



St Mary's
ANGLICAN GIRLS' SCHOOL
FOUNDED 1921

senior school music 2018

Music plays an important role in the everyday life of St Mary's and is a feature at times of ceremony, celebration, leisure and worship.

There are many intrinsic benefits of a high quality music education. The happiness, joy, mystery, wonder and camaraderie that students experience when involved with music are only some of the intangible rewards for our music students, who are immersed in a positive, motivated and enriching musical environment.

St Mary's Music provides a quality music programme delivered by committed teachers and musicians to students in a learning environment that fosters musical excellence, together with a sense of community and inclusiveness. Our music staff are highly talented musicians and dedicated educators, with enthusiasm and drive to create the best musical experience for our St Mary's girls.

Classroom Music



Year 7

In the Senior School, Year 7 students have one music class per cycle. The course is practical in nature where students have an opportunity to either learn an instrument as a beginner or be extended in the classroom through focus on music history, theory and aural skills. This gives every Year 7 student the chance to reach the end of the year with a knowledge of music theory, an ability to read music and the experience of creating music in a solo and ensemble situation.

Year 8

In Year 8 students have their first opportunity to select music as an option subject. Year 8 Extended Music has three classes per cycle. The course has a significant focus on historical and cultural musical elements, studying instruments of the orchestra, introductory score reading and basic music forms. Music notation is covered through music theory, studying major and minor scales, primary triads, intervals, simple and compound metres and transposition. On the class computers, music composition is developed using Sibelius software. Aural analysis introduces interval recognition, triads, rhythmic dictation and melodic dictation, also studied at times on the computer program Auralia. As a pre-requisite of the course,

students must be undertaking vocal or instrumental lessons, and complete two performance assessments throughout the year. Year 8 students who do not elect Extended Music will take the Year 8 General Music class, which is one music class per cycle, continuing with Kodaly-based work, studying music appreciation of a variety of music styles and some basic music composition.

Years 9 and 10

Similar in structure and also option courses, Year 9 and 10 Music continues on from Year 8 Extended Music in the same four areas. Perception gradually increases in complexity, adding additional key signatures, metres and depth of aural analysis. Also continuing on from Year 9, Theory covers all keys and cadences. Various composition work is covered, both handwritten and computer-generated. As a pre-requisite of the course, students must be undertaking vocal or instrumental lessons, and complete two performance assessments throughout the year. In the historical and cultural area of the course, significant works and composers from the Baroque, Classical and Romantic periods and 20th Century are studied. The option classes from Year 8 to 10 are an ideal preparation for students who wish to study Music in Years 11 and 12.



Miss Grace Fu

Year 11 and Year 12 Music

Music in Year 11 and Year 12 is accredited by the SCSA and counts towards the Western Australian Certificate of Education and for either university or TAFE admission. St Mary's studies the Western Art Music context in both of these courses. Details of the course can be found at <http://wace1516.scsa.wa.edu.au/syllabus-and-support-materials/arts/music>

Learning a Musical Instrument - Music as an Extra Subject

Students may learn an orchestral or band instrument, take vocal studies or study music theory from one of the 30 specialist peripatetic music teachers who teach at the school each week. A Music as an Extra Subject form (available on the school website or from the Music Department) must be completed and handed into the Music Department. A comprehensive selection of musical instruments is available for hire through the school for students who do not have their own instrument.

Ensemble Programme - Extracurricular Music

The aim of the ensemble programme is to provide a performance opportunity for any instrumentalist or chorister who wishes to be involved in music outside the classroom. There are numerous band, choral and orchestral ensembles in the Junior and Senior Schools.

Senior School Choirs

Chorale is an inclusive choir open to students from Years 7 to 12. There is no audition necessary to join this choir – just a love of singing. The high standard of singing and repertoire produced by the Chorale is testament to the choral tradition at the School, one that is established in the Kindergarten and developed through to the Senior School. The Chorale plays an important role in many school ceremonies and is featured regularly in school and community-based concerts.

Magnificats (Years 7, 8 and 9 Chamber Choir) and Hi-Fidelity (Years 10, 11 and 12 Chamber Choir) are two specialist choirs, joined by invitation and audition only. They cater for the more advanced vocalists who will typically have strong aural skills and an ability to read music, so as to sing a range of often challenging choral repertoire.

Senior School Strings

Sinfonia is a String Orchestra for our intermediate string musicians. Students need to have reached an appropriate standard to join the group, though the focus is on inclusivity. The ensemble rehearses weekly, with a number of school-based performances throughout the year.

Senior Strings is by invitation only and is comprised of the finest string players in the Senior School. The ensemble will typically cover a wide selection of challenging repertoire, including playing the orchestral accompaniment for senior soloists at Concerto Night.

Senior Chamber Music Ensembles

Advanced Musicians in the Senior School are given the opportunity and encouraged to participate in chamber music, organised and directed by our specialist teachers.

