



LA CÔTE
INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL
AUBONNE

EXTERNAL MUSIC TUITION

2026-2027



Dear Parents and Guardians,

Thank you for your interest in additional music tuition here at LCIS. We have a strong team of external music teachers (EMTs) who can teach your chil/children at various times throughout the school day according to your needs.

There are some important guidelines that you need to agree to in order for lessons to start.

Please look at the information on the following pages and contact the external music teacher of your choice in order to begin the process.

The External Music Teachers work closely with the Performing Arts department throughout the year to track progress and offer performance opportunities.



GUIDELINES

ENROLLMENT

Parents should contact the External Music Teachers (EMTs) and include the Director of Performing Arts, Mr Brooks (justin.brooks@lcis.ch) and Miss Monteith (cybil.monteith@lcis.ch) in this email to express interest in lessons or to book a lesson. You will then receive a confirmation from the EMT and a time for the lesson.

LESSON ROTATION

Lessons will be scheduled for the first week and from then on will take place on a rotational basis (including lunch and break time) to avoid students being taken out of the same subjects each week. The rotation will continue until the end of the term.

Students in Primary will be collected directly from their classes by the music teachers. Students in secondary will be expected to attend their lesson at the time stated by the music teacher.

ENROLMENT CONDITIONS

Enrolment is for the Term or the remainder thereof.

Written notice of discontinuation of tuition must be received four weeks prior to the end of a term addressed to the Director of Performing Arts and the relevant EMT. In the event of no notice being given fees are payable until lessons are formally cancelled.

Students will receive lessons on a weekly basis according to the length of each term.

Lessons are of thirty minutes duration and are timetabled during class time, break time or lunch time. As our teachers are not all in everyday, it may not be possible to only schedule lessons during break or lunch times. Effort is made to find the most suitable time for each student.

Notification of non-attendance needs to be received by the Music Teacher at least 24 hours prior to the lesson time for lessons to be rescheduled. Parents and students need to make direct contact with the EMT to make alternate lesson arrangements. This will be strictly adhered to.

Lessons which are missed and not rescheduled as outlined above must be paid for. In incidences of student illness notification as soon as possible should be given directly to the music teacher by the parent.

When lessons coincide with a school activity, for example sports days, camps, special class excursions or tests, it is the responsibility of the student to contact the EMT and arrange a suitable alternate time. Failure to do so will mean the lesson is forfeited and must be paid for.

In the event of the EMT not being available, missed lessons will be rescheduled or if this is not possible, they will not be charged to parents.

Tuition fees are payable for the entire term within two weeks of receiving an invoice from the teacher. Teachers will issue receipts for money paid. It is recommended payment be by bank transfer to ensure records can be maintained by the teacher and parent.

SCHEDULING FOR PRIMARY STUDENTS

Students will not be taken out of core subjects like Literacy and Maths, unless the subject teachers have confirmed this is possible in writing to the EMT.

SCHEDULING FOR SECONDARY STUDENTS

Each term lessons are timetabled on rotational basis. It must be understood that once a student is allocated a lesson time at the beginning of the week that this is a fixed commitment.

Each term lesson times will be reviewed and monitored for impact by the EMT and the PERFORMING ARTS TEAM

Lesson times are published once a week directly by email from the External Music Teacher (EMT). Each student is required to read & check their emails as part of his or her daily routine as explained in the secondary school assemblies. Students will need to check weekly times due to variations in the school routine and or additional events. These times will also be sent to parents if necessary.

No lessons are scheduled during:

- examinations week for Secondary Students
- the first week of the school year
- the last week of the school year
- during major school events – performances, sports events, camps

It is the parents' and students' responsibility to inform EMTs if the student has a planned absence or is going to be away, in advance. Failure to do so will result in the lesson being charged at the regular rate of the EMT.

INSTRUMENT PRACTICE

In order to develop instrumental skills, it is expected that students practice their instrument at home (if possible), or in their own time at break and lunch in school. Practice booths may be used with permission from Mr Brooks, the Director of Performing Arts, or Miss Monteith, Music.

TUITION FEES

Tuition fees are at the discretion of the EMT. The EMT will invoice the parent for a term at the beginning of the agreement.

