

PINELANDS NORTH PRIMARY SCHOOL

MUSIC DEPARTMENT 2021

APPLICATION TO STUDY A MUSICAL INSTRUMENT

Instruments offered

The music department at Pinelands North offers instruction in piano, recorder, guitar, drums, violin, vocal training, flute, and saxophone. (Please, note that vocal training is not the same as choir.)

The school has the following instruments available for hire: violin, saxophone, flute, trombone, trumpet, cornet and a baritone horn. The hire of these instruments works on a first come, first served basis. Please speak to the business manager about availability and cost of hiring school instruments.

Music and Art Evenings

Every year there will be an opportunity for each music pupil to perform at a concert that will take place during the evening. In 2020 however, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, this concert was presented as a virtual concert and was a combination of both the Foundation and Intermediate Phase pupils. Usually our Foundation Phase pupils will be grouped together, and Intermediate Phase pupils will be grouped together creating 2 concerts a year. Each concert takes place as a Celebrating the Arts Evening, where the grades performing will have their artwork on display. You are most welcome to attend any of these concerts as a family, but we do ask that you please leave small children at home as we would like to keep the concert atmosphere as formal as possible.

Examinations and eisteddfodau

As soon as examinations and eisteddfods fully resume (some have taken on a digital format this year), all music pupils are encouraged to participate in external exams and eisteddfods. Teachers will use their discretion to determine when your child is ready and will discuss cost of the exam with you directly. Please, note that should your child require an accompanist for external performances, this will be at your cost.

Lessons

Lesson times will be communicated to you as well as class teachers. Pupils in grades 4 to 7 are expected to remember to arrive on time for their lesson each week. Please ensure that your child knows what time their lesson is and that it is written on their timetable in their homework diary. Pupils in grades 1 to 3 are encouraged to remember their lesson time as well.

It is imperative that all pupils bring the necessary books and their instrument to each music lesson. When pupils leave books at home it takes up valuable teaching time looking for music that would be suitable.

Please note that there will be no lessons in the first week of every term.

Lessons missed

Lessons missed due to the following will NOT be made up:

- A pupil's absenteeism
- Public holidays or school holidays (See Fees section below)
- School camps, tours, or outings

- Exam week (Grade 6 and 7 only)

Lessons missed due to the following will be made up:

- Other school-related events, for example, class photographs
- A teacher’s absenteeism

When this occurs, teachers will endeavour to make up lessons but might need to teach your child in a small group to do so. Teachers will let you know when to bring instruments/books at least a day before the lesson.

Lessons in groups

Learning to play an instrument in a group is as valuable as playing a team sport. It also affords your child the opportunity to play in a band. Please, note that your child will only be able to partake in group lessons if there are other students at the same level as your child, wanting lessons too. Piano and drumming are not offered in group lessons.

Practising at home

Children enjoy playing an instrument more when they are progressing. In order to progress, children need regular practice. At home, please look out for quality and not quantity. If your child has a few minutes of focussed practice every day, they will progress more consistently than if your child practises for 20 minutes the day before each lesson.

Grades 1 to 3 should practise four to five times a week for 5 to 10 minutes a day.

Grades 4 to 7 should practise five times a week for a minimum of 10 to 20 minutes a day.

It will benefit your child greatly to have specified days for practising. I suggest you decide together which days will be “Practice days” (Perhaps consider Sunday to Thursday as practice days.) If you miss a day of practice, rather try to make it up on a non-practice day than doing extra time another day.

Please encourage your child when they practise and praise their efforts!

Please check in with your child to make sure they are practising all the homework the teacher gave them (and not just playing the easy pieces). I suggest getting a small notebook for music lessons for the teacher to write down what to practise each week.

Please note that piano students do need a piano at home to practise on. A keyboard is sufficient for beginners, but it is advised to have a piano at hand if lessons are going well and there is a long-term goal in mind.

Music Fees

Please note that the fee for music is an annual fee as students are expected to commit to the music department for the year. The cost per month is a payment option and is not the cost for four lessons. Therefore, lessons will not be made up for the weeks of school holidays or when public holidays occur on days your child would have had a lesson.

Fees for pupils that have lessons with Thomas de Bruin:

One individual lesson per week:	R5 830 per annum or R530 per month over 11 months
Two individual lessons per week:	R9 570 per annum or R870 per month over 11 months

One group lesson per week:	R3 630 per annum or R330 per month over 11 months
Two group lessons per week:	R6 765 per annum or R615 per month over 11 months

Itinerant staff may set their own fees and it is expected that the itinerant staff are paid by the first day of each month. Itinerant staff will invoice you each month and should be paid directly. Please discuss payment options with them.

Notice period

One term's notice is required in writing for termination of lessons. This is to ensure that students embark on the music programme with full commitment. It also protects our teachers and gives them time to replace your child and reorganize their timetable.

Application

Should you wish to enroll your child for music lessons next year, please follow the link to complete the form. https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeOg_2gc0UccUJT6hl1n5fsN9ziZsRF5Vv11UGo0SXtmRxt5g/viewform?usp=pp_url

Teacher information

Thomas de Bruin - piano/recorder/flute
(w) 021 531 3414 (e) music@pnps.co.za

Mias Lotz - drums
(c) 061 729 3951 (e) miesmasmusic@gmail.com

Lylle Ferreira - guitar
(c) 073 546 6776 (e) lylloferreira@gmail.com

Claudia Götttert - violin
(c) 084 414 5266 (e) claudia.gotttert62@gmail.com

Nicola van Zyl Smit - recorder/flute/piano
(c) 071 907 9606 (e) nicolavzs@gmail.com