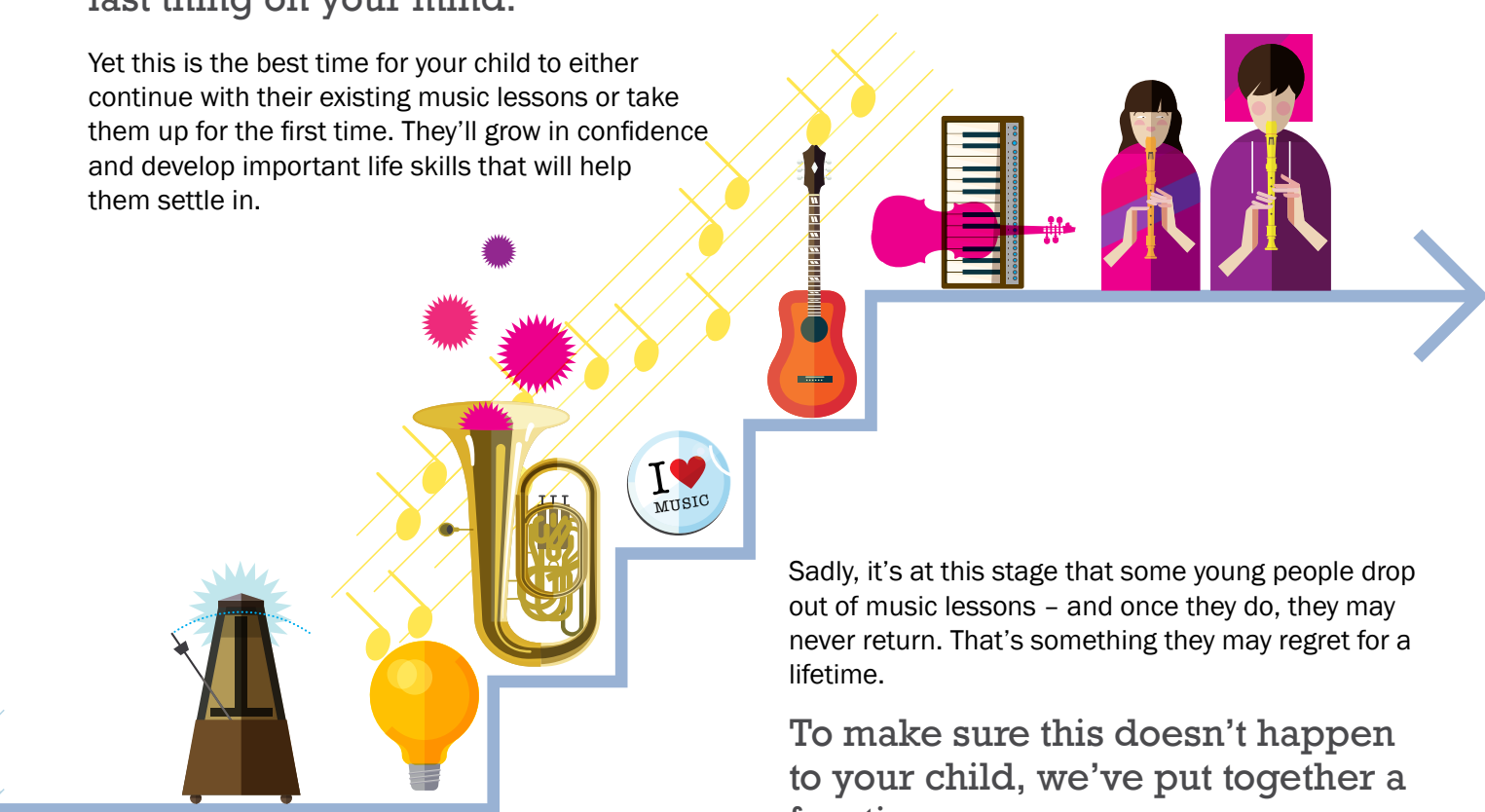

Your child and music at transition

Tips for year 6 parents and carers
from the team at Devon & Torbay Music Education Hubs

Moving from primary to secondary school is a new adventure.

There's a lot to think about: from uniform, to friendships, to new routines. Music lessons may be the last thing on your mind.

Yet this is the best time for your child to either continue with their existing music lessons or take them up for the first time. They'll grow in confidence and develop important life skills that will help them settle in.



Sadly, it's at this stage that some young people drop out of music lessons – and once they do, they may never return. That's something they may regret for a lifetime.

To make sure this doesn't happen to your child, we've put together a few tips.

What you can do



1 If your child already has an instrumental/vocal tutor, ask them about lessons in secondary school

They may know which instrumental/vocal tutors teach at your child's future secondary school. Many tutors know each other. If you're keen to remain with your current tutor, ask them if they teach privately.

3 Look for the music lesson information in your child's induction pack

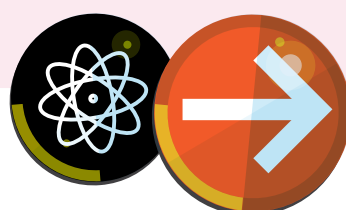
Schools will usually ask you to sign up for music lessons the term before they start secondary school. Leaving it too late may mean there are no spaces left or your child is allocated lessons in their second or third choice of instrument. Make sure to sign up as soon as possible.

