

Terms and Conditions

Instrument Hire to Individuals

Slough Music Service (SMS) offers instrumental hire on the following basis:

For the purposes of this agreement a 'term' refers to a three term academic year: autumn, spring and summer.

Cost of hire

Please see our website or contact the music service for current fees. We are not able to offer subsidised fees where hire is requested without instrumental tuition or centre membership. Fees are payable one term in advance and will be invoiced termly. SMS reserve the right to add an administrative charge of £10 per term for late payment to cover the cost of debt management. Fees are reviewed annually in September. Any changes will be notified one half term in advance.

Assistance with fees

Pupils receiving lessons with Slough Music Service or attending our weekly music centres can apply for subsidised hire. If you are not attending a tuition activity with us regularly (i.e. weekly) we are unable to subsidise hire costs.

Ending the hire agreement

When hire is no longer required, the instrument must be returned directly to the music service at our registered office address, and not to the school, unless by prior agreement with the music service. Hire charges will continue until the instrument has been received by us and its condition checked. Any repairs necessary will be charged to the hirer.

Additional costs

All instruments have consumable items. Strings and reeds are the main items, which will need replacing periodically. The hirer is responsible for the cost of consumable items.

General conditions of hire

Instruments are offered for hire subject to availability, and normally only for the first year of tuition.

Instruments are issued with guidance for their care and maintenance. The hirer is responsible for ensuring all persons coming into contact with the instrument are suitably instructed.

The hirer is advised to list the instrument against loss or damage under an 'all risks' policy, usually available as part of a contents insurance policy. The replacement cost of the hired instrument is listed on the inventory issued at the start of the hire.

All fees and other charges will be invoiced directly to the hirer, and must be paid within 14 days. SMS reserve the right to make an administration charge of £10 per term for late payment, and charge the full replacement cost for instruments which cannot be recovered.

The hirer is responsible for the purchase of consumable items – e.g. strings, rosin, reeds, lubricants etc

In the event of damage, accident or loss of the instrument(s), SMS must be informed immediately. If an instrument requires repair or replacement, SMS will make arrangements as necessary. Under no circumstances should the hirer carry out or arrange repair to any instrument.

The hirer is liable for the cost of all repairs and/or replacement.

At the end of the hire period the instrument and all accessories must be returned promptly.

Instruments must be collected and returned directly to SMS, not a school or teacher unless by prior agreement with SMS. Hire fees will be payable until the instrument has been returned to SMS.

Parents/Carers wishing to buy their own instrument are advised to consult their instrumental teacher first for advice.