



# Whole Class Ensemble Tuition

and  
SUPPORT FOR PROGRESSION

2017 - 2018



yorkartseducation



Supported using public funding by



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ENGLAND

## The Programme

Whole Class Ensemble Tuition (WCET) is an excellent, nationally established scheme which gives all children and young people an experience of learning to play a musical instrument as a whole class. This is a fantastic opportunity to widen musical exploration - developing new interests, talents and skills. For many children this may be their first and only opportunity to try a musical instrument.

WCET fulfils all aspects of the National Curriculum. Summative assessment of all pupils is provided which identifies children who may wish to continue learning an instrument and playing in a group. To this end, the WCET programme works closely with the Approved Tutor scheme and York Music Centre.

The National Plan for Music Education recommends that -  
*"...every child should have the opportunity to play a musical instrument....."*

*"I am more into music"*

## The Benefits

Playing a musical instrument and singing not only have huge musical benefits, but there is strong evidence that this supports:

**team work – concentration - self confidence – perseverance –  
 communication – listening - appraising**

Over time, the WCET programme benefits schools by –

- giving every child the opportunity to try an instrument
- giving those children, who so wish, the opportunity to continue by working closely with schools, Approved Tutors and York Music Centre

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## Instruments

Instruments are supplied for every child in a class (including the teacher) as part of the programme. These include:

violins, violas, cellos, flutes, clarinets, recorders, tin whistles, ocarinas, trumpets, French horns, trombones, ukuleles, guitars, glockenspiels, African drums, Samba and 'junk' percussion.

String instruments can be supplied in appropriate  $\frac{3}{4}$  or  $\frac{1}{2}$  or  $\frac{1}{4}$  sizes.

*“The lessons have made me want to learn to play an instrument”*

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## Continuation and Progression

Many pupils wish to continue playing an instrument after their initial experiences and to take more formal lessons in small groups or individually. The WCET programme works closely with Approved Tutors to ensure that pupils, schools and parents find an appropriate progression path.

For those that wish to continue playing in larger groups, the WCET programme links with beginner ensembles at York Music Centre – membership is free of charge for any pupil participating in the WCET programme.

York Arts Education offers very low cost instrument hire with further remissions available including free membership of York Music Centre.

The York Music Hub offers bursaries to help with costs for instrumental and vocal lessons and supports free membership of York Music Centre.

## WCET Package for Schools

- A qualified, experienced instrumental tutor
- Quality instruments for a whole class including the class teacher
- Insurance, repair and replacement for any instrument damaged (whilst on school premises)
- Free CPD sessions for class teachers
- Free access for WCET pupils to attend York Music Centre ‘first access’ groups on Wednesday afternoons and/or Saturday mornings  
[www.yorkmusiccentre.org.uk](http://www.yorkmusiccentre.org.uk)
- ‘Themed’ concerts at schools to link with the broader curriculum
- Support with small group tuition for those who wish to continue
- Liaison with primary music coordinators and secondary heads of music to support transition
- Free membership to the UK Association for Music Education (Music Mark) [www.musicmark.org.uk](http://www.musicmark.org.uk)
- Free access to Charanga (on-line music resources) for the whole school. [www.charanga.com](http://www.charanga.com)
- Access to WCET Fun Days
- Free support for Arts Award Discover and Explore  
[www.artsaward.org.uk](http://www.artsaward.org.uk)

*“We have fun”*

## WCET Guidelines and Costs for Schools

All schools and their pupils' needs are different so there is no standard format or application form for the WCET programme. It is expected that the exact requirements will be negotiated with individual schools.

The cost\* for the full WCET support package as listed on p3 above is:

1 term - £330 per term = £330 per year

2 terms - £315 per term = £630 per year

3 terms - £300 per term = £900 per year guaranteed 33 weeks

*\*The cost to schools is already subsidised by 50%*

For the programme to have maximum impact it is recommended that:

- Schools buy into the programme on a rolling annual basis
- Class teachers and TAs learn alongside the children
- Each school agrees to work closely with the WCET tutor to support continuation and progression both within and beyond the school

If schools can show they have the in house expertise to deliver the programme themselves, York Arts Education will support this with the full WCET offer except for providing the tutor. There will be NO COST to the school for this support.

## Additional Support for Schools

Our York Arts Education team is available to provide support for a range of other activities.

If you wish to buy in one of our staff members, costs are as follows:

- Leading a one hour weekly ensemble at lunchtimes or after school, like a band or choir - £900 per year (33 weeks)  
This cost includes all sheet music/music stands – but does not include instruments.
- Leading bespoke training sessions or music project managing – £40 p/h
- York Arts Education will pay for an Approved Tutor to give an instrumental demo in your school (up to 1 hour)

### DISCOUNTS

We are able to offer a discount of 10% to schools that buy in £3500 or more of our support services in any academic year. This includes costs for the WCET programme and any additional services

For more information contact

Tim Brooks – Director York Arts Education CIC

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## Further Information

If you would like to discuss the Whole Class Ensemble Tuition programme including additional support and how this can be tailored to your school's needs, please contact me:

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Visit the website – [www.yorkartseducation.org.uk](http://www.yorkartseducation.org.uk)

*“I like it because it is cool”*

