:

- additional lessons
- longer lessons or
- additional instruments
- or because they're from a family with several musical learners.

We have partnered with **Wiltshire Rural Music School** on a special bursary scheme to which parents/carers can apply with endorsement from a tutor. Details of which can be found [here](#).

Where to find out more

The **Wiltshire Music Connect website** aims to be the central point of information about what opportunities are available. There's lots of other guidance for parents and carers, including how to get help with the costs of musical learning. [Sign up for the Ebulletin](#) as a 'parent' subscriber and you'll only be sent information which is likely to be of interest to parents and carers.

Wiltshire Music Connect: www.wiltshiremusicconnect.org.uk

info@wiltshiremusicconnect.org.uk

 **@WiltsHub**