



SAINT KENTIGERN



BOYS' SCHOOL
Music Handbook



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Boys' School Music Handbook

Music is a popular and thriving activity for boys at Saint Kentigern Boys' School. Our extensive programme encompasses a wide range of vocal and instrumental ensembles, a vibrant classroom programme and both national and international performing opportunities for our top musicians.

Our philosophy is one of both inclusion and excellence. We believe in allowing every boy to participate in music-making to the best of his ability. We have a variety of small group ensembles and an all-comers' choir, where your son will be able to build foundational skills in music-reading and performing. As boys become more advanced they will be able to audition for our more prestigious ensembles, The Performers' Choir and The Jazz Band, both of which have undertaken international tours and performances.

Our ensembles regularly enter into local and national competitions and this is a wonderful forum for facilitating performance opportunities as well as giving boys something to aim for, building on their competitive spirit.

The Music School is housed in the purpose-built Malcolm Bracegirdle Memorial School of Music. The upper floor comprises a large multi-functional teaching room. The lower floor contains a band room, where the various music groups rehearse, and four practice studios where itinerant music lessons are held. The Music School is well equipped with a variety of orchestral, band and percussion instruments.

The Music Department

Director of Music *Mrs Janet Grierson* janet.grierson@saintkentigern.com

Assistant Director *Mrs Georgina Jarvis* georgina.jarvis@saintkentigern.com

In addition to our core staff members we have a large team of itinerant staff and music tutors.

School Phone Number

Enquiries and Office (09) 520 7682

CLASSROOM MUSIC

JUNIOR SCHOOL

Years 0 - 3 have one music lesson per week. The junior programme is built around practical music-making where boys will be able to play many different instruments. They will develop skills in musical literacy through notation and rhythm games. They will listen to music from a wide variety of countries, styles and composers and work on developing the skill of tuneful singing.

MIDDLE SCHOOL

Year 4 and 5 begin to develop their musical literacy skills further through a programme that covers: singing, instrumental playing, ensemble playing, composition, note-reading, aural skills and listening. These pupils develop increasing confidence as performers through opportunities to perform both in and out of class. Year 4 and 5 boys also have one music lesson per week.

Year 6 pupils begin a transition to life as senior boys. In Year 6, music becomes an option subject which the boys attend twice a week for half of the school year. The programme begins to become more specialised and boys consider the lives of great composers as well as music from other cultures. They continue to build and enhance their musical literacy through ensemble playing and also have performing opportunities.

SENIOR SCHOOL

Year 7 boys come to music as part of our innovations programme. They will attend five lessons a fortnight for one term of the school year. This allows smaller class sizes and a more intensive programme of learning. The students will learn about creating and performing, they will explore music technology and develop and deepen their knowledge of the history of music and different styles of music.

Year 8 music is part of our innovations programme where boys can choose to study music for a semester. The programme gives opportunities for boys to extend their personal musicianship through performance and adapts annually to suit the strengths and interests of the boys. Students will have the chance to develop small ensemble playing in either a traditional or modern context depending on their interests and skills. They will form music groups, or small vocal groups and prepare a variety of repertoire for performances. All aspects of the programme will include the development of listening skills, general knowledge of music styles, performing and composing.

As part of this course, boys will have the option of learning about sound engineering. This component of the course offers opportunities to compose, edit, mix and master music in a variety of genre using digital formats. Additionally, students will learn about microphone techniques and how to record live music, with an emphasis on putting these skills to practical use.

ITINERANT MUSIC

We have a strong itinerant music programme. Before boys decide on an instrument, we encourage them to look at where they want to go with their music and what music groups they want to belong to. Lessons take place during school hours. Instrumental lessons are offered on the following instruments

Brass	Wind	String	Percussion
Trumpet	Flute	Violin	Drums
Trombone	Clarinet	Cello	
Tuba	Alto Saxophone	Guitar	
Euphonium	Tenor Saxophone	Classical Guitar	
	Recorder		
	Bagpipes		

Forms with details of fees are available from the Director of Music, Mrs Janet Grierson, online on OLE or the School Office. All details can be found on the Music OLE page under 'Itinerant Music'.

The Process

If you would like your son to learn an instrument. Please follow these steps.

1. Download Itinerant Enrolment Form and Policy from the OLE
2. Submit to the Director of Music
3. Wait to hear if there is space available for your son to begin lessons.
4. Discuss instrument hire or purchase with your itinerant teacher
5. Timetables will be posted weekly on the music room wall and boys' classrooms.

Please note that it is the responsibility of the student to catch up on any school work missed as much of this tuition takes place during class time.

There is a large notice board outside the band room, which lists the times of the itinerant lessons. This information is also available for all year groups in their own classroom.

Lessons will be billed to parents and guardians directly by the itinerant teachers. Information regarding specific lessons prices can be found on the Itinerant Teaching Policy.

ENSEMBLE GROUPS

Auditions for music groups are held at the beginning of the year. It is important that once a commitment is made to an ensemble group, that it is seen through to the end of the year.

All members of ensemble music groups at Saint Kentigern Boys' School must:

- Be on time to rehearsals, ready with their music and instrument
- Practise their music during their individual, weekly music lesson
- Co-operate with each other and the conductor
- Know the expected music etiquette
- Be available for all performances
- Strive for excellence

Each year a timetable of rehearsal times for the different groups will be published on the Music OLE page.

