

Music Opportunities at Kings Road

Musical Instruments

There are so many benefits to singing and to learning a musical instrument. Research has shown that it can improve concentration and memory, boost confidence, improve co-ordination and develop commitment and resilience.

At Kings Road, we are privileged to welcome three professional musicians into school.

These teachers expertly teach small group and individual instrument lessons to the children. With practise and commitment, both at school and at home, the children can work towards achieving awards to recognise their developing playing ability. These lessons are taught during school time.

Mrs Bettles is also running a trumpet club on a Wednesday after school- a new instrument to our school, and one that we hope we can develop. Thank you, Mrs Bettles!

We also have a school orchestra, with two more professional musicians coming in to help lead it. Many of our instrumentalists can join this, allowing the children to develop further skills including co-operation, working as part of a team and communication. This runs on a Monday after school.

There are fantastic opportunities for our instrumentalists to perform to their peers and to their parents, either individually and/or as part of the orchestra throughout the year. A real celebration of their enjoyment and commitment to learning their instrument!

Many of our musicians have gone on to play in national and regional ensembles, study GCSE Music, take part in workshops at the RNCM and Chetham's School of Music and perform at prestigious venues including The Bridgewater Hall and Old Trafford Football ground.

There is a cost for the instrument lessons, and this can be discussed with the individual teachers.

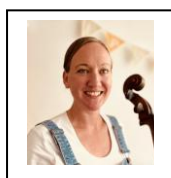
Choir

Alongside our musical instrument opportunities, children in KS2 have the opportunity to join the school choir. This runs twice a year, in the Autumn 2 and Summer 2 terms, and is held on a Tuesday morning before school.

Over the last couple of years, we have performed not only in school, but also at Trafford Town Hall and Cosgrove Hall Court. Our performances have been really well received- our audiences are very impressed, and we have had a huge amount of positive feedback. So much so, that we have been invited back again!

Please read on to find out more about our lovely instrument teachers.

Sinead McPhail



Sinead studied the 'cello at the Royal Northern College of Music. She performed with several string quartets in the Northwest during her early career, before settling on a career in education. In collaboration with a variety of pop and indie artists, she performed at many venues and festivals, including Kendal Calling. Sinead studied Dalcroze Eurythmics, which she uses in her everyday teaching. This is a fun teaching technique using movement and singing to help with learning notation and rhythm.

Sinead has been a string teacher for over 20 years, preparing students for exams, auditions or just playing for fun. She also teaches EYFS and classroom primary curriculum lessons. Sinead began teaching 'cello and violin at Kings Road 8 years ago and loves being part of the thriving musical life in the school. Sinead has two young daughters, who both enjoy learning the cello with her.

Bethan Skipp



Bethan studied music at Manchester University before specialising in oboe at the Royal Northern College of Music. She performs with many of the UK's leading orchestras, including the Hallé, Manchester Camerata, Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra and BBC Philharmonic.

Alongside performing, Bethan is passionate about teaching and leading music workshops. She has been a tutor for the RNCM Young Oboes programme since 2013. She's a keen chamber musician, a member of Manchester Reed Trio, and regularly brings music into hospitals and community settings.

When she's not making music, Bethan enjoys running, cooking, and going on adventures with her young family.

Michael Woodward



Michael is a musician and teacher with over 20 years of experience inspiring children through music. He studied Popular Music and Recording at Salford University and co-founded the community arts project BlueJam.

Michael has toured internationally and performed at major festivals including Kendal Calling, Celtic Connections, Wilderness, and Cropredy, where he once played to an audience of 20,000 people! He writes music for theatre and dance, records albums, and

plays guitar and bass across a wide range of styles.

Passionate about music education, Michael has worked with Lancashire Music Service and One Education, bringing energy, creativity, and confidence into the classroom through curriculum music and instrumental tuition.