

## Charging & Remissions

### Charging, Remissions and Subsidy Policy

Walsall Music Education Service (WMES) receives DfE funding which is administered and distributed by Arts Council England and other grant-awarding bodies to support musical activity for Walsall's children and young people.

Walsall Music Education Service heavily subsidises the cost of all our activities to offer value for money to schools and families, to enable equal access and to remove barriers for inclusion.

Walsall Music Education Service does not make any charges directly to parents for instrumental or vocal lessons in any school in Walsall.

Making music in a group is the most effective way to develop your skills as a young musician. WMES supports a huge range of opportunities to make music in Walsall and we do not charge for attendance at Music Centre ensembles for pupils. Subsidised places are available for Music Centre lessons, subject to availability. See [here](#) for more. Schools buying teaching provision from the Music Service under the terms of a Service Level Agreement can, if they choose to, offset the costs. Some schools may ask for contributions from parents. This is a matter for the Headteacher and school governors to decide; Walsall Music Education Service has no influence on the school's charging policy.

Pupil Premium and Pupil Premium Plus funding is made available in English schools to raise the attainment of disadvantaged pupils and to close the gap between them and their peers. Walsall Music Education Service does not receive Pupil Premium or Pupil Premium Plus funding.

If your child is eligible for Pupil Premium or Pupil Premium Plus, it may be possible for this funding to be used to support the cost of lessons in school – please contact your child's school for more information.

Where a school has a Service Level Agreement with WMES and receives weekly tuition from Walsall Music Education Service teachers, instruments are supplied to schools free of charge.

All WMES instruments supplied under a Service Level Agreement or for Music Centre are maintained and repaired free of charge unless caused by malicious damage.

Schools who do not have a Service Level Agreement with Walsall Music Education Service and provide their own music tuition, can hire instruments from WMES. See [here](#) for more.

Walsall schools are charged a nominal/minimal subsidised fee for entry to some WMES large-scale events and some CPD sessions.

Walsall Music Education Service works in partnership with Walsall Virtual School to ensure that children in care have access to free music tuition and ensemble membership. This is currently largely funded by the Virtual School for Walsall's looked after children. Walsall Music Education Service also provides free instrument hire for children in care.