

Information for Students & Parents

Our Staff

Gloucester Academy of Music has a professional team of tutors, welfare staff and administrators. All of our staff have DBS Clearance with regards their suitability to work with children and act at all times in accordance with our Child Protection Policy.

Our Tutors

We have some of the most talented musicians and teachers in the country teaching on our spring and summer programmes. Many of the tutors are professional musicians who bring their experience in performing and teaching to inspire our holiday course students.

Our Welfare Team

The Welfare Team look after students when they are not in rehearsals. They have all received training in Child Protection and are responsible for the welfare of the students. If a student has any concerns at all during the week they should speak to a member of the welfare team who are there to help them.

Our Administrative Staff

Naomi and Anne perform the administrative role for the Holiday Courses. If parents have any queries before or after the courses Naomi and Anne can be contacted on holidaycourses@gamusic.co.uk

What Happens Once I Have Booked?

In February for the spring courses and approx. May for the summer courses you will be sent an invoice for the remaining payment, a Health Form to complete on behalf of each student and a set of **Joining Instructions**. These Joining Instructions include a list of what to bring, when to arrive, emergency contact details, etc. - and are also be posted on the website. We do not provide tents and camping equipment.

All communication is by email unless you ask to receive everything by post at the time of booking.

If you have any questions or require more information or help, please contact the Courses Administrator by email at holidaycourses@gamusic.co.uk

Where Are Our Courses Held

Our Easter non-residential courses are held at our Music School in Gloucester. The postal address is Gloucester Academy of Music, Barbican House, 31 Barbican Road, Gloucester GL1 2JF.

Our summer residential courses are held at locations in Gloucestershire. Locations have included Beauchamp House, Dene Magna School, The Wilderness Centre, Winchcombe School. For more details please view the course factsheet for this current year.

Acceptable Behaviour

We expect all students to behave with consideration towards others and we reserve the right to send home any student whose behaviour is unacceptable. Any form of bullying is

unacceptable and bad manners (including swearing) towards anyone, fellow student, tutor or welfare staff, will not be tolerated.

We do not allow alcohol or smoking on the Holiday Courses. If any student is found to bring alcohol, drugs or tobacco products with them on any of the courses then the parents will be notified immediately and the items confiscated.

Dietary Needs

The Health Form asks for any special dietary requirements. Our catering team do try hard to accommodate all our students' needs but need a minimum of two weeks' notice to do this. If your child has a very strict dietary need, like a gluten free diet, we would find it helpful if you could provide some of the basic ingredients, eg. flour and pasta.


Medicines

At the start of each course, any medicines (clearly labelled and with full instructions) should be handed to a member of the Welfare Team on arrival. The Welfare Team will ask you to complete a Medication Consent Form if you are leaving medication to be administered to your child/ren.

Insurance

The Gloucester Academy of Music's insurance does not cover instruments and valuables brought to the courses – these need to be covered on your own insurance. The instruments are locked up overnight and we make every effort to ensure that instruments are handled properly and are always put safely in their cases when not in use, however accidents can still happen.











What to bring on a Summer Residential Course

 INSTRUMENT and:
Strings - spare strings, rosin, a mute, spike retainer (for cellists/double bass)

Woodwind – spare reeds, small screwdriver and lip salve

Brass – valve oil or slide lubricant, lip salve, mute

PLEASE REMEMBER all students will be playing for many more hours than in a 'normal' week and therefore items will wear out more quickly.

-  A small cake that keeps well – an essential ingredient for 'after cocoa sessions'!
-  If Camping, a tent, sleeping bag, lilo/camp bed, torch and any other items necessary for a weekend under canvas. No penknives please!
-  If in Dormitory accommodation, a sleeping bag or duvet and a pillow case.
-  Towels and toiletries
-  Casual clothes, nightclothes, underwear, etc. (NB: Sometimes there is 'messy play' so please include some 'old' clothing!)
-  Waterproof outdoor wear, swimming kit for water games etc. Flip-flops / wellies are always useful in the unfortunate event of rain!
-  Sun protection (hopefully sunny weather), including a hat.
-  We don't ask anyone to bring formal clothes although some of our students (not all by any means) like to have something smarter to wear for the concert.
-  2B Pencil, sharpener and rubber
-  Anything needed (eg. Music) for performing at 'after-cocoa session' – optional

Please label everything clearly! We don't accept any liability for losses or breakages.

Pocket money for Summer Residential Courses

It is suggested that students bring about £30 of pocket money. The Welfare staff collect £20 at the beginning of the week to cover entrance charge/s for trips out (coach travel for one trip is included in the course fee) and 'entertainment' brought in (eg. bouncy castle); the rest is then available for students to spend on tuck should they wish to. Tuck is sold at morning break-time. For courses with younger students, we recommend that students deposit their money with the Welfare staff who keep a running tab; any remaining pocket money is returned prior to departure

What to bring on an Easter Course


 INSTRUMENT and:

Strings - spare strings, rosin, a mute, spike retainer (for cellists/double bass)


Woodwind – spare reeds, small screwdriver and lip salve

Brass – valve oil or slide lubricant, lip salve, mute

PLEASE REMEMBER all students will be playing for many more hours than in a 'normal' week and therefore items will wear out more quickly.

 Sun protection (if sunny weather), including a hat for break times.

 2B Pencil, sharpener and rubber

 A Packed Lunch and Drink/Water Bottle. A drink and biscuit will be provided at break time

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Pocket money for Non-Residential Courses

Students will be provided with a drink and biscuit at break time and will therefore not need any money for tuck.

Mobile phones

We do not recommend that mobile phones are brought on the non-residential Easter courses. However, students are welcome to bring their own mobile phone with them on the summer courses so that they have the reassurance of phoning home.

In our experience, particularly on courses with younger children, phoning home can be counter-productive as it can bring on a wave of homesickness. If you would like your child (if younger) to phone you, we would like to suggest that this happens at dinner-time (between 6.00-7.00 p.m.) rather than at bedtime. We suggest that all mobile phones are handed in to the Welfare team on arrival. If you consider this inappropriate, then please ensure that the student understands that he/she is responsible for it and that it **MUST** be switched off during rehearsals. At bed time all mobile phones must be handed in to the Welfare Team. *If the student brings a mobile phone, please make sure they bring their own charger.*

Emergency contact

The course mobile phone number for use in emergency will be given to you with your joining instructions. This phone will be monitored by a member of the Welfare Team.