



## TUITION GUIDELINES AND TERMS (last updated June 2021)

### 1. ABOUT SIMON DARUVALA (THE TUTOR)

Simon is a highly experienced freelance drummer and drum tutor based in Newbury, offering 1-to-1 drum tuition at students' homes around Newbury, Thatcham and surrounding areas, for all abilities and learning styles.

Having played the drums for 17 years, Simon is extremely knowledgeable in all disciplines of the kit, and is assured of equipping students with the know-how and experience to progress and achieve their individual drumming aspirations (general enjoyment, preparing for an exam etc).

He has performed at various European and UK festivals, and usually plays at over 50 function events per year with many professional bands (both as the main drummer and as a reliable dep drummer). These bands include: Gentlemen Of The Road, The McKeens, Agent Joe, Various Artists, The CityFolk, The Elevation and more.

His qualifications includes a BA(Hons) degree in Professional Music Performance, and a Distinction in his Grade 7 and 8 Rockschoool drum exams.

Simon has been teaching music full-time for the last 3 years and has previously taught music to over 300 school children per week. Simon is fully DBS checked.

### 2. LESSON PRICES

#### 2.1 - TASTER LESSONS

Contact Simon to arrange your **free** 30minute taster lesson at your home. Simon can also provide the drum kit equipment bundle free of charge for the taster lesson. Please note that any following lessons will be subject to the £4 kit hire fee (see 3.1) where necessary.

#### 2.2 - SINGLE LESSONS

Single lessons can be booked on an ad hoc basis for:

30min lesson - **£23**

60min lesson - **£34**

When arranging single lessons, Simon will try and be as flexible as possible, though the lesson day and time will likely be determined by Simons availability.

£4 Kit hire fee (see 3.1) and petrol fee (3.2) may also apply where necessary.

### 2.3 - 4 LESSON BLOCK

A block of 4 lessons can be arranged at the discounted price of:

4 x 30min lessons - **£85**

4 x 60min lessons - **£125**

A block of 4 lessons must be booked as 4 weekly lessons in a period of 4 consecutive weeks. By doing so, you effectively reserve your lesson day and time for this period. No refunds are issued when using this method, however, any cancelled lessons can be rescheduled.

£16 kit hire fee (see 3.1) and petrol fee (3.2) may also apply where necessary.

### 2.4 - MONTHLY MEMBERSHIP

A monthly membership is the most cost-effective and flexible membership option. This membership covers the cost of **42 lessons over a 12 month period** (an average of 3.5 lessons per month) for a further discounted rate per lesson (see below), and effectively reserves your lesson slot for the entire calendar year. The prices for monthly memberships are as follows:

#### **30 MIN LESSONS**

**£70** per month (£20 per lesson)

#### **60 MIN LESSONS**

**£105** per month (£30 per lesson)

The flexibility of this membership takes into consideration the instances where you cannot attend drum lessons throughout the year (holiday, illness, etc). The number of lessons you receive month by month may vary slightly, so please inform Simon - as soon as possible - of any prior commitments throughout the year, as your direct debit payments will remain the same each month. Throughout the calendar year, Simon will review your lesson count to ensure that you are on track to receive 42 lessons per 12 month period.

If Simon is unavailable to teach a lesson (illness, holiday, gigs, etc), he will endeavour to arrange a catch-up lesson at your earliest convenience. Catch-up lessons can also be arranged during school holidays at different times/days to usual lesson slots if required.

A direct debit payment will be set up for monthly membership subscriptions, charged on the 1st of each month for that months lessons. In the instance where you wish to cancel your monthly membership subscription, a minimum of 6 weeks notice must be provided.

Please note that your monthly membership payments cover the cost of **42 lessons only**, over the calendar year (or equivalent 12 month period). Should you wish to book more lessons during this time, additional lessons can be booked separately at the same discounted rate (£20 for 30mins, £30 for 60mins), or spread out over the remaining months. Please be advised that any payments for additional lessons may overlap your monthly membership payments for the initial 42 lessons.

If a student receives or purchases a drum kit during their monthly membership and Simon no longer needs to provide his own equipment for lessons, the direct debit payment will reduce accordingly for that month, and the kit hire fee waived for the subsequent months to follow.

£14 Kit Hire fee (see 3.1) and petrol fee (3.2) may apply where necessary.

## 2.5 - ONLINE LESSONS

Online lessons are also available via Zoom. The prices for online lessons are as follows:

**30 min lesson - £17**

**60 min lesson - £25**

If government guidelines determine that 1-to-1 lessons shouldn't take place (isolating, restrictions etc) , online lessons should be arranged in order to continue students' progress - with a view to continuing 1-to-1 lessons when it is safe to do so.

To ensure simplicity for monthly membership students, any online lessons arranged during this time **will contribute** to the 42 lessons count. However, for every online lesson you receive, your monthly payment for that particular month OR the next month (depending when lessons are arranged) will be reduced as follows - to make up the difference in lesson costs:

30min lesson membership - £3 reduction per online lesson

60min lesson membership - £5 reduction per online lesson

### *Example 1*

**30 minute membership (usually £70 per month)**

40 lessons take place as usual, but 2 online lessons take place in March 2021.

Monthly payment for March reduced to £64, as 2 x £3 is deducted for online lessons.

All other months will remain at £70.

### *Example 2*

**60 minute membership (usually £105 per month)**

40 lessons take place as usual, but 2 online lessons take place in March 2021.

Monthly payment for March reduced to £95, as 2 x £5 is deducted for online lessons.

All other months will remain at £105.

### 3. ADDITIONAL FEES

#### 3.1 - PROVIDING EQUIPMENT

In the instance where a student doesn't yet have a drum kit, Simon can provide a drum kit equipment bundle (see below) for a small fee of £4 per lesson. This fee covers kit hire and the additional time taken before/after the lesson to set up/pack down all equipment (adds 15/20 minutes).

