

BROCKHURST AND MARLSTON HOUSE

EXTRA SUBJECTS

We do not generally consider it advisable for pupils to embark on more than one, or at the most two, extra subjects in their first term, since they will probably have enough to do keeping pace with the numerous games, hobbies and activities available in the ordinary curriculum. (There is, however, a good case for a pupil taking riding or a particular musical instrument in their first term if they have already started receiving instruction before arrival at the school.)

It sometimes happens that pupils cannot be included at once on application, since the availability of facilities, time and instructors is not unlimited, in which case they will be placed on a waiting list. **Pupils may not discontinue an extra subject without a full term's notice in writing and they should be made aware of this.** The reason for this is that the school cannot engage staff or tell them that their employment is reduced or terminated without fair notice. The rule may be waived where there is a waiting list, but it is entirely at the discretion of the Headmaster and Headmistress

MUSIC: All pupils have class music, which involves keyboard music reading and keyboard playing, singing and music appreciation and composition. All pupils are eligible to join the school choir and, by voice test, the church choir.

A charge of (£14.50 per lesson) is made only if a pupil receives individual instruction in the piano, singing or an orchestral instrument.

Teachers are available from outside the school for most instruments if we are given sufficient notice and examinations of the Associated Board of the Royal School of Music may be taken. Instruction will, for the most part, take place in lesson time, but we observe a rotational system so that a pupil does not miss the same lesson each week. Experience shows that this does not have a harmful effect on his/her academic work. It is fair to say that more children learn the piano than any other individual instrument but it is worth pointing out that expert opinion does not regard it as the easiest instrument for a beginner and that it does not offer the same opportunities for orchestral playing as other instruments.

Though by no means all pupils with musical potential are suited to them, the string instruments have much to commend them, since orchestras everywhere require a good number of string players and Public School Directors of Music regard them favourably, particularly if there is any question of a pupil winning a scholarship award. In addition to violin and cello, instruments commonly learnt by pupils in the schools are flute, clarinet, saxophone, trumpet guitar and drums. The school possesses and is gradually adding to, a stock of instruments but a charge has to be made for hire. In the longer run an aspiring orchestral musician will need to possess his/her own instrument but most parents will not wish to incur the expense in the initial stages when a pupil's aptitude is still in doubt. Parents who wish their pupils to learn a musical instrument are asked to contact Mrs Allison Cowan as early as possible so that arrangements for instruction can be made. Mrs Cowan is always ready to discuss details and make suggestions as to the most appropriate instrument.

RIDING: £17.00 per lesson. Instruction takes place during the games period. All riders are expected to do their share of mucking out and stable duties as well as learning to groom and tack up the ponies they are to ride.

JUDO: £55.00 per term. NEW PUPILS (including those entering Form 7 from Ridge House) will be asked to pay a joining fee of £30.00 for their first term. This will cover the cost of a judo suit, belt and Grading Card. **All judo suits, including belts, must be named.**

FENCING: £78.00 per term. Instruction takes place once a week in the reading period in the afternoons. Matches are played against other prep schools and junior teams from public school teams at an early stage in their careers. Proficiency Awards of the Amateur Fencing Association are competed for. Instruction is only offered to pupils who are nine years and older (forms 1-5).

BALLET: £63.00 per term

SPEECH & DRAMA: £89.00 per term.

Parents wishing their children to take an Extra Subject are asked to place a tick in the appropriate space below and return this portion to the school as early as possible. It would be helpful if you would inform us of the level achieved in each activity chosen (grade passed or level of ability e.g. beginner / intermediate / experienced) where appropriate.

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To: Mrs P Mackie, The Secretary, School Office

Name of Pupil: _____ <i>(please print)</i>					
Music: _____ <i>(please state instrument/)</i>					

_____ <i>(level achieved)</i>					
Ballet <i>(level achieved)</i>		Fencing <i>(Form 5 and above only)</i>		Judo <i>(level achieved)</i>	
Riding <i>(level achieved)</i>		Speech and Drama <i>(new class begins September 2007)</i>			

Date:

Signed: