

Telford & Wrekin Music Parents Hints & Tips Pack



May 2010



**Take it
away**



Telford & Wrekin Music provides a wide range of instrumental and singing lessons, music workshops, after school music clubs and rock schools for children and young people across Telford & Wrekin.

Music is an essential part of the fabric of our lives. It is an extremely powerful means of communication, playing a role in many of our social institutions and religious rituals. Making music can break down cultural barriers and strengthen social unity. Music making:-

- Builds greater social and team skills
- Improves reasoning capacity and problem solving skills
- Improves maths and language performance
- Improves memory, concentration, creativity, self esteem and self discipline

Practice is far more important than musical ability when it comes to your child's musical success. You can help and encourage them to make the best of their talent. Here are a few of our tips.

Help your child get organized

- Make sure your child takes their instrument and music to school for their lesson on the right day each week
- If the lessons are on a rota, ask your child if they know what time they need to be there
- Read and sign your child's Telford & Wrekin Music Log Card.

Get a musical routine going at home

- Practice should be a regular part of your child's daily routine. Try to have a time set aside them to practice each day, and try to spend some of this time with them when you can.
- Daily practice, even for a short time, is better than one long session just before a lesson. Ten minutes may be enough for a young child. Their teacher will be able to give you guidance.

Encourage your child

- Listen to their practice as often as you can, asking them questions about what they're doing and the pieces they're playing
- Have a practice plan and help your child decide what they want to achieve in each practice time
- Ask what they did in their lesson and what they're expected to achieve by the next lesson. This helps them remember and reinforce new concepts and new material.
- Many instruments sound far from beautiful when played by a beginner. Children need all the praise and encouragement that you can give them. Make your child feel that you are enjoying their music, and be tactful about any imperfections. Don't expect too much in the early stages.
- Help them practice the whole 'performance' experience - play their exam pieces to friends and family so they get to experience a few nerves and learn how to cope with them.
- Telford & Wrekin Music run a range of after school music clubs such as orchestras and rock schools which may interest your child to further develop musically.

Have fun

- Try to make practice fun and stop when your child loses interest
- 'Doing your practice' probably won't sound much fun, so talk about playing instead. They'll find it more encouraging and appealing

Help them be creative

- Ask your child to make up some music off the top of their head using some of the notes that they know. They might have done this in a lesson, but maybe feel less nervous about trying it at home. It will help them to be creative, and help them worry less about playing wrong notes.

Too tired to practise?

Try one of the following activities instead:-

- Listen to some music – another piece by the same composer, a piece by another composer living at the same time, or some music in the same style.
- Find out something interesting about the composer of your piece
- Do a **PEP** analysis on the piece you are learning:-
P is for *problems* – decide what problems you still have to solve, technical or rhythmic for example. Make a note of them.
E is for *expression* – what will you be trying to convey in your performance?
P is for *practise* – what in particular will you practise in the next session? Write your intentions down.
- Just get your instrument out and clean it.

How do you know what progress your child is making?

Termly written reports are provided for parents, which are based upon the teacher's continuous assessment of the pupil's progress over the term. Entrance to public examinations may also be encouraged in order to provide both an incentive and a Record of Achievement for the pupil

Music Exams

These Music Exams, written by ABRSM's former Chief Examiner, Clara Taylor, provides expert practical advice to exam candidates, teachers and parents. Available free online:- <http://www.abrsm.org/resources/theseMusicExams0607.pdf>

Musical Instrument Hire

Telford & Wrekin Music hires out a large selection of musical instruments to pupils learning with Telford & Wrekin Music, please ring 01952 380981 for further details and Instrument Hire form.

Buying a Musical Instrument

This 24 page guide published by [The Music Industries Association](#) is designed to help the musical student understand the importance of playing music, learning an instrument and to be able to have the appropriate knowledge to purchase a quality instrument.

Covering a wide range of instrument types and catering for the majority of students, the booklet is designed to be of use to schools, teachers, parents and pupils (young and old).

