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| **Instrumental Music Service** |  |  |
| *Education & Children’s Services* |  |  |
| Aberdeenshire Council  |  |  |
| Aberdeenshire Libraries HQ |  |  |
| Meldrum Meg Way |  |  |
| Oldmeldrum |  |  |
| Inverurie |  |  |
| AB51 0GN |  |  |
| Tel: 01467 532720 |  |  |
| [www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk](http://www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk) |  |  |
| Instrumental.music.service@aberdeenshire.gov.ukDear  |  |  |

23rd February 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

**Instrumental Music Lessons - Update**

Yesterday saw the phased return to school for those young people accessing early learning and childcare provision, P1–3 and very small groups of senior phase students in secondary schools to allow for the completion of practical assignments relating to SQA qualifications. For all other young people, remote learning will remain the default position as it will for the Instrumental Music Service (IMS) Instructors. Instrumental Music lessons will continue to take place digitally via Glow using platforms such as Google Classroom and Teams as well as Google Meet Video Conferencing lessons where available, depending on individual schools, households, and instructors’ circumstances. Pupils will still continue to be contacted via Glow, so please ask your child to check their Google Classroom and Glow email account regularly.

Current guidelines provide that one-to-one lessons in music can only go ahead for senior phase pupils in very limited circumstances.  This limited return is for the purpose of completing the learning and teaching of critical practical work in relation to qualifications in 2021 that can only be carried out in school.  The presumption remains that if work can be undertaken remotely, then it should be.  Limited 'in-school' provision should only be considered when it is 'absolutely necessary' to support learning within these strict confines.

If your child is attending school at the moment, please let the IMS or their instructor know, so that arrangements can be made for their instrumental lessons. We will continue to update parents/carers as we are advised by the Scottish Government.

If you have any queries, please contact the Instrumental Music Service.

To enable your child to participate in livestreamed lessons, we previously emailed a link to a consent form.  If you have **not** completed the form, please let the IMS or your instructor know, and we will forward you the link.

Cont’d …

I would like to thank you all for your ongoing support for the IMS and wish you well for the year ahead. The situation continues to deliver significant challenges for music education; however, our team of instructors continue to be dedicated to delivering the very best service to their pupils in these very difficult times.

Yours sincerely



Justin Brook

Instrumental Music Service Manager