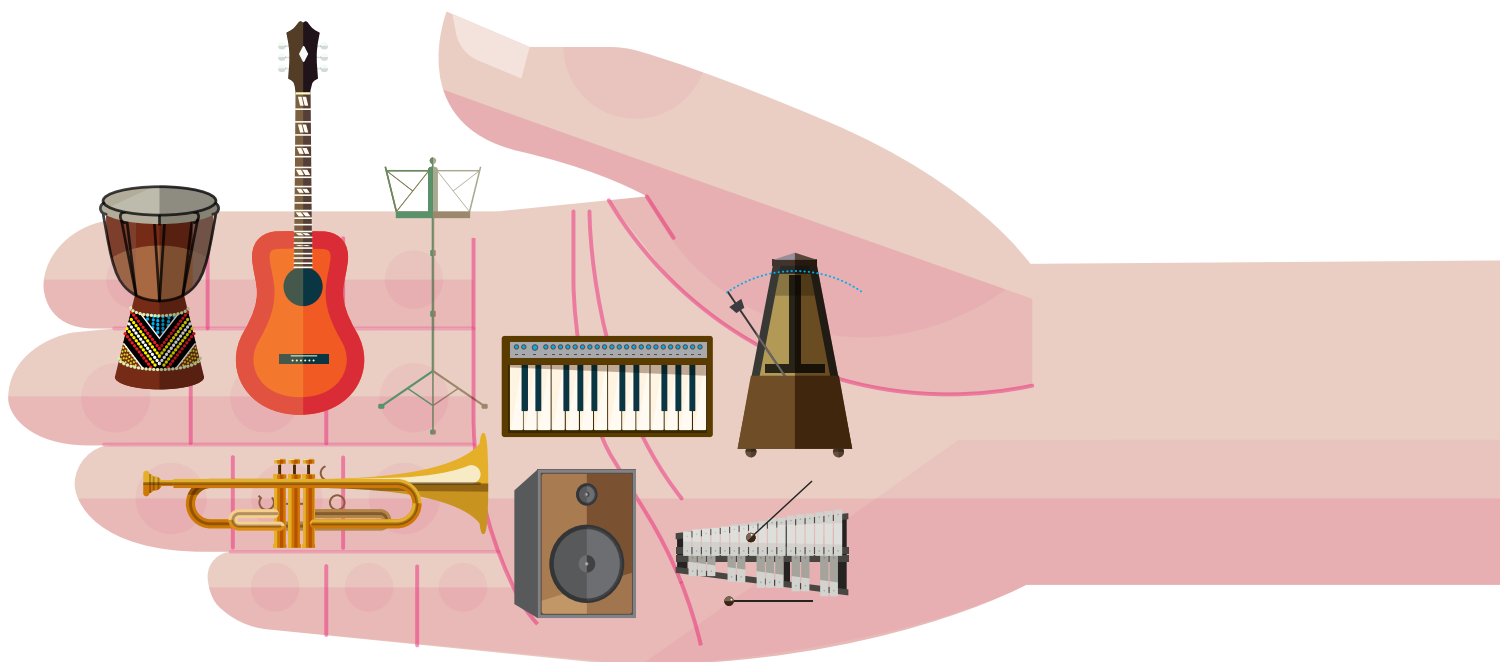
2 If they don't, now's a great time to consider learning. Ask about music at your secondary school parents evening or open day

Often the head of music/performing arts, music teacher/s, or instrumental/vocal tutors will be on hand to answer any questions. If cost is a concern, you can ask the school about any subsidies available for lessons and whether they also access our bursary and instrument hire schemes.

4 What if lessons on offer aren't appealing?

Schools can't cater for everyone's preferences, but it's important that there's something that could spark your child's interest. If what's on offer at school isn't appealing, tell the school. Chances are that other pupils are feeling the same.





5 Find out about other opportunities to learn and make music through school, within and outside the curriculum

Ask at parents evening about how often curriculum music takes place, and for how long. Ask about other opportunities like lunchtime or after-school clubs, performances, links with other organisations like local music centres, festivals, or groups/ensembles. Sign up for our Hubdates for local, regional and national opportunities.

6 Ask if they know about support for schools from the Hub

We support over 90% of Devon and Torbay schools with one or more of the following:

- Advice and support from a dedicated local Music Development Lead
- Delegated Music Education Grant (MEG) funding for each school
- Instrumental and vocal tuition bursaries
- Fully funded access to instruments and award-winning digital resources
- An extensive range of live music events and workshops
- Regular conference, training and networking opportunities for the music education workforce



What you can do:

Visit our website to discover opportunities to make music in your area, including local music centres, ensembles and county groups

musiceducationhub.org

Supporting your child in music:

an investment in unlocking their potential



Most people know that music is a 'good thing'. Research proves again and again that it is so important to children and young people's lives and futures.

Why?

Because music education...

increases confidence and self-esteem

which has a knock-on effect in all areas of their life and learning

improves health and wellbeing

reducing stress, increasing a sense of wellbeing and happiness

provides important life and social skills

such as listening, concentration, working as a team

develops creativity and self-expression

helping young people to think differently and develop their power of imagination

improves cognition, literacy and numeracy

recent neuroscience research has shown that children who learn an instrument have higher levels of cognitive capacity, specifically in their language acquisition and numerical problem solving skills

can be the key to unlocking potential

particularly for young people who are strongly creative, or who struggle to engage with other areas of learning

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Devon Music Education Hub works with schools, music educators and a range of **local, regional and national partner organisations** to provide an inclusive, diverse and relevant music education offer for all children and young people. As part of a network of Music Education Hubs across England, we are supported using public funding from the **DfE** and **Arts Council England** and tasked with delivering the objectives of the National Plan for Music Education.