Download free of charge here:- <http://www.thefms.org/wp-content/uploads/2009/03/choosing-a-quality-musical-instrument.pdf>

Local music instrument shops

Most instrument shops stock a range of new and second-hand instruments. Many also sell cheaper student models (great for beginners) and some offer the option to rent.

The Music Industries Association (MIA) is the trade association for the UK musical instrument industry and all MIA shops subscribe to a code of conduct and standards. You can search for your nearest MIA shop at: www.mia.org.uk follow the link 'Find a music shop'.

The MIA doesn't represent all of the music shops in the UK – to find others, look in your local phone directory or online.

Take it Away

Take it away is an Arts Council initiative designed to help more people get involved in learning and playing music. The scheme allows individuals to apply for a loan of up to £2,000 for the purchase of any kind of musical instrument, and pay it back in nine monthly instalments, completely interest free.

www.takeitaway.org.uk

Awards for Young Musicians

Awards for Young Musicians runs its own annual funding programme for talented young musicians in need of financial help. Each year AYM make awards of between £200 and £2000, based on evidence of musical talent and financial need. Awards for Young Musicians make awards to help with:

- the purchase or hire of musical instruments and accessories
- music lessons
- weekend music schools
- music courses

- orchestra fees
- travel

Applicants are required to:

- have achieved distinction in their last music exam, or, if they haven't
- taken exams, show evidence of this level of ability
- be recommended by their music teacher
- have their families show evidence of financial need

Call 0117 904 9906 for further information.

www.a-y-m.org.uk

How to contact Telford & Wrekin Music...

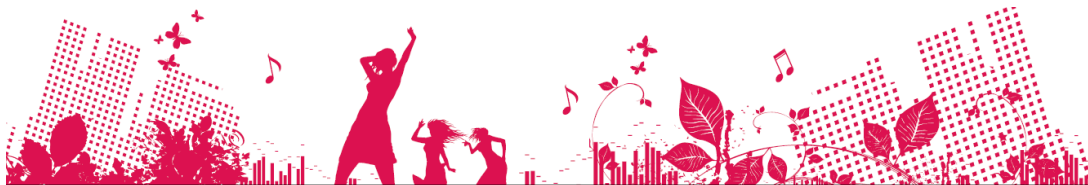
Telford & Wrekin Music
Unit E
The Place
Oakengates
Telford
TF2 6EP

Phone: 01952 380981

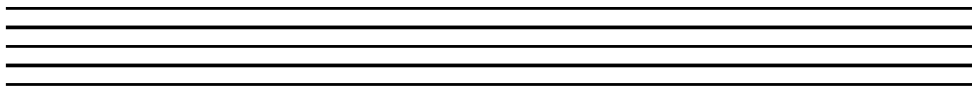
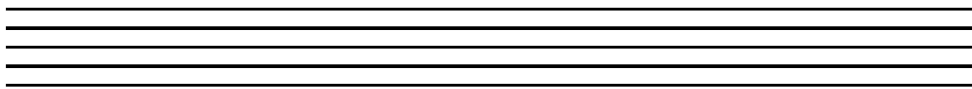
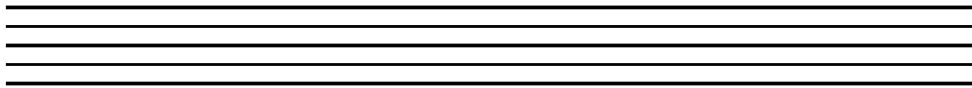
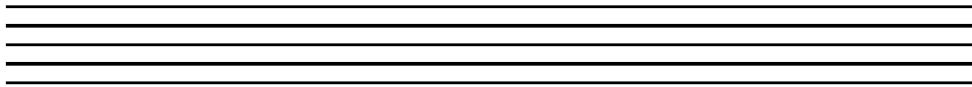
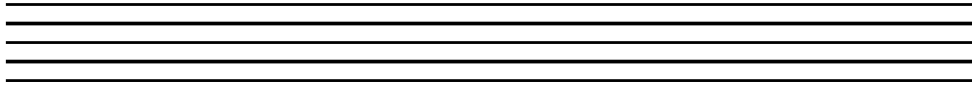
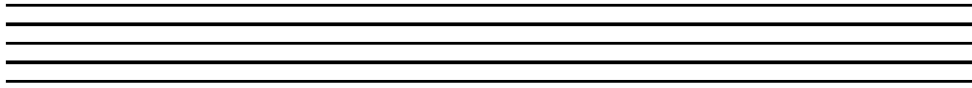
Online: www.telfordculturezone.com

