

Denmark Senior High School

Independent Public School - 2015

Strive to Achieve

Music Program 2017



DENMARK SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL

MUSIC PROGRAM

The Denmark Senior High School Music Program is an expressive, creative subject that offers the opportunity to expand and develop practical instrumental and vocal skills. Our aim is to create an environment in which students are able to explore different instruments individually and in groups. Denmark is a musical and an artistic community that boasts a wide range of musical achievements and is home to many accomplished, professional performers and song writers. This is enough inspiration to create a musical community within our school that supports and celebrates performance, community, team work and personal achievement.

DSHS has had a long and strong commitment to music since the 1960's when the first concert band in the state was started with the kind donation of money to the school specifically for music instruments. Our SIM (*School of Instrumental Music*) program (woodwind, brass and percussion) is designed to help keep this traditional instrumental stream alive whilst embracing a contemporary approach to fulfil the needs of a broad range of interests.

All students who are provided weekly instrumental SIM lessons are encouraged to strive for commitment and dedication. Learning an instrument is a lifelong journey which although may be tough at times, is incredibly rewarding and requires focus and practice. Music Education is an integral part of any child's development and has been truly proven to help and stimulate different parts of the brain. This means that Music can help students achieve more in all areas at school but is also fulfilling as a creative outlet.

Our Music Program gives students a chance to:

- ***Learn in a structured, team oriented environment***

All students who study Music will be given a classroom lesson on a weekly basis. Students who already participate in SIM lessons are automatically added to this class. We do, however, offer this class to any students who have a keen interest and passion for music.

- ***Develop coordination skills***

Learning any instrument is a challenge and takes time, persistence and repetition. It has been proven that playing musical instruments develops a person's coordination skills.



- ***Learn at a pace that is suitable for the pace of development for the individual***

Some students may need more time than others and as this is a welcoming environment for ALL levels. It is important that students understand that it is perfectly acceptable to take time to learn new concepts at their own pace. It is also designed to support our 'high flying' music students who may have a lot of experience and who are interested in Music at a higher level.

- ***Have the opportunity to learn many instruments in class (eg: guitar, piano, drum kit)***

We are lucky to have the access to many different musical instruments. During the course all students will have access to learning the acoustic and electric guitars, piano/keyboard, drum kit and bass guitar. These are 'extra' learning opportunities and are extra instruments to be learned on top of your existing SIM instrument.

- ***If chosen, attend weekly lessons provided by the School of Instrumental Music***

In conjunction with the School of Instrumental Music the following instruments would have been offered in Primary school with the opportunity to continue on in High School:

BRASS/PERCUSSION/DRUMKIT:

Trumpet
Trombone
Tuba
Euphonium
Percussion
Drum Kit

WOODWIND:

Alto/Tenor Saxophone
Clarinet
Flute

CURRENT ENSEMBLES

String Ensemble (designed for students with violin experience)

Jazz Band (for all SIM instrumental students)

Year 7 Rock Band (for contemporary instrumental students and vocalists)

Year 8 Rock Band (for contemporary instrumental students and vocalists)

Year 9 Class Ensemble (for specialist classroom music students)

Year 10 Class Ensemble (for specialist classroom music students)

Year 11 Ensemble (for upper school instrumentalists/vocalists)

Under Current (upper school trio)

Female Vocal Ensemble (for students wanting to explore vocal training)



INSTRUMENTAL GUIDELINES

- All students who take part in private instrumental lessons are expected to participate in the Concert Band and/or other school ensembles.
- The school expects the students to commit themselves for at least three years whilst attending Denmark Senior High School.
- The student should attend lessons promptly at the agreed time.
- Students will provide a note from parents if they are unable to attend lessons or rehearsals.
- Music events are part of the school calendar and are designed to enhance the music education of our students. It is expected that all performance dates are noted in diaries and it is compulsory to attend.

- ***Learn the basic theoretical, aural and composition skills that help develop the musician***

It is important to the development of all musicians to learn the theoretical concepts of how to read music and understand Music. Most lessons will contain a short session developing these skills. Some written tasks (for example; song writing) will be a part of the course as well as appreciation for different genres of Music, vocal training and listening activities for aural skills.

- ***Learn how to sing in group situations (and individually when desired)***

Students will be given many opportunities to learn and practice on their own at their own pace in small and large group situations. It is not expected that all students become solo vocalists but there will be many opportunities for those with an interest in developing their vocal skills as an individual. This can be done through community performances, lunch time school concerts and various other gigs.

- ***Attend and participate in ensemble rehearsals and performances***

Students will be provided chances to be a part of an eclectic choice of ensembles. Whether this is a contemporary group, the concert band, choral groups etc will depend on the demand and numbers of students in the Program.

- ***Perform at school and public events***

There will be performances during the school year on and off site. It is an expectation that all students are available on the day/evening scheduled as it is an important part of the course.

Meghan Weber

Music Teacher

