



## PRACTICE (INSTRUMENT TUITION)

Practice is an essential element of learning a musical instrument right from the first lesson.

As pupils progress with their instrumental lessons, it becomes increasingly important that a pattern of regular and organised practice is firmly established. Musical progress is almost entirely dependent on this. In order best to help your child(ren), it may be helpful to consider the following points:

- **Space** – a quiet space where your child(ren) can practice without being disturbed should be identified;
- **Time** – it is often a good idea to fix a regular time for practice so that it becomes part of your child(ren)'s routine. Ideally, all pupils should do some practice **every day**;
- **Amount** – the amount of practice will vary according to age, stage of learning and the instrument being studied. If in doubt, please discuss this with your child(ren)'s instrumental tutor(s);
- **Aims** – your child(ren) should have clear instructions from her/his(their) instrumental tutor(s) as to what should be practiced and how. If this does not appear to be the case, please discuss it with the tutor concerned. (A notebook can be a great aid to the memory from week to week!);
- **Support** – although pupils should be encouraged to learn to practice on their own, parents/carers can contribute a great deal through taking an interest in their children's progress and practice. If possible, try to listen to them from time to time – an occasional "performance" at home can be very beneficial;
- **Record-keeping** – it often helps (as a reminder) to keep a record of your child(ren)'s practice. The Head of Centre or HMDT can provide you with a practice chart which can be ticked daily and is a good visual aid for monitoring practice in both the short and long-term.

**If you have any queries about practice or wish to discuss it further, please contact the Head of Centre or talk to your child(ren)'s Instrumental Tutor(s) on Saturdays.**

CYM Hackney does not have a policy of entering pupils for public music examinations. However, pupils are sometimes entered on the recommendation of their Instrumental Tutor if it is deemed appropriate and relevant to their current course of study. If there is a particular reason that you may wish your child to be entered for an examination, this should, initially, be discussed with the Head of Centre.