INSTRUMENTAL

Jazz Band

The Jazz band is our premier instrumental group. Boys are invited to audition annually for the Jazz Band early in Term 1. The Jazz Band rehearses once a week before school. Sight reading and musicianship are expected to be good and there is the opportunity to develop improvisatory skills. Jazz Band players may be required to be in the Orchestra as well, at the discretion of the conductor. The Jazz Band has many opportunities to perform at major school events, within the local community and has had great success in Auckland-wide competitions.

Jazz Combo

A select group of advanced players from the Jazz Band will be invited to form a Jazz Combo group. This group will be led by an itinerant teacher.

Orchestra

Our Orchestra is our biggest ensemble group catering for players of approximate Grade 2 level and above. Boys are encouraged to audition or may join on the recommendation of their itinerant teacher. The orchestra meets once a week before school. They learn a varied repertoire of both classical and popular music. The orchestra performs at various events regularly throughout the year.

Recorder Consort and Quartet

Our recorder consort caters for our descant and treble recorder players. Boys may join on recommendation of their itinerant teacher. They take part in our concerts and other School events. There is also a recorder quartet for our more advanced players. These groups are led by one of our experienced itinerant teachers and also take place before school.

Saint Kentigern Boys' Pipe Band

True to our Scottish ancestry, we have our own bagpipe band. Our pipe band, consisting of pipers and drummers, perform at ceremonial occasions such as our Celtic Day. We are one of the few primary/intermediate schools in NZ with our own pipe band. This group is led by itinerant members of staff and rehearses after school.

Flute Choir

Our flute choir caters for our flute players from beginner through to advanced. This has been a popular group amongst boys and rehearses before school, led by an itinerant member of staff. The flute choir often performs in school assemblies and concerts and boys may also have the opportunity to be a part of the Auckland wide Suzuki festival. Once the boys have reached the required level, they are encouraged to join the orchestra.

Rock Band

Depending on the skill level of the boys, some years, our more advanced performers are invited to be a part of a Senior Rock Band. This group will be formed at the discretion of the Director of Music.

Chamber Group

Our Chamber Group is a small group of musicians who have demonstrated a very high level of skill and expertise on their instrument. Members are selected at the start of the year and rehearsals are led by an itinerant teacher.

CHORAL**Performers' Choir**

This group is our top vocal ensemble. It is an auditioned choir that meets twice a week before school. Boys in Year 6-8 will have an opportunity to audition for the choir at the start of Term 1. The Performers' Choir is an important and prestigious commitment for its members. Choir members sing at each of the four family services, participate in concerts and various outside events and at our major Christmas Carol Service. The Performers' Choir have toured both nationally and internationally.

Saint Kentigern Singers

This is an all-comers' choir open to all boys from Year 4 –Year 8. Its repertoire is a mixture of sacred and popular music. Any boys wishing to audition for the Performers' Choir in future years should consider membership of the Saint Kentigern Singers to develop their vocal and choral skills. The choir meets once a week before school. This choir performs regularly at school concerts and assemblies.

MUSICAL EVENTS

Regular Concerts and Events

The various groups regularly perform at school assemblies and the four Family Chapel services and we hold several major music events during the course of the year. These events give our groups and selected soloists a chance to develop their performing skills.

The regular concert series includes events like:

- **The Music Showcase:** We hold an annual showcase assembly where top performers and ensemble groups are invited to perform.
- **The Music Extravaganza:** A major concert event in Term 3 for our ensembles, groups and selected soloists.

Details of Music Events for each year will be published in the School Calendar with further information available via the Music OLE page.

Some groups will be selected to enter in local and national performing competitions. If this is the case, the staff member in charge will convey all of the relevant information to you when necessary.

Major Events

Senior School Production

Every second year we hold a full-scale music production for Years 7 – 8 students. In the past this has included productions like *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat* and *The Lion King* in 2016. There are opportunities for boys to participate in all aspects of music, drama and staging and this is a highlight of our musical calendar.

The production is performed multiple times with matinees and evening performances. Tickets and further information will be distributed amongst the school community at the relevant times.

House Music

Every second year we hold a House Music Competition where our Houses perform choral and instrumental pieces and fiercely compete against each other to be the winning House.

Auckland Music Scene

The APPA (Auckland Primary Principals Association) holds annual courses and events which boys are encouraged to attend. Many of our soloists, groups and ensembles compete in Auckland competitions such as the Lewis Eady Music contest, Kids Sing and Rockquest. We are regularly awarded with top results.

MUSIC CUPS AND AWARDS

At our end-of-year prize-giving, outstanding contribution and commitment to music-making is recognised by the following cups and awards.

Junior School Music Cup

For musicianship and contribution to classroom music lessons in the Junior School

Richard Ellsworth Middle School Music Cup

For enthusiasm and accomplishment

Ethan James Hansen Blight Award

For contribution to the music programme in the Middle School

The Scott Family Cup

For reliability and musical excellence in the Jazz Band

The Conway Cup

For outstanding musicianship and contribution to the musical life of the school

The Chatfield Cup

For leadership and reliability in the school choir

The Musicians Award

For outstanding proficiency in all aspects of musicianship

Dr Deborah Quilter Cup

For competence and diligence in the school orchestra

The Piper's Quaich

Awarded to our top piper

Love Serve
Trust Service
Leadership Challenge
Excellence
Compassion
Integrity *A World of
Opportunity
for Boys*
Inspiration Respect
Faith Hope



SAINT KENTIGERN

BOYS' SCHOOL For Boys in Years 1-8

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