



Holmer Green Senior School

Work Hard, Be Kind, Have Passion

---

**MUSIC LESSONS AT  
HOLMER GREEN SENIOR  
SCHOOL  
2023-24**

## CLASSICAL GUITAR LESSONS AT HGSS



Hello,

I'm Catherine, and I've been the classical guitar teacher here at HGSS since 2011. In all, I have over 25 years of teaching experience at many schools across Buckinghamshire.

I've been playing the classical guitar since the age of 12 and my lessons started right here at HGSS where I was a former pupil. It's wonderful that something I loved learning at HGSS is now something that I get to teach at HGSS!

There are lots of different types of guitar out there so I hope the information below about classical guitar is helpful when deciding what to go for.....

### **What is the classical guitar?**

Don't worry, it doesn't mean you're only going to play classical music!

'Classical guitar' (sometimes known as the Spanish Guitar) refers to the way the guitar is played and the type of guitar. Classical guitars have a lovely mellow, clean sound, and the nylon strings are smooth and really comfortable to play which is great for beginners.

Chances are, if you played the guitar at primary school, you would have used a classical guitar. And they come in up to 5 different sizes so there is always a classical guitar out there to suit every hand size.

The classical guitar is playing 'finger-style' which means individual notes and chords are picked out with the right-hand fingers to create a wonderful sound where the guitarist is playing a tune, a harmony part and a bass line all in one!

### **What do classical guitarists learn?**

Classical guitarists learn to read standard musical notation and pick a good knowledge of music theory along the way. This is a fantastic skill to take on and means that classical guitarists gain a musical knowledge that is equal to those who learn to play orchestral instruments.

In addition to reading music, beginners will learn the basic technical skills and then have a choice of whether they want to go down the route of taking graded exams (not compulsory) or learning and making progress but without the pressure of exams. A classical guitarist can play any genre and style of music such as Rock, Pop, Blues, Jazz, Classical, Flamenco, Baroque, Latin, Musicals and anything in between!

Pupils can use their classical guitar skills to help with GCSE and A level Music practical work, or as part of the Skills section of the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme. They have the opportunity to perform in school concerts, assemblies and local area music competitions. As they progress, all classical guitarists will have the chance to join an ensemble at High Wycombe or Amersham Music Centre where they will work towards performances at venues such as the Wycombe Swan Theatre and even the Royal Albert Hall! The most dedicated pupils who reach a high level of playing are also able to audition for the prestigious National Youth Guitar Ensemble.

### **Lessons Information and Costs**

All prospective new pupils receive one free 30-minute taster lesson, and those who decide to continue beyond the taster lesson will receive their first two lessons free of charge.

There are 32 lessons per academic year and all lessons are 30 minutes in length.

Please contact me for further information about lesson fees. ([cwellsguitar@gmail.com](mailto:cwellsguitar@gmail.com))

### **Purchasing A Guitar**

The classical guitar is one of the most inexpensive instruments for a beginner to start out on. A decent quality brand new beginner guitar can be as little as £80. Second-hand classical guitars are easy to come by and some music shops offer great value rental schemes. There is no need to purchase expensive items such as amplifiers, leads or pedals, but in addition to the guitar you'll also require a good quality padded case, a beginner book, a foot stool, a tuner and a practice book. The total cost of all these items is usually no more than £50. Full information about this will be provided after taster lessons have taken place.

### **Where will lessons take place?**

You can opt to have lessons at school, or if you'd prefer to keep guitar lessons separate from school you can arrange to have lessons after school hours at my house which is a 5 minute drive from HGSS. Pupils who have their lessons out of school will still be included in school concerts and other musical events.

To find out more or to book your free taster lesson, please contact me at any time: [cwellsguitar@gmail.com](mailto:cwellsguitar@gmail.com)

I look forward to hearing from you and meeting potential new classical guitarists soon!

