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To parents of children involved in 'Key 2 Music' lessons

Dear Parent

I am delighted that your son/daughter will be learning a musical instrument this year in an exciting project that is called 'Key 2 Music'. There are over 140 different programmes running this year in primary schools across West Sussex involving nearly 7,000 young musicians. I am writing now to tell you more about the scheme.

Every child responds to music in some way and so the idea is for whole classes of children to learn an instrument in weekly lessons for a year. The lessons will be taught by specialist staff of the Music Service working with other staff from the school and will be part of the normal school day. There is no charge for the lessons and, where appropriate, an instrument will usually be provided free of charge.

To make the best progress, your child will want to play the instrument between lessons but, before we can allow the instrument to be taken home, we will ask you to complete a 'hire agreement' form. When you sign, you will be taking responsibility for the instrument and **will be required to pay for any loss or damage to it should this happen.** If you don't want to accept this responsibility, the instrument will have to stay in school between lessons.

The lessons will begin this term and will include a range of musical activities directly linked with the requirements for music within the National Curriculum. You will be invited to come to end of term concerts to see and hear for yourself how the children are getting on.

After the initial year of lessons, we hope that your child will want to continue learning the same instrument in small groups although, if there are very few pupils from the school who want to learn, lessons may have to take place at another school. Unless the school wanted to make an alternative arrangement, parents would pay for these lessons but further information will be given to you next summer together with details of costs and the scheme to help with the fees.

We are looking forward to an exciting year and we hope that this opportunity will really be the key that opens the door to the world of music and to a lifetime of enjoyment.

Yours sincerely

Sally Sanderson Leader for Key to Music