

South West Music School

Grant Information 2023–24

South West Music School is part of a national network of Centres of Advanced Training supported by the Department for Education Music and Dance Scheme for exceptionally talented young musicians.

All eligible SWMS students have access to the DfE's Music and Dance Scheme's means-tested grant.

If you would like to be considered for a means-tested grant, you can complete the additional application form. If your application to join SWMS is successful, you will note there is a small section asking about family income. This finance information will help us to determine whether you will be eligible for a grant and importantly, whether this will be a full or partial grant.

For those eligible for a full MDS grant, you will have access to the following:

- **Tailored programme of activities suited to your ability/age level**
(depending on the programme, these can include regular programme of workshops throughout the year and/or residential courses)
- **1-2-1 professional mentoring sessions**
- **Tuition budget**
(to support your 1-2-1 instrumental/vocal/composition tuition)
- **Access to an additional range of short courses**
(including workshops, masterclasses, online music production sessions, external activities with our partner organisations, and concerts. These vary depending on your age, ability and interest levels.)

For students eligible for a partial grant:

In some circumstances families will receive a partial grant offer. This may be sufficient to cover elements of the South West Music School package, but not all. When this happens, our General Manager will suggest a package of activities to support musical development, and is happy to negotiate parental contributions to increase the support offered.

For those who do not qualify for a means-tested grant:

We can work with you to look at individual circumstances to offer you a tailored package of activities within your budget. For example, for a student offered a place on our **Foundation Programme** without an MDS grant, the stand-alone programme of six workshops across the year costs **£390**. This can be paid as a one-off payment at the start of the year or spread across the year as monthly payments. **For students on other programmes, please speak with Tracy Hill to discuss further.**