

Classroom Music

Music is an optional subject in 1st year, and pupils taking it need no prior knowledge of the subject, nor do they need to be able to play an instrument as recorder will be taught in class which can be played for the Junior Certificate Practical.

Music as a subject is broken up into three areas for the certificate examinations. Listening, Composing and Performing.

The practical examination is worth 25% of the exam at Junior Certificate and 50% at Leaving Certificate. The standard expected for Junior Certificate Music Practicals is that of 3 years class based learning of an instrument, and for Leaving Certificate, 5 years.

In Music, pupils broaden their musical knowledge, develop social skills and learn to work as part of team while composing and performing in a group setting.

Results in Music for both Junior and Leaving Certificate have been very good with over 95% of pupils achieving an honours in the Higher Level exam.

Career Opportunities in Music:

Teaching
Solo & Ensemble Performance or
Conducting
Music Therapy
Ethnomusicology
Music Production and Recording
Composing and Arranging
Journalism
Musicological Research
Librarianship
Arts Administration
Publishing
Music Technology
Film, Video and TV Scoring
Community Music

The Benefits of Learning a Musical Instrument:

“Learning an instrument allows pupils to express themselves and grow in self-confidence whilst developing other skills such as hand—eye co-ordination, spatial and social skills and self-reliance. They also develop a better memory and are more likely to enjoy being at school.”

Dundalk Grammar School

Music Department

Information for Parents and Pupils

2015—2016



Music In The Classroom

Choir & Orchestra

Instrumental Tuition

Instrumental Tuition

About 160 pupils take private instrumental lessons at Dundalk Grammar School.

Lessons are available to all pupils who commit to a full year of lessons. Pupils come out of class to attend their lesson and Music Teachers rotate their time-tables so that pupils don't miss the same class each week. The cost for 30 half hour lessons is €450 payable in two installments—this will be added to the school bill. This price has not been raised in the past 6 years.

The Music Department has some instruments which can be hired out to pupils for a year while they are deciding whether or not to continue with the instrument. The hire of instruments costs €40 per term. Please contact Ms. A. Mc Guire to find out about availability of instruments for hire.

If a pupil is interested in learning an instrument which is not on the list, please submit your request and if there is enough interest, the school may be able to arrange it.

All pupils have the opportunity to perform at school assembly. It has been said that playing in front of an audience is better than 20 lessons with the best teacher in the world!

Pupils can take exams on their instrument through several examining boards, including: The Royal Irish Academy of Music, Trinity College of Music and The Associated Board of Royal Schools of Music. Pupils learning an instrument are also encouraged to attend a theory of music class.

To book instrumental lessons, or for more information, please contact:

Ms. Aisling Mc Guire
Head of Music
music@dgs.ie

Tuition available in:

Strings: Violin, Cello, Double Bass
Guitar (Classical and Acoustic)
Harp

Brass: Trumpet, Trombone

Woodwind: Flute, Clarinet, Oboe,
Saxophone

Percussion: Drum Kit
Piano, Electric Keyboard
Theory of Music & Composition

Watch the video online to see the benefits learning a musical instrument has on the brain: <http://www.brainpickings.org/2015/01/29/music-brain-ted-ed/>

Extra-curricular activities

The school has a choir, orchestra and traditional group who rehearse weekly after school. Several concerts are performed throughout the school year including Prize Day in September and a Carol Service in December.

In January 2009, both the choir and orchestra had the pleasure of performing with renowned Celtic Tenor James Nelson in a concert to raise funds for Kenya Build charity.

The Choir also performs annually at Evensong in St. Patrick's Cathedral, Armagh, and in St. Patrick's Cathedral Dublin.

The Orchestra has performed in The National Concert Hall for the Irish Association of Youth Orchestras Festival of Orchestras.

The choir is directed by Mrs. Pamela O'Connor-Moneley, and the Orchestra is conducted by Ms. Aisling Mc Guire.

Overseas Performances

To date, the choir and orchestra have performed in many parts of Europe. Prague in March 2007 and in 2009 we were honoured to perform at the Last Post Celebration at the Menin Gate in Belgium. Performances in Vienna followed in December 2010, Venice and Lake Garda in April 2011 and Budapest in December 2012. December 2015 will see us travel to Copenhagen and Malmao. (music@dgs.ie for info.)