**Miss C. Wells**  
**Classical guitar teacher at HGSS**  
**[cwellsguitar@gmail.com](mailto:cwellsguitar@gmail.com)**

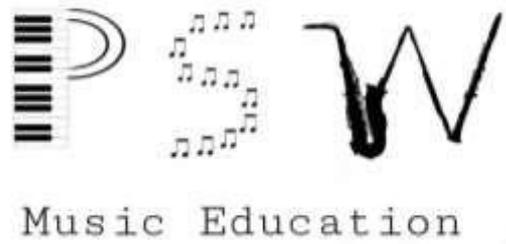
## **VIOLA, TRUMPET, VIOLIN AND TROMBONE LESSONS**



Welcome to viola, trumpet, violin and trombone lessons at HGSS. My name is Mrs Good and I am a profession viola and violinist, playing trumpet and trombone mostly for fun. Which instrument would suit you? Violin and viola is terrific for us left handers. Violin appeals to my showy, clever, give me the tune side. Viola to my: be different; valuable, every orchestra is desperate to persuade me to play for them; dark, deeper voice side. Practising trumpet is excellent revenge when someone in the family has annoyed you. Trombone is very zen, let's let other instruments struggle with the fast and high notes. There's only you and I in your lessons so they are a lovely half an hour oasis where you don't have to try to catch up or keep up with the rest of the class. If you want or need a technique repeated 10, 100 or 1000 times or conversely to go faster we'll do that. I think the most important thing is finding something you enjoy playing and we have made space in lessons for Anime, Chinese scale patterns, church music, the band Queen, tv theme tunes, and helping you with your orchestra part. Lessons are at a different time each week, so you don't miss the same lesson.

From the Parent perspective, lessons at school spare you being a taxi service and hanging around of an evening. While there is no pressure to sit Music Grades, a previous Head of Music at HGSS said that my super skill was getting the most unlikely children through exams. A number of my students have taken advantage of only 40% of GCSE music being a formal exam, some going on to A level and the highest instrument grades entirely on lessons at school.

[shirley.good@talktalk.net](mailto:shirley.good@talktalk.net)



**Instrumental Music Lessons Academic Year September 2023-July 2024**

Learning an instrument is highly beneficial to the physical and mental development of your child. Amongst other benefits, through learning an instrument and performing, your child can boost their confidence; improve their memory; develop their concentration; and enhance their co-ordination.

**A little bit about me**

I have been incredibly fortunate to have taught at Holmer Green Senior School for a number of years. I can't wait for September to see my current students continue to grow and thrive as young musicians, and to meet all of the new faces who are just starting out on their musical journey.

Ever since I was a young child, I had the incredible opportunity to delve into the world of music. Right from my first piano lesson, I fell in love with the musicality, creativeness and experiences that music brought into my life. My musical journey saw me studying for over a decade at two of the top music conservatoires in the world, Trinity Laban and The Royal Birmingham Conservatoire. During my studies, I studied under some of the foremost classical and jazz music teachers and performed at a number of prestigious venues including the Royal Albert Hall, LSO St Lukes and Cadogan Hall.

As much as I love performing, my true passion has always been inspiring others through teaching music. I first started teaching in 2009 alongside studying, and have been teaching full time for the past 5 years. There is nothing more amazing than seeing that sparkle as a student discovers the joy of music in their first lesson or the incredible sense of achievement as they pass their first exam or perform their first piece.

**Lessons**

Throughout the academic year there will be 33 scheduled music lessons, which will be divided between the 3 terms. Each term works out at around 11 lessons, lasting 20 or 30 minutes, depending on your child's specific needs. In addition to the lessons during the school year, there will also be the opportunity to continue lessons during the school holidays.

If you have any questions, or require any further information, please feel free to contact me by email at [office@pswmusiceducation.co.uk](mailto:office@pswmusiceducation.co.uk), or visit the website at [www.pswmusiceducation.co.uk](http://www.pswmusiceducation.co.uk).

Kind regards  
**Rowan Carter**  
**PSW Music Education**

To register your interest and to book lessons for the 2023/2024 academic year, please kindly complete the below booking form and return to [office@pswmusiceducation.co.uk](mailto:office@pswmusiceducation.co.uk).

<b>School:</b>					
<b>Name of Child:</b>					
<b>Class:</b>					
<b>Instrument(s):</b>	<b>Piano</b>	<b>Singing</b>	<b>Clarinet</b>	<b>Saxophone</b>	<b>Flute</b>
<b>Preferred Lesson Length:</b>	<b>20</b>				<b>30</b>

## **Drum lessons with Tomi Spasevski at Holmer Green Senior School**



Tomi Spasevski is a lifelong musician and multi-instrumentalist with over a decade of teaching experience and a master's degree in percussion from the Music Academy of Zagreb, Croatia. He enjoys teaching and playing the guitar, percussion, drums and piano. He has participated in numerous music competitions and performances with different ensembles and orchestras in Croatia and all over the world. Tomi appreciates and teaches a wide variety of music genres and grade books. Some of his favourite drummers are Carter McLean and Gene Hoglan.

Tomi may be able to offer guitar lessons from September 2023 so please contact directly.

Fees are due in advance of each complete term.

For all other arrangements please contact Tomi via his email/phone:

[altraloth@gmail.com](mailto:altraloth@gmail.com)

+4475 9960 2354

