

## Remission Policy and Subsidy

This policy applies to all wishing to participate in learning to play a musical instrument or sing via BMS. Whilst some funding comes directly from the DfE Grant, this is significantly increased by contributions from the charity Friends of Blackpool Music Service (FoBMS) and, from 2022-2023, by Ward funding.

- All musical instruments have been purchased by BMS via Blackpool Council. BMS loans all required instruments (5,392 – 1.3.22.) without charge to all schools who then loan all instruments out to their children, again, without charge. In some schools this equates to tens of thousands of pounds but saves parents a considerable amount of money.
- All instruments required for ensembles are loaned without charge.
- All instrumental rehearsals and performances are held without participant charges.
- All events are free to all participants.
- Tickets for events are subsidised to ensure no losses are incurred but also, so anyone wishing to see an event is able to do so. We also provide free DVDs for those audiences who have health issues.
- Pupil Premium also helps to support lesson charges. This is managed by the schools directly.
- Wider Opportunities are subsidised for the first two years.
- Support for those wishing to take band Tours abroad is provided to those on low incomes via FoBMS.
- Uniforms are purchased for all our bands and choirs without charge to the participants.
- Our Music Medals offer a cheap way for parents and children to reach short term achievable goals. This identifies progression, standards and new aspirations for all.
- Needs analysis has indicated that our parents can neither travel nor afford ABRSM examinations. In 2021 we set up the BMS Music centre as Private Examination Centre. This allows parents and children to stay in Blackpool for their exams and save traveling costs.
- The FoBMS also offer bursaries for music medals and ABRSM examinations. This often includes resources.
- Weekly Theory sessions are held without charge. This supports the vocalists, instrumentalists and GCSE students.
- All choral and vocal rehearsals and events are held without charge.
- Uniforms for all choirs are also purchased.
- Our new TOPPS2 programme for pre-school and Year 1 children is in 11 new settings and working with 1,300. This will last a year and is being delivered without charge thanks to the support from the People's Post Code Lottery.
- Ward funding has focused on providing additional support for school based music lessons. This is new and we hope to continue.
- Much of the work we do in SEND and PRUs is subsidised.
- 80% of our CPD sessions are held without charge.
- All our online resources and lessons are shared without charge.