Senior School Bands

Year 7/8 Concert Band is a band for the Year 7 and Year 8 woodwind, brass and percussion musicians. Students will have reached an appropriate standard to join the group, though the focus is on inclusivity. The ensemble rehearses weekly, with a number of school-based performances throughout the year.

St Mary's Senior Concert Band is comprised of the finest concert band players in the Senior School from Years 9 through to 12. The ensemble performs at many school and community events and plays an important role in the numerous formal assemblies through the year, providing processional and ceremonial music.

The Jazz Band (Years 7, 8 and 9) and the Big Band (Years 10, 11 and 12) provide an opportunity for the Jazz inclined students to play a range of standard Big Band swing and rock repertoire.

Hale St Mary's Music

Since 1994 St Mary's has had a strong musical liaison with neighbouring Hale School, with a regular series of combined recitals and concerts by ensembles consisting of students from both schools. This rich musical tradition enables us to provide wonderful musical opportunities for our students and for them to perform to the highest possible musical standards.

Hale St Mary's Choirs (Cantate) is comprised of the most accomplished vocalists from Hale and St Mary's Senior Schools and often performs a number of the seminal works of the choral repertoire. School-based performances include St Mary's Music Night and the Hale Governors Concert. The Cantate is also a regular feature at the city's St George's Cathedral, singing at the popular annual Carol Service. This ensemble regularly tours overseas, performing in outstanding venues such as the Musikverein and the MuTh Concert Hall in Vienna, Austria, as well as Westminster Abbey, Eton College and York Minster in England.

Hale St Mary's Concertante Orchestra rehearses weekly and caters for our emerging Senior School string musicians, from Year 9 onward. Weekly rehearsals on a Tuesday evening work towards one major performance each term including the Hale June Concert and the St Mary's September Concert.

Hale St Mary's Camerata Orchestra is one of the finest student orchestras in the state. It is comprised of excellent string players of St Mary's and Hale School. The ensemble will typically cover a wide selection of challenging repertoire, including playing the orchestral accompaniment for senior soloists at Concerto Night and performances at St Mary's Music Night and the Hale Governors Concert. First formed in 1994, this orchestra has played in the Sydney Opera House, Perth Concert Hall and St George's Cathedral, amongst other venues.

Hale St Mary's Concert Band 1 is comprised of senior concert band musicians from Hale and St Mary's Senior Schools. The ensemble will typically cover a wide selection of challenging repertoire and perform at events such as St Mary's Music Night and the Hale Governors Concert. First formed in 1994, this orchestra has played in the Sydney

Opera House, Angel Place Recital Hall and the Sydney Town Hall, Perth Concert Hall, St George's Cathedral, Kuala Lumpur Convention Centre, and other public performances such as ANZAC Day ceremonies in Kings Park, and the opening of the Graham Farmer Tunnel, Perth.

Hale St Mary's Concert Band 2 caters for our emerging Senior School band musicians. Weekly rehearsals on a Tuesday evening work towards performances at events such as the Hale June Concert and the St Mary's September Concert.

Hale St Mary's Symphonic Winds is comprised of the most outstanding concert band musicians from St Mary's and Hale School. These gifted players are extended through building excellence in performance technique and playing seminal works of the concert band repertoire.

Music Department Facilities

The music facilities at St Mary's are amongst the finest in Australia. The Lady Treatt Centre for Music and Dance has two music classrooms, one of which has extensive computer facilities. There are 14 music studios to cater for individual instrumental and vocal lessons, while the spacious percussion room houses the school's comprehensive collection of percussion instruments. The ensemble room has quite a live acoustic and is designed to accommodate chamber ensembles and choirs. The music library houses a large collection of orchestra, band and choral music.

Recent developments in music technology have been introduced to the classroom programme, with the latest software used to assist with music perception, composition and literature research, and in music sampling and sequencing.

The Music Department adjoins The Lady Wardle Performing Arts Centre, in which the spacious music rehearsal room provides for the concert band, choir and orchestra rehearsals. St Mary's and Hale School jointly purchased a single manual Gobles and Sons harpsichord, made in Oxford, UK. The auditorium has a nine-foot Concert Grand piano made by Berdux, of Munich, Germany.

For any enquiries about Music at St Mary's, please email music@stmarys.wa.edu.au



Music Scholarships

The Music Department offers several scholarships each year to incoming Year 7 and 8 students. Music Bursaries are also available, providing free tuition and the provision of an instrument to incoming Year 7 and 8 students. Some bursaries for instruments in demand by the Music Department are available for other year levels in the Senior School.

A Vocal Scholarship is available for an exceptional Year 10 or 11 vocalist.

An International Music Scholarship gives an opportunity for a talented music student from South East Asia to join St Mary's.

Further information about Music Scholarships is available from the Music Department.

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