

Ardoch Strings: Instrumental Opportunities Report for Summer Term (April - June) 2021

Covid-secure teaching

I taught the full 8 weeks this term. As in the Winter Term of 2020, I still do not enter the school building, I collect all violins from parents and place them directly into the village hall at 9am, from where they are collected again at 3pm. Children are then sent out to me in their year groups for a 30 minute lesson, following all the protocols for a covid-secure teaching environment in the hall, including social distancing, hand-washing and my wearing a face covering.

The parental contribution is still £20 per term. One pupil broke his arm, so only attended half the term and therefore only paid £10.

Pupils benefiting from the project

The numbers of children benefiting is now as follows:

P3s: 5
P4s: 4
P5s: 6
P6s: 4
P7s: 4
Total: 23

Ardoch Strings & performances

I was keen that those learners in P7 should have another opportunity to play in a larger group, so for the last 5 weeks of term, I offered a reduced Ardoch Strings afterschool club on a Friday to learners in the P6/7 bubble. All eight violinists in this class took up the offer. We put together a programme of Scottish tunes which we recorded in their last week. The event was extra special as the children were joined by their class teacher who is a multi-instrumentalist. The video was then shared with the families of those involved.

*Fiona Chalamanda
June 2021*