

Kent Music Financial Assistance Scheme

From Autumn 2017

For Children and Young People aged 5-18 years

Information & Criteria



Summary

The Kent Music Financial Assistance Scheme (also known as 'Bursary') is for children and young people aged 5- 18 years, living in Kent and Medway.

Successful applicants will receive 75% of the activity fee needed to access **Kent Music activities (eg Kent Music Summer School, County Ensembles and Choirs, Music Centres and Community Music Programmes) or Tuition (instrumental or singing lessons)** through Kent Music or another provider*. Please note: financial assistance for tuition is not available to students living in Medway, who can only access the fund to support Kent Music groups, courses or programmes. Financial Assistance is awarded for one activity/lessons only each year on a first-come-first-served basis and is subject to funds being available. Activities or lessons should not be commenced if you are relying on assistance to meet the payment.

Kent Music supports tuition offered by other providers on receipt of their invoice. Invoices are to be sent three times a year by the provider to Kent Music during the term that the lessons are delivered.

Kent Music will offer financial assistance for the period of one year (from agreed start date) for one activity to cover 75% of agreed musical activity fees. Kent Music will consider applications for additional activities at our discretion and subject to funds being available. Information about other grant/funding opportunities is available on the Financial Assistance page of the Kent Music website www.kent-music.com.

Instrument Loans

Kent Music operates a musical instrument loan scheme and will aim to provide the child or young person in receipt of funding from the Kent Music Financial Assistance Scheme with an instrument free of charge as part of the agreement. In some instances, for example piano or drum kits, we will not be able to

provide an instrument and the cost of the instrument should be covered by the family or pupil, however we will provide you with the details of organisations that can support the loan/purchase of an instrument.

Criteria

Financial Assistance is available to children and young people from families who meet at least **one** or more of the following (you will be asked to provide a photocopy/scan of **one** supporting document with your application form):

1. Children and young people eligible for Free School Meals (year 3 or above)
2. Income Support/Employment and Support Allowance (ESA)
3. Jobseeker's Allowance (JSA)
4. Child Tax Credit/Working Tax Credit/Universal Credit
5. Incapacity Benefit
6. Unaccompanied minors and refugees
7. [Young People Leaving Care](#)
8. Young People Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEET)
9. Housing Benefit
10. Asylum Support
11. Looked After Children
12. Pension Credit (Guarantee Credit)

Sections 2-9 may apply to parents/carers as well as young people (aged 16-24 years).

Kent Music is committed to enabling children and young people access music opportunities. If you feel you need support but do not qualify according to the criteria above, please complete the form and submit with additional details of your circumstances.

Application Process

- The Finance Administrator will confirm receipt of your application and we aim to process all applications within one month of receipt. Please do not start lessons/activities until you have received confirmation if you are relying on this financial assistance to pay your fees.
- If lessons are not provided by Kent Music, the supplier providing that service will be expected to send an invoice directly to Kent Music for payment three times a year; this includes schools arranging tuition on behalf of their students from other providers.

- Providers will be required to invoice for 75% of their services detailing the student's name, venue and duration of the lessons along with their company name, company registration number or unique tax reference. Kent Music does not accept liability for any tax and National Insurance obligations. Kent Music does not enter into a contract with external suppliers for the delivery of these lessons.
- All Kent Music invoices to parent/carers/organisations will have the assistance element of the lesson detailed on their invoice.
- Financial Assistance is in place for one year from the date awarded and cannot be backdated.
- Each year in the summer term your application will be reviewed and you will be contacted to verify that your circumstances and information have not changed.

Contact Us

For enquiries and all correspondence please contact:

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*Kent Music is committed to the provision of safe quality services and reserves the right to evaluate the tuition provided by providers as part of our Quality Assurance process.