

Beyond the Beat: Hampshire Music Service's Whole Class Instrumental and Ensemble Teaching Provision



Hampshire
County Council

Music Service

Service Specification for Schools (Academic Year 2026–27)

1. Purpose

This document sets out the operational arrangements, expectations and delivery model for the Beyond the Beat Whole Class Instrumental and Ensemble provision delivered by Hampshire Music Service (HMS) to schools, for the period 1 September 2026 and 31 August 2027.

This document should be read and agreed to in conjunction with the [HMS Service Level Agreement \(SLA\)](#).

2. Scope of Provision

Beyond the Beat provides whole-class instrumental and ensemble teaching on traditional instruments (brass, woodwind and strings) for primary schools.

- Weekly lessons are taught by a specialist HMS teacher, supported by a member of school staff.
- Teaching is for whole classes or groups of **up to 33 pupils**, unless otherwise agreed.
- A class set of traditional instruments is loaned to the school for use in lessons. Schools are allocated **one instrument family per class** which runs for the whole year.
- HMS provides planning, resources, teaching and assessment support, and performance opportunities where requested.

3. Cost and Financial Arrangements

- Schools are charged:

For **Model A** (whole class Autumn term only) - **£1,350 per class for the Autumn term**.

For **Model B** (whole class for the full academic year) - **£2,028 per class, per year**

*Charges for Model B schools are invoiced in **three equal termly instalments** (of £676)*

- For state-maintained schools, the charge will be deducted from the school's budget line. Academy schools will be invoiced at the end of each term.
- Charges cover:
 - specialist teaching
 - planning and preparation
 - loan of instruments
 - basic instrument maintenance
 - health and safety guidance

4. Duration and Programme Structure

Model A

- Provision runs for the autumn term.
- Provision is sold in **weekly blocks per class**, each including:
 - **60 minutes small group** teaching (this can be separated into 2 x 30 minute, or 3 x 20 minute sessions depending on group sizes).
 - **40 minutes ensemble** teaching (on a different day to the above).
- Lessons are delivered during the school day.
- The **first session of the Autumn term** is a non-teaching **planning and preparation** (PPA) session. HMS teachers will visit during this session to prepare instruments and group allocations.
- Teaching will not take place on HMS Professional Days.
- In the spring and summer term, pupils sign-up directly to Hampshire Music Service for continuation small group instrumental lessons, alongside weekly ensemble sessions in school.
 - This are charged directly to parents with no further cost to the school after the autumn term.
 - A teaching space for this ensemble will need to be provided during the spring and summer terms.

Model B

- Provision runs for one full academic year (autumn–summer term).
- Provision is sold in **weekly blocks per class**, each including:
 - **60 minutes** teaching (this time may also include some time for setup, preparation and tuning of instruments). This time is best split with half the class learning for 30 minute sessions, swapping with another activity, supervised by a member of school staff.
- Ensemble sessions will take place within the same scheduled 60-minute lesson, arranged collaboratively between the HMS teacher and the school to best support the class's progression.
- Lessons are delivered during the school day.
- The **first session of each term** may be a non-teaching **planning and preparation** (PPA) session.
- Teaching will not take place on HMS Professional Days.

5. Timetabling and Provision Allocation

- Schools are asked to submit provision requests to HMS by **13 May 2026**. Schools may indicate instrument preference, allocated year groups, and identify unsuitable teaching periods.
- Allocations are confirmed by HMS in **July 2026**
- While HMS will consider preferences, specific timetable slots or instrument allocations cannot be guaranteed due to county-wide rota planning.
- Schools are committed to the agreed allocation for the **full year**.

6. Instrument Provision and Logistics

6.1 Supply

- HMS provides and maintains suitable instruments, which remain HMS property for the duration of the programme.

6.2 Instrument Preference

- Schools may express preference for instrument sets.
- Typical Beyond the Beat model includes **one instrument set per class across the year**. Alternative delivery models may be agreed to meet local needs.

- Instrument allocation takes account of:
 - pupil age and physical suitability
 - school preference
 - HMS staff and resource availability

*Please be aware that Beyond the Beat is **best suited** for **Year 4-5** pupils. If you would like any specific advice regarding instrument suitability, or to enquire about other HMS whole-class provisions, please contact the Music Service.*

6.3 Collection and Movement

- HMS is responsible for collecting and delivery of instruments to and from schools.
- Parents of pupils must sign a Hire Agreement from Hampshire Music Service, after which time they will be permitted to take instruments home each week, and brought in for lessons on the agreed day.
- Instruments remain in the care of the school for the duration of the programme.

6.4 Storage and Care

Schools must:

- Provide secure and appropriate storage for instruments whilst in school.
- Ensure these instruments are accessible and ready for use before lessons.
- Cover costs for loss or damage beyond normal wear and tear of instruments in the schools' care.

7. Health & Safety and Safeguarding

HMS will provide:

- Relevant risk assessments
- Safety guidance for instruments used

Schools retain responsibility for:

- A safe teaching environment
- All safeguarding procedures
- Supervision of pupils during lessons

8. Staffing and Absence

HMS responsibilities:

- Notify schools in advance of HMS Professional Days (*no lessons will take place on these days*)
- Where HMS staff absence occurs, HMS will make reasonable efforts to provide alternative arrangements or reschedule in line with service procedures
- HMS will reimburse for sessions that cannot be delivered or rescheduled due to HMS staff absence

School responsibilities:

- Inform HMS in a timely manner of any timetable changes or disruptions that affect delivery
- Provide a consistent member of school staff to support learning and ensure strong pupil engagement in every lesson

9. School Responsibilities

By subscribing, schools agree to:

- Provide a suitable teaching space for whole-class instrumental/ensemble learning
- Ensure instruments and learning spaces are prepared prior to each lesson.
- Ensure a consistent member of staff is present for every lesson.
- Support behaviour and pupil engagement.
- Share SEND information, classroom routines and relevant pupil needs with the HMS teacher.
- Facilitate end-of-term performances where requested.
- Notify HMS of any changes or disruptions to timetabled teaching that will impact the delivery of Beyond the Beat.
- Promote continuation pathways for pupils wishing to learn an instrument after the first term of learning (*Model A*), or after the Beyond the Beat provision has ended (*Model B*).

10. HMS Responsibilities

HMS will:

- Provide a specialist music teacher.
- Loan and maintain instruments (*excluding loss or avoidable damage*).
- Deliver progressive and instrument focused lessons
- Supply planning materials, teaching resources and assessment guidance.
- Hold termly planning discussions with school staff where necessary.
- Provide health and safety information.
- Offer performance opportunities each term.

11. Review and Amendments to Provision

- Schools commit to a **full academic year of provision**
- Requests from schools for changes to provision delivery will require mutual agreement with HMS and are subject to capacity and availability.
- Any requests must be agreed in writing and will require **a minimum of a term's notice**
- Any changes to provision may **incur revised costs**