All payments are made directly to the EMT. No payments should come into school. It is up to the EMT and the parent to organise a suitable method of payment.

Failure to pay for classes will result in all lessons being cancelled and the Director of Performing Arts will be informed.

We thank you in advance for your understanding and commitment to the above guidelines.

Should you have any specific questions please don't hesitate to get in touch with the music teacher directly.

Mr Justin Brooks

Director of Performing Arts

August 2026



OUR EXTERNAL MUSIC TEACHERS



Felipe Tapia GUITAR AND COMPOSITION

Availability: TBC

Languages: Spanish, English and French

Contact: fthmusic@gmail.com

Musician Professional Guitarist Born 29.03.80 in Santiago, Chile.

Musical styles: rock, reggae, funk, jazz, blues, pop, latin, fusion, etc.

Music has always been there since he can remember. He has been exposed to it since he was a child and it quickly became a passion and a huge part of his life.

He started as a self-taught guitarist at the age of 14 years old and hasn't stopped ever since.

He has worked as a composer, guitar player, bass player, teacher, session musician, and producer.

Experiences:

- Electric guitar teacher 2003 - to date
- Electric bass teacher 2018 - to date
- European Tour with Santo Barrio 2006 - 2008
- Collaborated and recorded albums with Joe Vasconcellos, Chocloneta, Santo Barrio and Quique Neira.

Education:

- Escuela Moderna de Música, Santiago, Chile (2003 - 2005)
- Berklee College of Music, Boston MA, USA (2000 - 2003)
- Honors: Scholarship, Berklee College of Music for electric guitar skills.
- High school diploma, Licencia de Enseñanza Media (1998)
- Colegio San Esteban, Santiago, Chile



Gwladys Palmiste VOICE

Availability: TBC

Languages: French and English

Contact: pgladoo@yahoo.fr

Tessiture: Soprano

Education:

- Conservatoire de Musique d'Annemasse
- Certificat de chant lyrique - 2003
- Leçon de piano - 1995 à 1999
- Etudes musicales de chant - 1994 à 2003
- Méthode Alexander - 2000 à 2002
- Technique vocale - 1992 à 1994
- Etude musicales de solfège - 1991 à 1995

Université de Cambridge via école de formation à Genève

- Advanced Certificate - Anglais – 2005
- First Certificate - Anglais - 2004

Faculté de Langues de Chambéry

- Diplôme de compétence en Langue - 2003
- Licence d'Anglais - 2003

Experience:

During my 14 years as a bilingual singing teacher, I have the opportunity to support students in their learning of using their voices in the best way and prepare them to perform throughout the different events of the school years.

Furthermore, my 20 years as a professional singer in live music bands is still an occasion for me to share my experience with my students, some of them benefitting as semi- final candidates for The Voice France and The Voice Kid Switzerland in 2015 and 2017.



Paula Dederichs WOODWIND

Availability: TBC

Languages: English, French, German

Contact: paula.dederichs@bluewin.ch

There's nothing better than playing music together with others! A wind instrument gives you plenty of opportunity to play in bands, orchestras, with a pianist, with friends and more. Having played many years in school orchestras on French horn and trumpet, in jazz big bands and wind bands, I want to share this with students by helping them to learn their instrument.

I have a Diploma in Flute Performance with the Associated Board of the Royal Schools of Music (ABRSM) and follow these exams from the early stages on with students to achieve an all-round musical education. In my spare time I still play in a jazz group (also playing saxophone) and in a flute orchestra.

I teach flute, recorders, saxophone, trumpet and beginner clarinet.



Laure Vouros PIANO

Availability: TBC

Languages: English, French, Greek

Contact: laurevouros@gmail.com

I started playing piano at four years old and terminated my piano and theory studies with a virtuosity diploma in the Conservatoire of Athens.

Then for several years I studied with Blandine Eynaud in France. As we never finish learning, I continue taking classes on teaching the piano with an alumni of the Juilliard School and Santa Cecilia. I am Swiss from my mother's side and Greek from my father's and have two grown-up children.

I have taught piano for 25 years now in music schools and privately. I have conducted choirs and was the music director and music teacher at Ecole Moser in Nyon, where I produced a successful musical. But it is my true passion to transmit and reveal the beautiful world of music to students, children and adults alike, so I decided to focus on piano teaching.

