



Guide for Pupils and Parents – PRACTICE

Now your child is learning an instrument with a Brent Music Service tutor, they are expected to PRACTISE at home between each lesson and the next. This is just like homework. Good quality practice sessions will help them improve.

Each term, they can achieve a BMS Level if they practise for:

Beginners: *Approximately 10-20 minutes per day*

Grade 2 +: *Approximately 30 minutes – 1 hour per day*

What Makes a Good Practice Session?

- Set aside a practice space if possible. If it is practical, leave the instrument out of the case there, ready to play
- Establish a routine – a regular practice time, just like homework
- Consider using the word “play” rather than “practise”
- Praise your child often. Encourage other members of the family to do likewise. If you are in another room, try to listen in and comment every now and then in positive terms
- Never make negative comments about the sounds you hear. The early stages can be painful on the ears, but with time and effort, you will soon notice the improvements
- Check your child’s practice book each week to find out the tasks which have been set. We encourage our tutors to specify the number of times each exercise should be completed. You can monitor this with no musical knowledge.
- Try to be part of the practice routine, in the same way you monitor homework. Check that the required work has been done, and encourage your child to play more, just for fun!

Important Points to Remember

- After the initial enthusiasm, it is totally normal for most children to resist practice. It is important for you to insist on a practice routine from this time onwards, otherwise you will be wasting your money on lessons

PRACTICE MAKES..... PERMANENT!