



VICTORIA
INTERNATIONAL
SCHOOL OF
SHARJAH

VISS MUSIC ACADEMY

We are passionate about enriching children's lives and developing the whole child



Victoria International School
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Website: www.viss.ae

VISS Music Academy

Welcome to VISS Music Academy Instrumental Music Program

Given the opportunity, all children can learn to play music.

Our program is carefully designed to cater for a range of musical abilities, helping every child experience the joy that comes through making music.

Participation in music has long been recognized as a way for students to indulge a passion, try and master new and challenging skills, build friendships with their peers, be creative and enhance their personal confidence through public performance.

Music also helps students learn and develop leadership, social and organizational skills and provides valuable learning experiences through practical situations.

The VISS Music Academy offers the opportunity for all VISS students to study musical instruments as an individual or in a group

Why is it important for your child to learn to play music?

Playing music can significantly impact on your child's overall development and academic achievement.

Learning to play an instrument:

- Connects, develops and refines the entire neurological and motor brain systems
- Enhances the process of learning, particularly mathematical learning
- Develops fine motor skills, creativity and emotional balance
- Promotes self discipline and motivation

All of which provide positive, significant and long lasting benefits.



What does the VISS Music Academy offer?

The VISS Music Academy is an instrumental music program that offers VISS students the opportunity to learn an instrument at school, and to participate in the school choir and/or ensembles.

Tuition is available on the following instruments:

Violin	Singing
Piano	Bass Guitar
Guitar	Drums
Flute	Clarinet
Saxophone	

Instrumental ensembles and performance opportunities at VISS

VISS Music Ensembles

Ensembles are part of the Instrumental Music Program, and give children the opportunity to regularly perform in school and develop ensemble skills. Every student who learns an instrument through the school will be involved in one of these ensembles. Participation in the ensembles is free of charge and it runs as a part of schools Instrumental Music Program. Rehearsals are held in the school during school hours.

The ensembles can offer pupils the opportunity to:

- Perform with others and develop awareness of ensemble and audience
- Develop organizational skills and responsibilities
- Learn that music can become a significant channel of communication
- Develop an understanding of musical appreciation and etiquette
- Build strong relationships, friendships and be a part of group

In addition, ensembles can offer an individual program designed to suit your child's talent and ability as well as being a good way of monitoring your child's progress

VISS has the following Music Ensembles:

- Violin Ensemble
- Recorder Ensemble
- Guitar Ensemble
- Rock Band
- Choir



Which instrument to choose?

Choosing an instrument can be very hard decision for both students and parents .We suggest you and your child listen to and research various instruments before you make a decision. The music staff are also able to offer advice on what instrument may be most suitable for your child.

Instruments and Ensembles			
Violin	Violin Ensemble	String Orchestra	Orchestra
Guitar	Guitar Ensemble	Rock Band	
Percussions/Drums	Percussion Ensemble	Rock Band	Concert Band/ Orchestra
Piano	Solo	Orchestra/ Ensembles	
Singing	Solo	Rock Band/Orchestra	
Flute, Clarinet and Saxophone	Ensemble	Concert Band Rock band	Orchestra

Through the VISS Music Academy, we aim to nurture creativity, sensitivity and self-confidence in every child.

VISS Violin Ensemble



VISS Music Academy Facilities



The VISS Performing Arts Centre is the home of the Music Academy. This stunning new facility consists of the following wonderful components:

- 500 seat theatre
- 6 tutorial rooms for the instrumental lessons
- Classroom music rooms
- Ensemble rehearsal room
- Keyboard lab
- Drama rehearsal room

VISS Guitar Ensemble



VISS Music Academy

Instrument and age recommendation

Instrument	Individual Lessons	Group Lessons *Maximum of 4 students in a Group	Starting Age from:
Violin	Yes	Yes	Grade 2
Piano	Individual Lessons only	No group lessons available for Piano	Grade 2
Guitar	Yes	Yes	Grade 3
Singing	Yes	Yes	Grade 4
Drums	Yes	Yes	Grade 7
Flute	Yes	Yes	Grade 5
Clarinet	Yes	Yes	Grade 5
Saxophone	Yes	Yes	Grade 6

Instrumental Lesson Costs

Type of Lessons	Individual Lessons Fee	Group Lessons Fee
Fee	3350 AED per year 1725 AED per semester	1700 AED per year 900 AED per semester

VISS Recorder Ensemble



Instrumental Lessons Policy

- Tuition fees are payable for instrumental lessons and must be paid in advance.
- Instrumental music tuition is offered on either a semester or yearly basis. A semester is equivalent to two terms. Semester 1 is Terms 1 & 2; Semester 2 is Terms 3 & 4.
- There are 15 lessons per semester.
- Individual and group lessons are 40 minutes long.
- We recommend that children do not enroll for more than two separate instruments.
- The program is available to all VISS students starting from Grade 2.
- There may be an opportunity for students in Grade 1 or KG2 to be involved in the program. However, the decision will be made pending an assessment of their musical abilities, readiness to participate and availability of a teacher.

Lesson Times

- Instrumental music staff will give 15 lessons each semester.
- Lessons will be held between 8.00am and 4.00pm.
- Students will be withdrawn from their classes to attend instrumental lessons. Lesson times may alternate weekly to ensure students are not repeatedly missing the same class.

Absence

- If a child misses a lesson due to absence/illness, the teacher is not required to make up these lessons.
- If a child misses a lesson due to a school activity, this lesson will be made up.
- If the teacher is ill or absent, they are responsible for making up the lesson.

Fees

- Tuition fees are due prior to the start of each semester.
- The school must be notified of any changes to music enrolments for Semester 2 by 30th January 2012. This policy is required to ensure the school can continue to employ and retain skilled teachers.

Refunds

- There are no refunds once the lessons have commenced for each semester.
- VISS reserves the right to terminate lessons should a student behave inappropriately or frequently miss lessons. Fees will not be refunded.
- Semester 2 fees (if paid) will be refunded if the student withdraws during or at the end of Semester 1.



Acceptance in the program

- To be accepted into the program, students must display a willingness, enthusiasm and commitment to learning their chosen instrument.

Purchase of an instrument

- It is a condition of enrolment into the program that students purchase the relevant instrument for home practice and use in the lessons where applicable.
- Any purchase of instruments will need to be organized by the parents.
- We strongly recommend that you do not buy an instrument before you have received a letter of acceptance AND before you talk to Mrs Amina Garcevic (violin and piano), Mr Brett Scott (guitar) or Miss Jade Curran (flute, clarinet and saxophone). They will assist you in determining the size of instrument, brand, supplier and the likely cost of appropriate instrument.

Practice

- Students are expected to practice their instrument for at least 15 minutes, three times per week.
- Parents are asked that they support and encourage their children to maintain a regular practice schedule.

Communication

- Any queries should be made via e-mail to the Director of Music, Mrs Amina Garcevic garcevic.amina@viss.ae

