



St George's Junior School

WEYBRIDGE

MUSIC AT ST GEORGE'S JUNIOR SCHOOL

St George's Junior School, a leading Roman Catholic co-educational day school for boys and girls aged 3 to 11 in Weybridge, Surrey, offers a values-led education with the School's Mission Statement being reflected in all its activities.

The department

The Music Department at St George's Junior School is a busy and vibrant community with all pupils encouraged to enjoy and participate in music-making. The Department comprises a Director of Music, a further full-time member of staff, and two part time members of staff, one of whom specialises in Music Technology, with the other teacher being Organist and Director of Chamber Choir. Additionally, there is a part-time Music Administrator shared with the Music Department at St George's College. All members of music staff teach throughout the school with a varied timetable that incorporates Nursery to Year 6 pupils.



Overview

Music plays a significant part in the life of pupils at the Junior School. Of the 336 children in Years 3-6, over half take individual instrumental/singing lessons from a team of eighteen visiting music teachers many of whom also work at the St George's College. Pupils are entered for ABRSM examinations which take place at school. There are many weekly ensembles including four choirs, a Year 2 Choir, Junior Choir, Senior Choir and Chamber Choir, the latter which is the only auditioned choir in the school. There is an orchestra, cello, string and brass ensembles run by the current music teachers. In addition, the visiting guitar teacher is responsible for a 'Rockshop' club and the drum teacher a 'Djembe' drumming club. Pupils interested in music technology have the opportunity to sign up to 'MTech', an external organisation who visit the school twice a week. As well as learning music theory in curriculum lessons,

theory club takes place twice a week, with pupils encouraged to take ABSRM theory examinations. Year 6 pupils are prepared in weekly lunchtime sessions for Music Scholarships.

Throughout the academic year there are many opportunities for the pupils to perform. Informal Music concerts takes place termly as well as Lower School nativities and year group Carol Services at Christmas, an annual Inter-House Instrumental Competition, and Inter-House Singing Competition. There is an annual Summer Concert where pupils in Years 3 to 6 perform on two evenings. Mass, Lower and Upper School assemblies take place throughout the year. The department enjoys strong links with St George's College Music Department enabling joint performances and European tours to take place, the most recent destinations having been Belgium and France.

Curriculum

All pupils from Reception to Year 6 have two music lessons a week as part of their curriculum. In Year 2, all pupils learn the violin and recorder. In Years 3 and 4 all pupils learn an instrument, lessons which are supported by the school. These lessons take place in pairs and include the clarinet, flute, violin, cello, trumpet, French horn, trombone and oboe. Pupils in Years 3 and 4 participate in an annual musical production and all Year 6 pupils perform their end of year revue in the Summer Term. In Year 5 and Year 6, one of the weekly music lessons is split with Drama. Gifted and talented pupils are encouraged to apply for Music Scholarships at St George's College.

