

MIDDLE SCHOOL SECONDAIRE MUSIC PROGRAMME 2025-2026

Dear Families,

We would like to inform you of some important details concerning the music programme for Middle School Secondaire students.

For students in Level 6 (6e/BIL6/Grade 6) and Level 7 (5e/Bil7/Grade 7)

They will follow a Music course incorporating materials from the **Juilliard Creative Curriculum** that integrates practical skills of performance and composition with those of listening and theory. In line with program principles, **all students will learn to play the keyboard** in order to develop skills with which to better explore, understand and create music.

During the first two years of the Middle School Secondaire Music course, students will learn the techniques of keyboard playing which will facilitate their understanding of music theory. To this end, it is necessary **that students have a keyboard instrument on which to practice at home**. The course is differentiated and students progress at their own pace. Each student is set individually discussed targets each semester and it is expected that adequate practice is completed at home between lessons in order to achieve these targets.

We would be **very grateful if students could have access to a keyboard** between music lessons. The keyboard does not need to be complicated or expensive, but it is required in order to facilitate learning. For example, in school, we use Yamaha PSR 453 keyboards.

For students in 4e/Grade 8

The Music programme is creative in focus and uses the **Juilliard Creative Curriculum** as a starting point for various composition tasks. While it is not essential for students to have a keyboard at home - particularly for those who already play another instrument to a good level - many students find having access to a keyboard useful as a creative and practical tool for experimenting with harmony, composing ideas, and reinforcing theoretical concepts explored in class.

Our goal is to give students the freedom to explore music in ways that align with their individual skills and interests. A home keyboard is one of several tools that can support this journey, but it is not a requirement for success in the course.

On behalf of the Middle School Secondaire leadership team, we wish you a warm welcome to our community.

Kind regards,

Dr. Betsy Harvey
Principal, Middle School Secondaire



Mrs. Hannah Picasso
Head of Performing Arts

