

INSTRUMENTAL AND VOCAL LESSONS AT MAIDEN ERLEGH SCHOOL (SILVERDALE)

**A guide to the opportunities
available for your child**



Who are Berkshire Maestros?

Berkshire Maestros is the lead organisation of Berkshire Music Hub, offering the highest quality musical education delivering instrumental and singing lessons in schools across the county.

We also offer lessons outside school hours in our seven music centres across the county in Reading, Newbury, Bracknell, Caversham, Wokingham and Windsor.

Do you offer instrument and singing lessons at my child's new school?

Yes! We offer lessons that take place during the school day, at varying times. Pupils will leave classes for lessons but this is common practice in schools, and lesson times usually vary so the same subject should not be missed every week.

What instruments can I play?

There are a wide range of instruments available - and if there's one that you're interested in that isn't listed, please get in touch and we'll see if we can help.

Current instruments offered at Maiden Erlegh School (Silverdale) are:

Cornet	Piano	Flute
Trumpet	Keyboard	Clarinet
Tenor Horn	Voice - all styles	Saxophone
Trombone	Violin	Drum Kit
Baritone	Cello	

You can also learn the following instruments at your local music centre:

Cornet	Flute	Violin	Keyboard
Trumpet	Clarinet	Viola	Piano
French Horn	Oboe	Cello	Guitar - all styles
Tenor Horn	Bassoon	Double Bass	Bass Guitar
Baritone	Recorder		Ukulele
Euphonium	Saxophone		Drum Kit
Trombone			Orchestral Percussion
Tuba			Voice - all styles

To find out more about lessons or ensembles, either at your new school or in one of our music centres, please [click here](#)



How much does it cost?

Lessons with Berkshire Maestros start from just £10 for a small group lesson - our fees are [here](#). In return you get high-quality professional tuition from specialist qualified, DBS checked teachers. Pupils in receipt of Pupil Premium funding or an EHCP may be entitled to significant discounts - please [contact us](#) to find out more.

Will I have to buy an instrument?

Not necessarily - you can usually [hire](#) one from Berkshire Maestros for a small termly fee (subject to availability). You may be able to apply for an interest free loan from [Take It Away](#) if you wish to purchase your own instrument.

How will my music lessons fit in with school and homework?

All schools recognise the importance of music as a key part of the curriculum, and are willing to allow time away from lessons for this. Music practice alongside school homework is vital, however quality is more important than quantity, and your teacher can help with tips for making the most of the time you have available to practise.

Where do lessons take place?

Most schools have dedicated spaces in their music departments for instrument and voice lessons - you can talk to your school about this.

I would prefer lessons out of school hours - is this possible?

We also offer instrumental and voice lessons at our music centres, which are generally held after school and at weekends, subject to availability. You can find out more about our venues [here](#).

When will lessons start?

Lessons will start in the Autumn term - not necessarily the first week as it may take time to establish the best schedule with regards to your child's timetable. We will contact you in due course to confirm details of lessons during the first term.

To find out more about lessons or ensembles, either at your new school or in one of our music centres, please [click here](#)



My child already has Berkshire Maestros lessons at primary school. Can these continue at secondary school?

Yes, in most cases this is possible. We will contact you to confirm your wishes, and will do our best to make the transition as seamless as possible. It may not be possible to offer the same teacher, however our teachers work closely together and any new teacher would be fully briefed on your child's progress and learning style.

Do you offer lessons for children with additional needs?

Yes, our teachers are trained to support students with additional needs. Many pupils with special educational needs or disabilities may benefit from more individual attention, rather than a group lesson. We may be able to offer individual lessons at group lesson rates for these children, in consultation with the school and according to their EHCP needs.

Can I play in a group or orchestra or sing in a choir?

Berkshire Maestros offers more than just instrument and singing lessons - we run ensembles across Berkshire for all abilities, across a wide range of instruments. We also run choirs for all ages. There are many benefits to joining a choir or ensemble, including developing communication skills, team working, building confidence, and improving memory and resilience.

Playing or singing in a group can provide a safe social space for teenagers, allowing them to grow as individuals whilst giving them opportunities to develop their talent and technique on their chosen instrument. More information on group music making can be found [here](#).

Who can I contact if I have another question?

Our customer service team are based at our Music Centre in Reading and would be happy to answer any additional queries you may have, They can be contacted on 0118 901 2370 or by email at hello@berkshiremaestros.org.uk. You can also find out more information on our [website](#), or if you already have lessons with us you can talk to your current teacher,

To find out more about lessons or ensembles, either at your new school or in one of our music centres, please click [here](#)



Why Berkshire Maestros?

VALUE We offer a variety of affordable individual and group lesson options and aim to ensure that every child who wants to learn an instrument, play in an ensemble or sing in a choir can do so. We aim to ensure that musical learning is accessible and inclusive.

CHOICE We offer tuition options across all the main instrument groups, including individual and group lessons. Lessons be arranged at our music centres or at the student's school. Students may learn just for fun or choose from several different examinations routes.

MUSICAL EXCELLENCE We are proud of our reputation for maintaining the highest musical standards. Our work with children and young people has won regular praise from the Arts Council.

TEACHING STANDARDS All our staff are interviewed and auditioned for their suitability as both teachers and musicians. We provide a Continuing Professional Development programme and all teachers are regularly observed as part of an annual appraisal cycle. A dedicated customer service team deals with all administrative, payment and customer service queries, leaving teachers free to focus on teaching music.

PROGRESSION Our students play for pleasure as well as developing their performance skills. Many achieve membership of county level choirs, ensembles and orchestras.

FACILITIES Our fully-equipped music centres in Bracknell, Newbury, Reading and Windsor and local satellite centres in Caversham, Wokingham Bulmershe and Wokingham Emmbrook mean you never have far to travel. Each has a parent waiting area and free car parking.

PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT At Berkshire Maestros we take an holistic approach to our students' musical development. Our students have access to numerous musical activities including ensemble playing, choirs, courses and workshops with external professionals. We provide and encourage performance opportunities at major venues to help boost confidence and provide motivation.

To find out more about lessons or ensembles, either at your new school or in one of our music centres, please [click here](#)



www.berkshiremaestros.org.uk

