



MUSIC DEPARTMENT

Downsend hosts a vibrant and diverse Music Department, housed in its own Music Suite. Music is an important aspect of school life and is enjoyed throughout all year groups in the School. Please take a moment to consider the wide range of options for your child to participate that are highlighted below.

In addition to the regular curriculum music lessons, many children participate in Lower and Upper School Choirs and Orchestras, where they learn the benefits of ensemble singing as well as playing and performance. We also have a selected Chamber Choir for children from Year 3 to Year 8. Auditions for this choir are held in the Autumn Term. There are plenty of opportunities for your child to participate in Rock Bands, Brass Groups, Percussion Ensembles and Musicals, in addition to external music festivals and performances.

The Music Department has a large number of peripatetic staff experienced in a huge variety of instruments, singing and music technology. This allows for one-to-one specialist teaching in an area where your child may have a particular passion or talent. Pupils attend a weekly lesson with their teacher on a rotational basis through the school day, minimising any academic disruption to their timetables whilst ensuring a strong basis for their musical development. Music grades are strongly encouraged within the School and individual recital opportunities are regularly provided. Individual lessons cost £20.00 per 30 minutes and take place once per week.

Piano, Voice, Violin, Viola, Cello, Flute, Recorder, Acoustic and Electric Guitar, Bass Guitar, Ukulele, Clarinet, Oboe, Saxophone, Trumpet, Trombone, French Horn, Drums and Percussion.

If you think that your child would like to take up any of these instruments, Singing or Music Technology lessons, please contact the Director of Music on nicole.allison@downsend.co.uk, mentioning your child's name, year group and chosen instrument.

Nicole Allison, Director of Music