

FAQ of the SS Music

Q1 What are the benefits for students in studying SS Music?

A: Through active participation in listening, performing and creating, students not only apply music knowledge and skills, but also exercise their creativity, imagination, aesthetic sensitivity and critical thinking skills to express the substance, characteristics and feelings of the music. It also helps students learn how to learn, enhance their confidence and develop positive values and attitudes, and provides students with opportunities to learn various styles and genres of music, thereby broadening their music horizons, as well as enhancing their understanding of and respect for different cultures.

Q2 How can SS Music benefit students to further their studies and career development?

A: SS Music is one of the elective subjects in university admission. As regards admission to music programmes, some universities may accord priority to students who have taken this subject. Students studying SS Music can flexibly connect with other subjects in widening their scope for further studies and careers in various fields such as arts administration, arts-related critiquing, music therapy, theatre production, film or television production, broadcasting and record production, as well as professions related to sound engineering.

Q3 What is the rationale of including listening, performing and creating in the SS Music curriculum?

A: SS Music curriculum emphasises balanced development in students' abilities to respond critically to, perform and create music. Through listening to and appraising their own or others' performing and compositions, participating in solo performance or ensemble playing, and creating music, students not only apply their music knowledge and skills, express their personal characteristics and emotions, but also exercise their abilities such as imagination, aesthetic sensitivity and critical thinking skills.

Q4 Will there be any support from EDB for schools having low enrolment in SS Music?

A: The provision of the Diversity Learning Grant (DLG) allows schools to form

a network with neighbouring schools or within the same education body to offer the SS Music. They can apply for the DLG for a grant of HK\$7,000 per SS class per year. Details of the DLG can be referred to EDBCM No. 60/2015.

Q5 Will there be any support from the EDB for teachers to implement the SS Music Curriculum?

A: EDB will continue to support teachers by organising professional development programmes related to curriculum leadership and planning, curriculum understanding and design; learning and teaching strategies on creating and coaching ensemble performances; masterclass in solo and ensemble performances as well as e-learning etc. EDB will also provide students and teachers with lists of suggested repertoire for studies on Western classical music, Chinese instrumental music, Cantonese operatic music and Local and Western popular music. Moreover, EDB will continue to develop and upload assessment tasks to the EDB One-Stop Portal (<http://www.hkedcity.net/edbosp>) for schools' reference. EDB will also organise Professional Learning Community in Creating with the aim of strengthening the learning and teaching effectiveness of SS Music.

Q6 What are the changes in curriculum contents after the fine-tuning for S4 students taking SS Music from 2015/16?

A: In Module 1 (Listening), the *Chinese orchestral music* example will be deleted and replaced by another example, *zheng music* in the Study Guidelines under Chinese instrumental music. Examples from Elvis Presley and Sam Hui will be deleted while examples from Joseph Koo and the Beatles will be kept under Local and Western popular music. Four focuses will also be added to the Study Guidelines, i.e. harmony, rhythm utilisation, instrumentation and structure.

In Module 2 (Performing I), the total duration of two or more ensemble pieces in contrasting styles would be reduced from "10 to 15 minutes" to "6 to 12 minutes" and the "viva voce" will be substituted by "oral presentation"

In Module 5 (Performing II), the number of solo pieces reduced from "three or more" to "two or more".