



Essex Music Services – the Service Provider

Essex Music Services provide quality instrumental tuition to schools and colleges in Essex, covering all major orchestral and band instruments and musical styles. They offer a Tuition Voucher Scheme for those families receiving certain benefits, instrument hire at extremely favourable rates and the opportunity for young people to perform in many youth orchestras and ensembles including Symphony Orchestras, Jazz, Percussion, Wind and Brass Groups.

Essex Music Services provides peripatetic music tutors to nearly 300 schools in Essex, as well as twenty-five music schools.

Throughout the year a number of workshops are run for young people (aged 7–21) who live or are educated in Essex. A free coach is often provided to and from the workshops.

Essex Music Services is justly famous for the County Youth Ensembles which operate under its umbrella. With high quality tuition from some of the best musicians and conductors, young musicians from Essex have the chance to play challenging repertoire and experience the hard work and enjoyment that goes into producing a live performance. These ensembles include Essex Youth Orchestra, Essex Young People's Orchestra, Essex Youth Symphonic Wind Orchestra, Essex Youth Percussion Ensembles, Essex Youth Brass Ensembles, Essex Youth Jazz Orchestra and Young Essex Jazz.

Essex Music Services operates a Musical Instrument Hire Scheme. Rental can be for just one term – or until your child leaves school (or changes their mind!) They have a wide range of top quality instruments, from flutes to double basses. They even have smaller sized instruments to suit those smaller sized musicians.

Hire rates are extremely favourable, and there is a 50% discount for people in receipt of certain benefits. Phone Essex Music Services on (01206) 798788 or email music@essexcc.gov.uk to discuss your needs.

Benfleet Music School at Appleton

...hitherto one of Castle Point's Best-Kept Secrets!



Did you know...

Essex County Council have been running Specialist Music Classes in Castle Point for over thirty years – in fact, since before “Castle Point” was invented!

Hundreds and hundreds of children from the surrounding districts have benefited from the opportunities afforded by Benfleet Music School to study music and learn to play musical instruments. A surprising number have continued their interest into adulthood – some play professionally at an international level, others teach, and some play as amateurs with one or other of the various community ensembles which operate in the locality and further afield.

Benfleet Music School is a part of Essex Music Services (Essex County Council) and it operates at Appleton School, Croft Road, Benfleet on Saturday mornings during term time. Tuition is available on a one-to-one basis in most instruments of the orchestra (including strings, woodwind and brass), plus piano, drums, guitar, accordion, saxophone, recorder and voice.

Group classes at all levels (from elementary to advanced) are held in Music Theory and Aural (ear training). It is strongly advised that all students participate in these activities. Additionally, there are various ensembles, including a choir and a “rock school”. Membership of the ensembles is by invitation, which is made when the relevant tutor considers that the required standard has been attained.

Students are actively encouraged to take the grading exams (1–8) of the Associated Board of the Royal Schools of Music. (Other exam boards can often be accommodated.)

Each student has their timetable customised to their particular interests and developmental needs, and so it is never necessary to attend for the full morning, which runs from 9am until 12.30pm. For instance, it might be that a student attends for an instrumental lesson of half an hour, plus theory and aural classes and maybe an ensemble session – two hours in total.

There are no audition requirements, for previous musical experience is unnecessary. However, children seeking enrolment should be aware that they are required to practise regularly for 40 minutes every day; during the informal interview the child, together with parents or guardian, will be expected to verbally commit to this discipline.

How much does it cost?

Music lessons at Benfleet Music School represent good value for money, for the cost is subsidised by Essex Music Services. The cost (payable in advance) is £145 for a ten week term (3 terms per year). This includes a regular half hour individual instrumental lesson with a specialist tutor. Shared lessons may be available at a reduced rate. An additional charge is made for students studying a second instrument.

There is a Remissions Voucher Scheme (worth in the region of 50% of the cost) available for people in receipt of certain benefits. Telephone Essex Music Services (01206) 798788 for details.

There are sometimes waiting lists for certain instruments. Telephone the Teacher in Charge, David Hurrell, on (01702) 552668 for further information or email david_hurrell@btinternet.com



Benfleet Music School – Application Form

APPLICANT

FIRST NAME

SURNAME

AGE

DAY SCHOOL

INSTRUMENT(S) TO STUDY

ADDITIONAL INFO.

PARENT/GUARDIAN

TITLE

INITIALS OR FIRST NAME

SURNAME

ADDRESS

POSTCODE

HOME TELEPHONE

MOBILE PHONE

TODAY'S DATE

Post to:

Benfleet Music School
 c/o David Hurrell
 20 Willow Walk
 Hadleigh
 Benfleet SS7 2RW