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Dear Parents and Carers,

We are writing to inform you of the instrumental and vocal tuition opportunities for your child in Bedford Borough. **Bedford Music Co-operative** is a not-for-profit organisation, providing a wide range of instrumental and vocal tuition in Bedford Borough. Formed in April 2016 to provide teaching from September 2016, Bedford Music Co-operative is a main provider of instrumental and vocal tuition in the area, following the changes to Music for Bedford Borough. We provide tuition on a wide range of instruments and voice, aiming to develop each pupil's musical potential according to their individual needs and aspirations.

**Our teachers** are competent performers and teachers on their specialist instruments. All teachers are checked by the Disclosure and Barring Service before commencing teaching. They are provided with professional development opportunities and their teaching is monitored regularly.

### **Why the recorder?**

The recorder is a family of instruments starting with the tiny Garklein at only a few inches small to the huge Sub-Contra Bass at over six feet tall! The recorder has a long history in Western classical music with composers such as Handel writing recorder parts in his operas to Vivaldi writing wonderfully virtuosic concertos for the instrument. To the 21<sup>st</sup> century, the recorder is one of the most written for instruments in contemporary music and the recorder features in soundtracks including Harry Potter. Children can learn the recorder (starting with the soprano recorder) in year 2 and can progress right up to grade 8 and above. Children can start to learn the recorder at any age once they have entered year 2.

### **Where do we teach?**

Bedford Music Co-operative teach individual and small group lessons in every school in Bedford Borough and in twilight centres after school. For lessons in school, pupils come out of timetabled lessons to have their music lessons with their peripatetic teacher in their school. A timetable will be agreed in advance of lessons commencing.

### **How much are lessons?**

With lessons starting from only £7.00 (for a group or paired lesson) Bedford Music Co-operative is the affordable way to quality instrumental and vocal teaching for your child.

### **Do I have to buy an instrument?**

Many people prefer to have an instrument of their own and especially with good quality plastic instruments starting from £10 and beginner wooden recorders from £40. However Music for Bedford Borough provide an instrumental loan service for all pupils learning with Bedford Music Co-operative.

### **How do I sign up?**

Visit [www.bedsmusic.coop](http://www.bedsmusic.coop) to book your lesson. Your recorder teacher will be in contact to arrange the first lesson.

Yours Sincerely,

*Georgina Murphy Clifford*

Recorder Teacher at Bedford Music Co-operative