



St Peter's School
*Music Scholarships
and Bursaries*



St Peter's School Music Department

St Peter's School has one of the largest and most diverse music departments in the North of England, with music playing a central role in school life. The Senior Music School includes 13 teaching spaces, a recital room and a refurbished recording studio, alongside a team of 35 visiting teachers offering individual instrumental and vocal tuition.

Pupils can take part in a wide range of ensembles, from chamber groups and instrumental choirs to larger ensembles including the Wind Band, String Orchestra and School Choir. Singing is at the heart of the department, with multiple choirs and Barbershop groups. Facilities are outstanding, featuring six Yamaha grand pianos, a Bösendorfer 214 VC concert grand, harpsichord and pipe organ.

Regular concerts provide frequent performance opportunities, from informal chapel recitals to major termly concerts and biennial performances at venues such as York Minster. The department tours internationally every two years and its ensembles regularly achieve national recognition, while the Chapel Choir performs annually in leading UK cathedrals.



Honorary Music Scholarships

About the Music Scholarship

Music awards are available to instrumentalists and singers who can offer a broad range of skills to the Music School. At audition, we expect a good Grade 5 standard on the instrument for Year 9 entry and Grade 7 for Sixth Form. We strongly recommend that applicants do not take senior grades (7/8) too early. Beauty of sound, secure technique and strong sight-reading are the key skills we are looking for. The ability to play an orchestral/band instrument is essential and singing is an advantage. A good background in music theory is also highly recommended.

What do Music Scholars receive?

The school covers tuition on up to three instruments and instrumental/singing examination fees for the duration of the award. Music Scholarships are honorary and there is no concession on fees. All scholarships can be awarded alongside means-tested bursaries.

Award holders will normally contribute to two ensemble sessions a week for each instrument/voice that is covered under their award. Many of them participate in more sessions than this but this needs to be balanced against their overall co-curricular offering and academic commitments. Award holders tend to become increasingly involved as they progress through the school, especially in Year 11 and above when they might join select ensembles such as the Chamber Choir, Swing Band and Barbershops in addition to their core offering.

Award funds cannot be used for external lessons, only for lessons taken in the Music School at St Peter's. If a candidate is learning an instrument that is not taught in school, we are happy to discuss how this might be accommodated.

All scholars have the privilege of attending the annual Scholars' Dinner hosted by the Head Master.

Applying for a Music Scholarship

Candidates are encouraged to develop their range of listening and to engage in a wide range of musical activities as they prepare for the audition.

Quick Study	Candidates are given a short piece of music (normally an unaccompanied study, band or orchestral part) to learn independently in 20 minutes on their first study instrument. This will be set at the same standard as their most recent grade
First Study Pieces	The panel will hear two contrasting pieces on the first study instrument.
Sight Reading on First Study Instrument	This time a shorter, unprepared piece of sight-reading with half a minute of preparation, similar to the sight-reading tests in normal grade examinations.
Second Study Piece	One piece on the second study instrument.
Sight Reading on First Study Instrument	Again a short, unprepared piece of sight-reading with half a minute of preparation, similar to the sight-reading tests in normal grade examinations.
Third Study Piece (optional)	If the candidate offers a third instrument, we will hear a single piece.
Aural Tests	The candidate will be asked to sing back some pitches, including picking out different notes within a chord, and a melody played twice.
Interview	The panel ask a few questions of the candidate to assess their suitability to be an award holder in the school. We are seeking enthusiastic and motivated ensemble players, who have a good grasp of theory and demonstrate a desire to contribute to the musical life of the school.

Next Steps

If you have not yet visited St Peter's, we would be delighted to welcome you. Please use our [Visit Us](#) page to register for our next open event or to make an appointment to visit. If you have already visited St Peter's, we'd be delighted to receive your [application](#). Please ensure that you state your interest in a music scholarship on the application form. Scholarships can be awarded alongside a bursary.

Please scan the QR code for more information on visiting and applying to St Peter's



Means-Tested Bursaries

We are proud to offer bursaries to children whose families cannot otherwise fund a place. If your child would thrive in an academic environment, with access to an outstanding programme of Music, Drama, Sport and co-curricular activities, then we'd love to hear from you. Our Bursaries are available only to families looking for day places who cannot afford our fees and are means-tested. Bursaries can be applied for alongside scholarships. Please note that with the exception of the Ginetta scholarship, none of our scholarships offer a reduction in fees.

Why should I apply for a Bursary?

Fees assistance can make a lifelong difference to a child. Not only do these children contribute hugely to the community of our school, through their talents, curiosity, enthusiasm and ability to build relationships, but they themselves benefit from the St Peter's experience, for the rest of their lives.

Pupils benefit from teaching that is rated excellent, pastoral care that focuses on helping each child thrive, an outstanding learning environment with exceptional facilities, a vast programme of after-school activities, help for the future through our Careers and Higher Education provision, and a community with shared values.

Eligibility for Bursaries

The following questions are typically considered by the Head Master, Director of Finance and Governors when deciding on whether to offer Help with Fees:

- Does your family have the ability to improve its financial position?
- Could you use funds that you already have?
- Do you have other sources of household income?
- Are you paying fees to other independent schools?
- Which year groups are eligible for fee assistance?
- Do you already have a child receiving Help with Fees?
- How will a bursary application be affected by the value of your property?
- Have you recently started your own business?
- Is your salary above the national average?

Applying for a Bursary

We expect all applicants to have researched the school before applying as it is critical that St Peter's is the right school for each child. Visiting the school prior to an application is essential and a bursary application will not be considered if a visit has not been made. Please use our [Visit Us](#) page to register for our next open event or to make an appointment to visit. At this stage, if you have any questions about bursaries, please [contact the school](#) to arrange a discussion.

You will need to apply for a place at St Peter's before beginning a bursary application and only those who meet our entrance criteria will be considered. Please note your interest in a bursary on the school's application and we will contact you to discuss the process. You will then be asked to register on our secure portal and complete a bursary application form. Once we have received the form and all of the supporting documents, the means-test will be carried out and your application considered alongside all others. We always receive more applications than we have funds to support so regrettably are not able to offer bursaries to all applicants.

Next Steps

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Please scan the QR code for more information on means-tested bursaries





St Peter's School
YORK