I work at La Côte International School and in my own home studio where I have a Bechstein grand piano. I love to teach classical music as it is important to develop a good basis but to keep lessons a pleasure I also do modern songs and jazz. I organize student concerts each year and prepare students for the ABRSM exams. I teach in English, French and Greek.



Kirby Bivans DRUMS

Availability: TBC

Languages: English, French

Contact: kirbybivans@gmail.com

American drummer, guitarist, pianist, singer and composer Kirby Bivans participated in recording a number of albums, radio and TV ads in his hometown of Chicago while pursuing a university music degree at Roosevelt University. On tour in France and Belgium in 1972 with the Free Street Theater of Chicago, Kirby gave percussion clinics and demonstrations in public schools. Moving to Nashville, Tennessee in 1983, he toured and recorded with country music stars Carl Perkins, Nicolette Larson, Freddy Hart, Vassar Clements and Lorrie Morgan. He even sang on the famous stage of the Grand Ole Opry.

In spring 1991, he came to Switzerland accompanying Nashville recording artist Karen Staley at festivals in Frütigen and Grand-Saconnex (GE). He came back three months later for a concert and in April 1992, permanently moved to Geneva and created his own group, J.KIRBY'S BAND. The band performs a mixture of country music and 60's rock & roll.

The group has recorded four CDs, composed mostly of original songs. J.KIRBY'S BAND participated in festivals in Geneva, Montreux, Diablerets, Interlaken, Craponne-sur-Arzon (the second biggest country festival in France), Mirande (the biggest country festival in Europe).

In 2021, Kirby started teaching private drum lessons at the La Cote International School.



Emily Hornsby-Martinez

VOICE & PIANO

Availability: Tuesdays and Wednesdays (Thursdays on request)

Languages: English, French, Spanish (basic)

Contact: em.beecreative@gmail.com

Education:

City University, London - Bachelor of Music with Honours degree

- film composition
- music therapy
- performance (singing/piano)
- music business

Guildhall School of Music and Drama, London

- Vocal performance

Institute of Education, London - PGCE (Post Graduate Certificate of Education)

- Qualified primary class teacher and secondary school music teacher

ABRSM grades 1 - 8 in piano, singing and music theory

Experience:

- Piano/singing teacher since 2007
- 100% pass rate preparing students for ABRSM and Music Teachers' Board (MTB) exams
- Part of an acoustic duo and pop/rock band, performing throughout French-speaking Switzerland (2020–present)
- Singer at private events such as weddings and private concerts (ongoing)
- Festival OMC Live, Lausanne (2023–25) – as singer/songwriter
- Enters students into a variety of music competitions and showcases

A qualified primary class teacher and secondary school music teacher from England, Emily began giving instrumental lessons in 2007. She went on to earn a Bachelor of Music with Honours from City University, London, complete a performance module at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama, and finish a Postgraduate Certificate of Education (PGCE) with a specialism in music at the Institute of Education, London.

Emily has extensive experience preparing students for ABRSM and Music Teachers' Board (MTB) exams, with a 100% pass rate record. She also competed in piano competitions in London, winning medals for 1st and 2nd place.

Emily moved to Switzerland in 2013 to continue her teaching career in an international environment. Her two specialist instruments are voice and piano, though she has also taught herself guitar, violin and saxophone. She enjoys composing her own music, and a number of her recorded songs, performed live in venues and festivals across French-speaking Switzerland, are available on all major streaming platforms.

Every month, Emily offers her students the opportunity to perform on stage with professional musicians at a public venue in Lausanne, and once a year invites select students to perform at a music festival in Lausanne on a professional stage. These are fantastic opportunities for students to build confidence in their musical skills, as well as their general confidence and stage presence.

Emily's classes are accessible to every student and designed with a student-centred approach; fun, creative, and built around strong personal relationships, giving students a safe and happy environment to express themselves artistically.

ents to express themselves artistically in a safe and happy environment.



LA CÔTE
INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL
AUBONNE

A NORD ANGLIA EDUCATION SCHOOL

www.lcis.ch

Chemin de Clamogne 8 | 1170 Aubonne | Switzerland