



Arts Council England's musical instrument purchase plan

Take it Away is an Arts Council England initiative designed to help more people get involved in learning and playing music by providing an interest free payment plan for the purchase of musical instruments.

Following a successful six month pilot in the South East region, Arts Council England is now planning a national roll out of the scheme during 2007.

What will be available?

Take it Away loans will be available through a network of retailers across the country that specialise in the sale of musical instruments and can provide you with help and assistance in choosing an instrument appropriate for your needs.

The scheme will allow customers to apply for a loan of up to £2,000 for the purchase of any kind of musical instrument, and pay it back in 10 monthly instalments, completely interest free. You can also include equipment and services such as music stands, amplifiers, sheet music and tuition as part of your loan to help you manage these costs.

Who can apply?

The scheme will be open to everyone but is primarily designed to help people who might otherwise be unable to afford to purchase an instrument appropriate to their needs.

You must be over 18 to apply for a loan. However, if you are under 18, a parent or guardian may be able to apply for a loan on your behalf. It is important to remember that whoever applies for the loan will remain legally responsible for the repayments and any terms and conditions that may apply.

Loans are offered subject to status and are available to individuals only.

Can I bulk-buy instruments for use at my Youth Music Action Zone?

The Take it Away scheme is not available to organisations or companies to purchase instruments. However, there may be alternative schemes in operation that you could benefit from and you may wish to contact your regional Arts Council office for advice or guidance.

When will the scheme be launched?

We are currently in the process of recruiting a network of retailers across the country to participate in the scheme. We hope to launch the national rollout of the scheme later this year.

How will I know if a retailer in my area is taking part in the scheme?

The Take it Away website – www.takeitaway.org.uk - will have a facility to search for participating retailers in your area.

Typical 0% APR

Offer subject to age and status. Terms and conditions apply. *Take it Away* is operated by ArtCo Trading Ltd, a wholly owned subsidiary of Arts Council England. Registered address: Arts Council England, North East, Central Square, Forth Street, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE1 3PJ