

Terms and Conditions Pupil Application Form – Update March 2026

Salisbury Area Music Co-operative (SAMC) is a team of highly skilled and experienced music teachers, offering professional music tuition of the highest standards in over 40 primary and secondary schools across Salisbury and South Wiltshire. Our teachers believe in maintaining a pupil-centred approach which aims to nurture a lifelong enjoyment of music-making and can offer individual and small group instrumental lessons.

All of the members of SAMC are self-employed teachers and by working together they share their expertise, pool resources and follow a professional development programme. The Co-operative ensures that all teacher-members keep up to date with their DBS and Safeguarding training.

Lessons

SAMC offers a variety of lesson structures ranging from individual to shared groups. The shared/group lessons will be arranged by the teacher to best suit the musical and educational needs of the children concerned. Please state on your application form your preferred choice of lesson. Please note that not all types of lesson are available, or suitable, in all schools

SAMC Terms and Conditions

Terms and Conditions (for lessons in the academic year 2025-26). Before completing the application form, please read the following terms and conditions and retain for reference.

Lessons

- 1.1 All applications for tuition must be completed and signed by the pupil's parent/carer and returned to the office. If tuition cannot be arranged, pupil details will be retained on a waiting list for 6 months.
- 1.2 The Co-operative aims to provide 33 lessons per academic year. The number of lessons per term will vary according to the number of teaching sessions available.
- 1.3 The teacher reserves the right to change a pupil's grouping without prior notice, to best meet the musical needs of the child concerned, providing the fee charged remains the same. In the event that a grouping change results in a price alteration, the teacher will notify the parent/carer as soon as possible to seek agreement.
- 1.4 Any changes to individual lessons will only be made with the agreement of the parent/carer.

Payment

- 2.1 Invoices are issued termly based on **3 terms per academic year** (Autumn, Spring and Summer). Invoices are issued at the start of each term.
- 2.2 Payment must be made within 14 days of the invoice date to ensure continuity of tuition and is **NON-REFUNDABLE**. Failure to pay will automatically suspend any further tuition. Reinstatement will be at the discretion of the teacher. Lessons missed due to suspension will be forfeited.
- 2.3 The cost of lessons does not include the hire of an instrument, music or accessories.

Absence

3.1 If pupils/classes are absent the following apply:

- 14 days' notice to the Co-operative in writing/email is required to give notice of absence.
- If there is insufficient or no notice the lesson is forfeited and no credit will be given.
- If adequate notice is given the teacher will aim to re-schedule within the term. If this is not possible a credit will be given on the following term's invoice.
- Please note that where absence from lessons is due to school related events, eg teacher-training day, exams, school trips, work experience etc, it is the parent's responsibility to ensure 14 days' notice is given to the Co-operative in writing/email.

3.2 Advanced notice of absence should be sent to the Co-operative office and not to the individual teacher.
3.3 If a teacher is absent from a lesson they will aim to re-schedule within the term. If this is not possible, a credit will be given.

3.4 If the teacher absence occurs in the summer term and the pupil is not continuing lessons in the next academic year to allow for a credit to be issued, the teacher will refund the missed lesson/s to the parent directly, SAMC is not liable to cover this reimbursement.

Cancellations

4.1 Lessons can only stop at the end of term. (There are 3 terms per academic year; Autumn, Spring and Summer). The end of term is defined as the end of the school academic term, i.e. the last date of the school calendar for that term. Notice must be given at least 4 weeks before the end of term.

4.2 If notice is given after 4 weeks before the end of term, but before the term actually finishes, a 4 week cancellation fee will be payable.

4.3 If a pupil stops attending lessons mid-term, no refund can be issued for the lessons missed for the remainder of the term.

4.4 If notice is given after the term has finished the following term's fees become payable in full.

4.5 Notice of cancellation should be sent to the Co-operative office and not to the school or individual teacher.

Cooling Off Period

5.1 You have a legal right to cancel this application under the Consumer Contracts (Information, Cancellation and Additional Charges) Regulations 2013. This means that during the cooling off period, set out in 5.2, if you change your mind or decide for any other reason that you do not want to proceed with the lessons, you can notify the office of your decision to cancel the application and receive a refund for any lessons paid for but not received prior to that cancellation.

5.2 Your cooling off period starts from the date of this application and ends 14 days later. To cancel the application, you should let the office know that you have decided to cancel.

Complaints

6.1 In the event of a complaint, SAMC will endeavour to resolve any disputes in a timely and reasonable manner. Complaints should be directed to the Chair of Directors in writing by email or post at the address above.

6.2 Complaints will be handled in accordance with the SAMC Complaints Procedure.

Liability

7.1 The Co-operative does not accept liability for loss or damage to any personal possessions or personal injury, however caused.

Terms and Conditions

8.1 The Co-operative reserves the right to alter the above Terms and Conditions without prior notice. Any decision made by the Co-operative concerning these Terms and Conditions shall be final. Please note that these Terms and Conditions are legally binding. Your signature on the application form confirms that you have read and understood them and that you agree to abide by them.

Data Protection

The data we collect is used for the running of SAMC. Information is used by SAMC Administrators and teacher-members for the purposes of running SAMC only. Information may be used for reporting and statistical purposes as required for funding; this information will be anonymous. SAMC may need to share your details with the pupil's school and with external organisations for the purposes of instrument hire.

Instrument Hire

Parents have the opportunity to hire instruments through Wiltshire Music Connect, to find out more please visit <https://gswmusicclubswindwiltshire.org.uk/instrument-hire-in-swindon-wiltshire/>

Financial assistance

Financial assistance may be available to support families with the cost of tuition. Please contact your school for advice on what bursary you may be entitled to and for help on how to apply.