

For Parents

- Try to view the exam as a signpost of a pupil's progress, not a competitive target. There is no need for pupils to go straight on to the next grade – it is essential that they enjoy performing a wide variety of different styles of music without the continual pressure of an approaching exam.
- Speed of development will vary from pupil to pupil, and results may not be as good as expected unless sufficient time is allowed between exams to develop musical and technical skills, and to gain the necessary maturity involved in playing the more advanced pieces.
- It can help enormously if the parents speak to the teacher, read the student's notebook and understand what is being asked of the student each week. The greatest support is helping the student find time to do some uninterrupted practice each day, preferably when the student is not tired, and giving lots of praise for practice achieved, regardless of how it sounds.