

## Extra-Curricular Music Opportunities at Sonning Common Primary School

There are a wide range of opportunities to play an instrument at SCPS and three different types of organisations supply these; private individuals or companies (who provide instrumental tuition to children by arrangement with their parents, but in school time using a school room), charitable music providers and the County Music Service teachers (who are part of the county music staff). Other companies may offer extra activities and can enter pupils for exams.

Most groups are able to provide instrument hire so that you do not have to buy an instrument, until your child is sure that they want to play it in the long term. All providers bill parents direct although fees for each service obviously differ.

### What can children learn at SCPS?

We currently have teachers for clarinet, flute, saxophone, cornet, trumpet, piano, recorder, and guitar. We usually recommend that children begin to learn instruments as they enter the KS2 (aged 7 upwards), so that they can cope with reading instructions and getting themselves to and from their music lessons. KS1 children also find it more difficult to catch up what they have missed in class, until they are more independent learners.

If you feel that your child is ready to learn an instrument do please consult their class teacher before making arrangements which may affect their class room learning.

We have a KS2 choir but no formal singing tutors at the moment, Year 6 children can also join Glee club (singing) and Jazz club within school.

### Our partners for music tuition currently are:

- Music for Schools Foundation – woodwind and brass instruments (for more information see [www.mfsf.org.uk](http://www.mfsf.org.uk)). A lead tutor from MfSF visits the school most years to talk to interested children and parents about the service they provide, usually around January time.
- Recorder lessons – contact via the school office
- Piano lessons – Sandy Hubble, a qualified music tutor teaches piano to all children, please speak to the school office about booking lessons.
- Guitar Beginners Groups – with Go Guitar Tuition, contact by email [goguitarmail@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:goguitarmail@yahoo.co.uk) or 07921 087816

We do not currently have county music tutors at Sonning Common., but sufficient people want to learn they can arrange this - for more information please see the County Music service website ([www.oxon.gov.uk](http://www.oxon.gov.uk) then look under 'Education and learning', 'Extra curricular activities').

### Opportunities to play in front of an audience:

Most of the music teachers arrange for pupils to play in assembly from time to time, and some arrange concerts for parents at the end of term. Children who learn instruments outside of school are of course welcome to play in an assembly. The choir typically visit Young Voices once every 2 years and all music groups are invited to play at the Christmas and Summer Fairs and at the end of the summer term.