



Switching to **Live Video Lessons** for Hill Top Primary Academy

At YMES we are working hard to continue providing you with music lessons during this difficult time.

That's why wherever possible we are arranging for YMES teachers who normally visit Hill Top to teach Live Video Lessons instead.

We're really excited that we'll be able to keep pupils' musical learning going – and also play our part in keeping them occupied. Staying at home may be a novelty at first, but boredom is going to set in quickly!

Online learning actually has several advantages – we'll be recording the lessons and uploading them to the YMES Portal where you'll be able to play your own lesson back to help with practice during the week. And parents will be able to speak to teachers directly (in some cases for the very first time).

This information pack sets out all details and what you need to do – please read it thoroughly.

David Major
Director, YMES

Step By Step

- 1** Read this information pack.
- 2** Visit <https://portal.ymes.org.uk/htop2> and fill out the online form.
- 3** Your teacher will contact you (the parent) to agree the lesson day/time and let you know any other key details.
- 4** You (the parent) will receive email confirmation of your lesson day/time. It will contain a link to a Zoom Meeting.
- 5** On the day/time of your lesson, click the Zoom Meeting link from your email. It will take you straight to the lesson with your child's teacher.

Lesson Format

- Pupils who take 1-to-1 lessons will continue to receive these on the same basis with the same length lesson.
- Lessons for pupils who take group lessons may be changed at YMES discretion. They may take place on a 1-to-1 basis instead or may remain in groups via group video. If they remain in groups, the pupils may be in different groups to normal. The lesson length may also be different to normal. Our aim is to enable all pupils to continue one way or another. In all cases there will be no change to the cost.

Teacher Names

- Mr Brown (Violin, Viola, Cello)
- Mr Forrest-Redfern (Guitar, Keyboard)

Timetabling

Each teacher will be creating their own timetable.

To make this work for all involved (pupils, parents, teachers, and our office) please accept the lesson slot offered to you.

If your child is still attending school as normal please click this button on the form – all lessons will be as outlined above but we will offer you an after school slot.

If there are other genuine reasons for particular timetable requests, we will take these into account but can't guarantee that they will be met.

Safeguarding

Safety and wellbeing is our highest priority. That's why we are putting the following measures in place. You must agree to them in order to take part in lessons.

- **A parent/carer over 18 must remain at home for the duration of the pupil's lesson.**
- **A parent/carer over 18 must say hello briefly at the start of each video call.**
- **The location of the pupil within the house must not be their bedroom. It should be a reception area – eg living room/dining room.**
- **Except if technical glitches occur, YMES will record all lessons. We will provide you with the recordings – which is great for practising between lessons.**

BEFORE YOUR FIRST LESSON

Before your first lesson ensure that:

- Your device is charged.
- You have downloaded (for free) the Zoom Client for Meetings or relevant app at <https://zoom.us/download>.
- You have the link from your lesson confirmation email ready to click.

TIPS & TRICKS

Other things to have a think about for best chance of success:

- Think about the best camera positioning.
- Think about having sufficient lighting.
- Think about maximising your internet speed. Some of the following may help:
 - Using an ethernet cable rather than WiFi.
 - If using WiFi being near to your router.
 - Prioritising your WiFi by closing background apps on your device and disabling Bluetooth/Location settings.
 - Asking other family members to reduce internet usage during the lesson.
- Think about tuning your instrument before the lesson where possible to maximise lesson time. Your teacher will teach you how to do this in your first lesson if needed.
- Please be patient with yourselves, and with our teachers, if this doesn't all go entirely to plan first time. This is new for all of us – a steep learning curve – and we'll all do our best to succeed.

Contact

Got a question that's not been answered above?

Please email htop@ymes.org.uk