

## **PE1694/P**

Fife Council submission of 29 October 2018

### **1. The drop-out rate of children having instrumental music tuition in the past two years**

#### **Session 2017/18**

Out of a total of 3387 pupils involved in instruction, 381 ceased instruction, giving a dropout rate of 11.23%.

Please note - The above figure of 381 also includes pupils in S4, 5 and 6 who left school during or at the end of session 2017/18 – our system does not record this detail however, but simply gives a withdrawn date from instruction.

Please also note – The above figure of 381 also includes 88 pupils who were entitled to FSM and 35 who were studying for an SQA qualification (therefore receive free tuition in Fife), with 6 being classed as both FSM and SQA pupils. This means that a total of 117 pupils who ceased instruction would have been exempt from the annual charge for instruction.

This leaves a total of 264 pupils, paying for instruction, who ceased instruction during 2017/18, or 7.79% of the total number of pupils involved in instruction. We do not record information of reasons for withdrawal.

#### **Session 2016/17**

Out of total of 3681 pupils involved in instruction, 580 ceased instruction, giving a dropout rate of 15.76%.

Please note - The above figure of 580 also includes pupils in S4, 5 and 6 who left school during or at the end of session 2016/17 – our system does not record this detail however, but simply gives a withdrawn date from instruction.

Please also note – The above figure of 580 also includes 123 pupils who were entitled to FSM and 62 who were studying for an SQA qualification (therefore receive free tuition in Fife), with 6 being classed as both FSM and SQA. This means that a total of 179 pupils who ceased instruction would have been exempt from the annual charge for instruction.

This leaves a total of 401 pupils, paying for instruction, who ceased instruction during 2016/17, or 10.89% of the total number of pupils involved in instruction. We do not record information of reasons for withdrawal.

### **2. The projected drop-out rate for this year if charges for instrumental music tuition continue to increase as they have done in recent years**

There was no increase in the annual charge for Instrumental Instruction in 2018/19 from the previous session. Figures for numbers ceasing instruction for session 2018/19 will not be available until the end of session – no projections are made or assumed.

**3. Is there a particular reason that instrumental music tuition is not being regarded by education departments as a core subject?**

Instrumental music tuition is an additional and discretionary service, provided by Local Authorities. This does not mean that music (including exposure to instrumental tuition) is not deemed to be a part of the core curriculum. The Expressive Arts curricular area requires that, through music, learners have rich opportunities to be creative and to experience inspiration and enjoyment. Performing and creating music will be the prominent activities for all learners. Through these activities they develop their vocal and instrumental skills, explore sounds and musical concepts, and use their imagination and skills to create musical ideas and compositions.

This is delivered through each of our schools, as part of the core curriculum.