

Bass Guitar



Who can play the bass guitar?	<i>Musica Kirklees teach pupils in Year 5 or above to play the bass guitar.</i>
If it is not suitable for everyone, what alternative instrument would you recommend?	<i>The bass guitar has very thick strings which may be difficult for little fingers to press. Younger pupils may like to learn to play a different sort of guitar with smaller strings, such as acoustic or classical (please see our guides to these instruments for more information). Bass guitars are available in some smaller sizes for younger students.</i>
What qualities of the bass guitar are special?	<i>The bass guitar can be played in a wide variety of music styles such as jazz, rock, pop, metal and many more. You can also use lots of different techniques with your right hand to create different sounds (such as 'slapping').</i>
Learning to play any instrument develops lots of new skills. What are the particular benefits of playing the bass guitar?	<i>Bass guitarists develop a strong sense of rhythm and harmony. Bass guitar players are always in demand to perform with bands. This can increase confidence, performance skills and your ability to improvise musically.</i>
How are bass guitars similar/different to other guitars?	<i>Bass guitars look a bit like electric guitars, however they only have four strings (electric guitars usually have six) and have longer necks. They are also electric so can be plugged into an amplifier, unlike the double bass which is the largest orchestral instrument in the string family.</i>
Are there any famous musicians or pieces associated with the bass guitar?	<i>Famous bass guitarists include Flea, Jaco Pastorius, Gail Ann Dorsey, Gene Simmons and John Paul Jones.</i>