

Winterton PCC

Winterton Parochial Church Council

website: <http://lincoln.ourchurchweb.org.uk/winterton/>

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To any student who has an interest in Winterton Church Organ School

2010

Dear Student

Winterton Church Organ School

This is a new opportunity created in January 2010 by All Saints' Church, Winterton, with the assistance of the Diocese of Lincoln Music Development Officer.

All Saints is subsidising the Organ School to help make it available to any school or college student in North Lincolnshire who has the potential to learn to play the church organ. Adults are also welcome to apply but they will be expected to pay fees which are not subsidised. The Church is keen to encourage new organ players in our area. We do not want any seriously interested school or college student with potential to be put off entering the Organ School by the cost.

The details about the planned Organ School are on the attached sheet. The school can take a group of up to four students who will receive fortnightly lessons at the church, with regular practice sessions in between. The school started operation in February 2010.

There is no doubt that learning to play the church organ competently is a life skill which will always be in demand! Apart from the joy of being able to play such wonderful large musical instruments, fees for playing at weddings have been a useful financial boost to many students in past years!

In order to be successful students will need to commit time for both lessons and practice sessions. As the commitment needs to be considered seriously, we will commence with a 'taster' session lasting five/six weeks. This will allow students to gain an understanding of the required commitment and we can assess the potential of the student.

There is a modest financial commitment [contribution to lesson costs, the need to purchase music, tuition booklets and any exam entry fees]. All Saints' Church will also be making a significant financial contribution to the Organ School in order to keep the cost to school/college students as low as possible.

If you are interested please complete the attached application form and return as quickly as possible. We will acknowledge all applications. We may have to arrange a selection process if more students apply than we can accept.

If you have any questions or wish for clarification please contact Robin Shawyer [contact details above] who is the Organ School Coordinator.

Yours sincerely

Robin Shawyer
Winterton Church Organ School Coordinator

Winterton Church Organ School [set up by All Saints' Church, Winterton]

Aims

- To encourage young people and adults in North Lincolnshire to learn to play the church organ.
- To establish a 'school' at All Saints where organ lessons and practice times are provided which will equip students with a life-long musical skill.

Organ lessons at All Saints' Church, Winterton

- Once per fortnight in school/college term-time only: about 18 lessons per year.
- Thursday afternoon at 4pm [though this could change] with lesson for group of up to 4 students.
- Length of each lesson for the group will be 40 minutes [would be less if fewer than four students].

Target students

- To enter the school students need ideally Piano Grade 5 ABRSM, though Grade 3 or 4 may also be acceptable. Being a fluent bass-clef reader is really important.

Practice arrangements

- In addition to lessons each student needs at least 30 minutes practice per day on 4 days each week.
- All Saints will provide each student with access to the organ at All Saints for practice sessions. However, if the student is not a Winterton resident, it may be more convenient for him/her to make private arrangements to access an organ in their own village church.
- Times for practice will be fixed with each student and the All Saints key holders who will be on duty.

Lesson costs

- Each school/college student will pay £4 per lesson [charge may vary if fewer than 4 in group].
- All Saints will provide a subsidy to cover the full cost of lessons for school/college students.
- Adult students will be expected to pay a rate which is not subsidised [possibly £10 per 20 minutes].
- No school/college student will be prevented from entering the school for financial reasons.

Obligation for the student during taster stage: each student must

- Pay fees in advance to cover the cost of the three lessons.
- Ensure the copy of the tutorial book [provided by All Saints] is left in the church at the end of each session [or returned to All Saints if practice sessions are arranged privately elsewhere].
- Attend the three taster lessons at All Saints and attend the 4 sessions of practice each week.

Obligation for the student once commitment is made after taster introduction: each student must

- Pay the half-term tuition fees in advance
- Attend lessons at All Saints unless ill [with advance notification to agreed person at All Saints].
- Attend practice sessions at All Saints [or other agreed church].
- Purchase copies of appropriate tuition booklet [about £5 per copy] and printed music [about £30/£50 per year] as required by tutor in consultation with parents.
- Provide themselves with suitable footwear for organ playing [as outlined by the tutor].
- Play the organ at All Saints' Church, Winterton, on an agreed number of occasions during the year [as appropriate for the skill level of each student at either a Sunday service or other public event].
- Pay entry fees for any ABRSM exams taken.

Obligation for All Saints: the church will

- Allow access to the church organ once per fortnight for lessons [and, in association with the Diocese, endeavour to ensure that a suitable teacher is available].
- Provide a financial subsidy towards the cost of lessons for each school/college student.
- Arrange free access to the church organ for agreed practice sessions.
- Ensure that the organ is kept repaired so that it is available for student sessions.
- When necessary, provide some heating during sessions in the Chancel, where the organ is located.
- Arrange adult supervision by All Saints key-holder for each practice session.
- Ensure that adult supervisors arranged by the church are CRB checked.
- Arrange appropriate insurance cover for students while they attend sessions at All Saints.
- Provide a small library of tuition booklets and printed music for organ school students to borrow.
- Arrange for each student to play the organ on an agreed number of public occasions during the year [as appropriate for the skill level of each student at either a Sunday service or other public event].
- Not expect any student to accompany singing until they are sufficiently skilled to do so. Most public performances will involve solo organ playing.
- Ensure that if a student is engaged by the church to play the organ at All Saints for a wedding or funeral service they will be paid the usual organist fee.

Please retain this page for your records.

Winterton Church Organ School Application Form

Please complete clearly in block capitals

Applicant details:	NB For applicants over age 18 it is not necessary to provide details marked *		
First name		Family name	
Date of birth*		School year group*	
Home address			
Home telephone [+ code]		Mobile phone	
E-mail address			
ABRSM Piano Grade exam already taken with date			
Any other music qualifications or experience			
Any health or disability issues we need to know? If yes, please note them here or on a separate sheet			
<p>I understand the level of commitment required and will ensure that I do attend all lessons and agreed practice sessions.</p> <p>I understand that, if too many students apply, there may have to be a selection process.</p>			
Applicant's signature		Date	

Parent details:	NB Applicants over age 18 are not required to complete this section		
First name		Family name	
Emergency telephone number			
Alternative emergency contact number			
<p>I understand the commitment required by my son/daughter.</p> <p>I also understand the financial commitment.</p> <p>I am aware that I can talk to the Organ School Coordinator if the financial commitment is an issue.</p> <p>I understand that All Saints' Church, Winterton, cannot be held responsible for any arrangements made by students or parents for practice sessions held at other churches. I accept full responsibility if I or my son/daughter makes such private arrangements.</p> <p>I give my permission for my son/daughter named above to apply to the Winterton Church Organ School.</p>			
Parent's signature		Date	

Please return this form to:

Robin Shawyer,
Winterton Church Organ School Coordinator,
31 Earls Gate,
Winterton,
Scunthorpe,
DN15 9SS