The Drum Kit Equipment Bundle consists of:

- Yamaha DTX-432k Electric Drum Kit
- SubZero DR-30 Drum Monitor
- Drum stool, drumsticks
- All leads and cables

When providing drum equipment for lessons, Simon will need enough space for the electric kit to be set up, and access to 2 plug sockets.

#### 3.2 - PETROL COSTS

Simon normally teaches drum lessons within Newbury and Thatcham town centres. Where necessary, an additional petrol fee will apply to lessons which take place outside this radius.

### 4. PAYMENT METHODS

Single Lessons or 4 Lesson blocks can be paid for either by Cash or Electronic payment (Faster Payment/Paypal), and online lessons can be paid for by electronic payment (Faster Payment/Paypal). It is extremely important that lessons are paid for by the same day that the lesson is due to take place. In the instance where payment is not received on or before the same day of the lesson, a 10% late fee may apply in addition to the lesson fee. Continued failure to meet payments on time may result in termination of your lesson plan agreement. Direct Debit payments will be set up through Go Cardless for Monthly memberships.

For electronic payments, please pay to:

Pay to: Simon Daruvala (Business Account)

Bank: Starling Bank

Account Number: 71547834

Sort Code: 60-83-71

Ref: DRUMS (followed by name) - eg Drums Stephen

## 5. LESSON STRUCTURE

Your lesson plan is made up of:

- Day
- Time
- Length of lesson

Please ensure that the day and time you agree to allocate for drum lessons is acceptable and suitable for your regular drum lesson slot going forward. It is recommended that lessons take place weekly to ensure a good level of progression.

### 5.1 - REARRANGEMENT OF LESSONS

In the event that you need to change your lesson day or time or length, please speak to Simon as soon as you can (ideally with at least 2 weeks notice) to provide as much flexibility as possible. Simon is always as flexible and accommodating as he can be.

### 5.2 - CANCELLING AND RESCHEDULING

In the event that a lesson can not be attended, please let Simon know within 2 weeks of when the lesson should take place. If the lesson can not be rearranged for a different day that week, lessons will continue as normal the following week, or when appropriate.

If lessons are cancelled with less than 7 days notice, Simon will do his best to reschedule the lesson for a different day that week, or an extra lesson beforehand. If a lesson cannot be rescheduled in these circumstances, you may still be required to pay the lesson fee, except in extreme circumstances. No fee will be charged if Simon has to cancel a lesson at short notice.

## 6. TEACHING METHOD

Simon will tailor lessons to students individually based on their ability, need, and learning style.

Lessons can consist of:

- Preparing for Drums exams (Rockschool/Trinity)
- Learning how to play along to popular songs
- Exploring various drumming techniques (rudiments, rhythmic groupings, hand and foot techniques etc)
- Learning to read drum notation either by itself or to a backing track/song
- Exploring different aspects of the kit

If you would like to follow the Rockschool or Trinity syllabus (and/or prepare for the relevant exams) please speak to Simon.

## 7. WHO CAN LEARN?

Simon is happy to teach all ages and abilities. The recommended minimum start age for playing drums is normally 6 (due to the sheer size of instrument), though Simon has experience teaching drums to children from the age of 4 upwards. Younger students will likely need to have a junior sized kit for practice and for lessons. Simon is unable to provide a junior sized kit.

### 7.1 - RESPONSIBILITIES

For any students under 18, it is of paramount importance that a parent/guardian is present in the household for the duration of the lesson. Under no circumstances is Simon deemed responsible for, nor caretaker of anyone under the age of 18. Simon's role is Drum Tutor, only.

### 7.2 - SAFETY

The teaching environment that Simon teaches in must be free of hazards, and safe for both the student and for Simon (the tutor). Under no circumstances does Simon take responsibility for any injuries to the student during lesson time.

Parents/guardians are welcome to sit in on lessons with younger students if they wish.

## 8. STUDENT REQUIREMENTS

It is highly recommended that students have a drum kit at home (either acoustic or electronic) to practice at home, and to use during lessons. If students have the right musical equipment, their practice time will be more productive, and in turn, they will progress more in lessons.

Students should have the following equipment to get the most out of practice time and lessons:

- Drum kit (either acoustic or electronic - you can discuss the advantages and disadvantages of each kit with Simon).
- At least 1 pair of drum sticks (Simon usually uses size 5A sticks, though 7A is recommended for beginners. If the student is under 8 or using a junior drum kit, a set of junior drumsticks would likely be more suitable).
- If a student is following a particular syllabus (rockschool/trinity), they should have their own graded books.
- For junior students, Simon highly recommends the 'Slammin Simon' book from Amazon. (No relation to Simon Daruvala).

## 9. SOCIAL MEDIA

From time to time, Simon may wish to use images, videos or testimonials from his students on his website or social media pages.

Simon will always ask permission before taking or using any of the following:

- Photo of/with student
- Testimonial from student (or parent/guardian)

If you grant permission for Simon to use an image, video or testimonial from a student or parent/guardian, Simon may use the content on any of his social media platforms or website. You may ask to have this removed from any social media platform or website at any point.

## 10. CONTACT

If you have any questions or problems regarding this document, please speak to Simon as soon as possible. If you have read this document, have no problems, and continue with the drum tuition service, you automatically agree to the terms set out in this document.

Contact Simon via email: [contact@simondaruvaladrums.com](mailto:contact@simondaruvaladrums.com)

Contact Simon via phone: **07827 690544**

Find **Simon Daruvala Drums** on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), and [SimonDaruvalaDrums.com](http://SimonDaruvalaDrums.com)