Map: http://maps.google.co.uk/maps?q=tf2+6ep&hl=en&safe=active&um=1&ie=UT8&hq=&hnear=Telford,+Shropshire+TF2+6EP&gl=uk&ei=e8xV/S6mcFJDw0gT26OjkAg&sa=X&oi=geocode_result&ct=title&resnum=1&ved=0CAgQ8gEwAA

You Tube Channel:- <http://www.youtube.com/user/d71b3aa>



Manuscript Paper





Borough of Telford & Wrekin

Our charter for Children and Young People



Treat us fairly.



Be honest.



Respect us.



Keep your promises.



Trust us.



Make us welcome.



Respecting each other's rights, views and opinions

At , we will do the following.

Staying safe

- ✓ Help you to feel safe everywhere.
- ✓ Help you to know where to go to be listened to, if you don't feel safe.
- ✓ Protect you from harmful situations.

Enjoying life and doing well

- ✓ Help you to have fun.
- ✓ Help you to learn new things.
- ✓ Help you to do well and celebrate when you do.
- ✓ Give you challenges.

Being healthy

- ✓ Support you to feel good about yourself.
- ✓ Support you to make healthy choices.
- ✓ Help your parents and carers to look after you well.

Your future

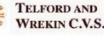
- ✓ Help you to get into learning and training, and support you when you are there.
- ✓ As you get older, help you to get a job.
- ✓ Give you information and advice that you can understand.
- ✓ Help to make good places to live.

Joining in and making a difference

- ✓ Help you not to be hurt or bullied by adults or children.
- ✓ Help you to stay out of trouble.
- ✓ Listen to you and respect your views and ideas.
- ✓ Include you in decisions that affect your life.

If you would like to talk to someone about this charter please ring 01952 221273

Based on the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child



Endorsed by The Children and Young People's Strategic Partnership Board



Telford & Wrekin Music
Parents Survey



How did you hear about Telford & Wrekin Music?

<p><i>Please tick</i> What do you think of Telford & Wrekin Music overall as a service?</p>	<p>A - Very good B - Good C - Satisfactory D - Poor</p>
<p>How much are your child's music lessons and after school music ensembles enjoyed?</p>	<p>A - Very much B - Quite a lot C - Sometimes D - Not at all</p>
<p>If lessons are not enjoyed, why not?</p>	<p>Too difficult Don't like the music Prefer a different instrument Other</p>
<p>What do you think of your child's rate of musical progress?</p>	<p>A - Very good B - Good C - Satisfactory D - Unsatisfactory</p>
<p>How often is your child's instrument played between lessons?</p>	<p>A - Daily B - Most days C - Once a week D - Seldom</p>
<p>How often do you see and sign the Telford & Wrekin Music Pupil Log card?</p>	<p>A - Weekly B - Most weeks C - Sometimes D - Never</p>
<p>What do you think of the efficiency of the Financial administration, eg invoicing, Accounts, financial enquiries?</p>	<p>A - Very good B - Good C - Satisfactory D - Poor</p>

Do you know about our full range of after school Music clubs and Rock Schools?

Do you know how to contact us?

Would you like to hear about other musical activities in the area?

What is the best way to contact you?

Are there any other comments you would like to make about Telford & Wrekin Music?

Thank you for taking the time to fill in this form. Please return this form to
Telford & Wrekin Music
Unit E
The Place
Oakengates
Telford
TF2 6EP

Or return this form to your Telford & Wrekin Music teacher.

