

Dundee City Council Central Bands & Ensembles Programme

Dundee City Council's central band programme will give your child the opportunity to meet and experience playing with other young musicians from all over Dundee. As they progress, they will have opportunities to perform a broad range of music.

Junior Ensembles

- Junior Guitar Ensemble
- Junior Rock Band
- Junior Strings
- Junior Wind Ensemble

Intermediate Ensembles

- Concert Band
- Intermediate Strings

Senior Ensembles

- Senior Guitar Ensemble
- Senior Rock Band
- Senior Schools' Orchestra
- Senior Wind Band

For more information please contact:

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Frequently Asked Questions

Q: How often are the lessons?

A: Lessons are given once a week.

Q: Where and when are the lessons given?

A: They are given in school during the school day.

Q: Are they the same time each week?

A: In primary school yes, in secondary schools no. We operate a rota system to avoid missing the same subject every week.

Q: Will my child get individual lessons?

A: Lessons are normally delivered to groups of pupils, particularly in the early stages of learning. Experience shows that lessons are more enjoyable and progress faster if pupils share the experience with their friends.

Q: Are the lessons free?

A: Yes, in June 2013 Dundee City Council abolished all tuition fees for instrumental music instruction. An instrument hire service is still available at an annual cost of £83 which can be paid in two or ten instalments. Instrument hire is free for pupils in the first term of tuition. It is also free for pupils who are studying music for a National qualification and for those of families whose household income is less than £15,910 per year. In all other cases there is a fee for instrument hire.

Q: How do I claim the free instrument hire?

A: All parents/carers will be sent a contract with all the details including the charges and methods of payment. You will be asked to complete the contract, sign and return it. If you are eligible for free instrument hire, you simply select this option on the contract.

DUNDEE SCHOOLS'
INSTRUMENTAL
MUSIC SERVICE

Dundee Instrumental Music Service



Instrumental Instruction in Dundee

Dundee City Council is committed to providing a comprehensive programme in the Arts as we value the contribution that participation in such activities has on raising the levels of achievement, attainment, confidence and social skills.

Part of that programme offers pupils opportunities to learn to play musical instruments and to take part in a variety of musical activities. Dundee City Council's Instrumental Music Service provides instrumental music lessons to all primary and secondary school pupils.

The Service is delivered in schools by 25 professional instrumental music teachers who provide a structured and progressive music curriculum which is encapsulated in the four capacities of Curriculum for Excellence - to enable every child or young person to be a successful learner, a confident individual, a responsible citizen and an effective contributor.

Children in Dundee have at least two opportunities during their school careers to join the instrumental programme. Many children however, join the programme at different stages. Lessons are often given to groups of pupils so that they can learn and have fun alongside their friends.

All schools in Dundee have music ensembles which play at assemblies, concerts, social events in school and often in the local community. In addition, there are city wide bands and orchestras. These groups meet centrally in the Music Centre in Bell Street from September to March. When your child is ready he/she will have the opportunity to join one of these groups. Central bands and ensembles perform regularly at a range of venues and events both locally and nationally. There is no charge made for instrumental tuition in aiming to ensure widest possible access for children and young people across the city



"Music has a power of forming the character, and therefore must be introduced into the education of the young."

- Aristotle

What do parents/carers have to do?

First of all you should watch out for information coming from your child's school regarding opportunities for would-be instrumentalists. Then you should follow the instructions given to help get your child started.

Once your child has commenced instruction you should take an active part in making sure that they practise regularly and they go to the school band or orchestra at the Music Centre when required.

For further information about any of the above please contact your child's school in the first instance.



A Musician in the Family

Providing an opportunity in music is one of the best and most enduring things you can do for your child.

From your child's first appearance as performer in a school concert, to walking on the stage of the Caird Hall with a Music Centre group, this is a chance to show everyone the results of practice and progress.

Making Music

Music is one of life's great pleasures. It is also a wonderful part of growing up. Music is a unique and happy way to learn some of life's biggest lessons.

Your child will appreciate the chance to participate in the world of music now and for years to come.

Making Friends

Young musicians are a special group of people. They work together as a team, they are proud of each other and proud of themselves. There is plenty of opportunity to make new friends.