



INVICTUS

Performing Arts

9th June 2020

Dear Year 5 & Year 6 Parents/Carers

We are offering your child the opportunity to learn a stringed instrument for absolutely no cost. This is a unique offer to feeder primary schools as well as prospective students of Invictus secondary schools as part of The Big Strings Project, or BSP. Tuition takes place as part of a large group and we also provide free instruments (Violin, Viola and Cello).

The BSP is run by Sally Hobbs who played in the CBSO (City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra) under Simon Rattle, and who is now the Head of Strings for Birmingham Music Service. As you can imagine the tuition is first class. We are also fortunate to have a member of Dudley Performing Arts (with whom this is a collaborative project), Josh Taylor, to coach Cello and Double Bass.

At the moment the BSP is based at Wombourne High School. Sessions are 6.30pm – 8pm every Tuesday during term time, in the music room. With luck, we are aiming to start tuition sessions on Tuesday 22nd September 2020 (however, in the current situation this is still subject to change). Although the BSP is free, we do ask that you support your child at our regular concerts. We do realise that Wombourne High School is quite a long way from some of our more westerly schools, so depending on uptake we may be able to provide a rotation to a different area on a two-weekly basis.

We should make clear that this opportunity is available to all students – no matter what ability level they are. We have capacity to run several groups at the same time because we are in the fortunate position of older students, who are also expert string players, being able to mentor younger ones. Advanced students are in turn presented with challenging bespoke material.

If you wish to register your child for membership of the BSP, please email Sally Hobbs at shobbs@invictus.education or Peter Wingate at pwingate@invictus.education You will need to provide your child's name, school, age and preferred instrument choice as well as your own contact details.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Kind regards

Peter Wingate

