



# DW POPPY MUSIC

## 2025|26 Handbook

Welcome to the 2025/26 Season of DW Poppy Music! Welcome to Mr. Del Rio who will be covering for Ms. Chen while she is on maternity leave.

It looks to be another great year for Poppy's musicians as we look forward to 5 school concerts, district and community festivals, opportunities to work with a number of professional musicians, and our Junior and Senior Music Tours this spring. Please read through the handbook for information on this year's events and activities, along with course expectations and other information about your child's involvement in the music program at DW Poppy.

There are many opportunities for parents to be involved in supporting their child's music education here at Poppy. All Music Parents are asked to join us for our **Annual Music Parents Meeting at 7:00pm on Tuesday, September 16 in the Band Room** (after the Grade 8 Parents Meeting) where we will discuss plans for this year including our concert and festival schedule, our Junior and Senior Music Tours and fundraising plans to support your child's involvement in music.

**Be aware that (with the exception of our Junior and Senior Tours, which are still strongly encouraged) full participation in all activities for your ensemble in DW Poppy Music Calendar of Events is a course expectation for all Poppy Musicians. Please return the Performer's Contract on the final page by Friday, September 12th.**

### 2025|26 Large Ensemble Off-Timetable Rehearsal Schedule

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Before School 7:15 - 8:45 am	Senior Jazz Band 10-12 Junior Choir 8/9	Junior Jazz Band 8/9 Senior Choir 10-12	Senior Wind Ensemble 11/12	Senior Jazz Band 10-12 Junior Choir 8/9	Junior Jazz Band 8/9 Senior Choir 10-12
Block 1 & 2					
Lunch Hour	Senior Wind Ensemble 11/12				Senior Wind Ensemble 11/12
Block 3 & 4					
Afterschool Times Vary		Vocal Jazz 10-12		Vocal Jazz 10-12	

### 2025|26 Large Ensemble In-Timetable Rehearsal Schedule

- Concert Band 8 - B1
- Concert Band 9 - C2
- Concert Band 10 - C1

## DW Poppy Music Calendar of Events - 2025|26

Every effort is made to ensure the calendar is accurate but changes may occur. You will be notified as soon as possible of any adjustments, but please note that listed events are all course requirements as indicated. Student participation in these events is mandatory (with the exception of the Junior and Senior Tours) and part of students' mark for the course.

<b>Date</b>	<b>Event</b>	<b>Start</b>	<b>Est. End</b>
Fri, Sep 5, 2025	Off-Timetable Rehearsal Meeting	12:00PM	12:35PM
Mon, Sep 8, 2025	Senior Jazz Ensemble & Junior Choir First Rehearsals	7:15AM	8:45AM
Mon, Sep 8, 2025	Senior Wind Ensemble First Rehearsal	12:00PM	12:35PM
Tue, Sep 9, 2025	Junior Jazz Ensemble & Senior Choir First Rehearsals	7:15AM	8:45AM
Tue, Sep 9, 2025	Vocal Jazz First Rehearsal	3:15PM	4:45PM
Tue, Sep 16, 2025	Music Parents Meeting (After Grade 8 Parent Night)	7:00PM	7:30PM
Tue, Oct 21, 2025	District Senior Choir Festival (SC @ RE Mountain)	6:30PM	9:30PM
Wed, Nov 5, 2025	Senior Fall Showcase Concert (CB10, SWE, SJE, SC, VJ)	6:30PM	9:30PM
Thu, Nov 6, 2025	Junior Fall Showcase Concert (CB8, CB9, JC, JJE)	6:30PM	9:30PM
Fri, Nov 7, 2025	Remembrance Day Assemblies (SC, SWE))	8:45AM	12:00PM
Thu, Nov 13, 2025	District Senior Concert Band Festival (SWE @ WGSS)	6:30PM	9:30PM
Thu, Dec 4, 2025	ESPRESSIVO: Winter Celebration (ALL ENSEMBLES)	5:00PM	9:30PM
Tue, Jan 20, 2026	District Senior Jazz Band Festival (SJE @ Langley Fine Arts)	6:30PM	9:30PM
Thu, Feb 12, 2026	Poppy Jazz Cafe (SJE, JJE, VJ)	6:30PM	9:00PM
Fri, Feb 20, 2026	Surrey Schools Jazz Festival (@ Sullivan Heights Secondary School)	All Day	Times TBD
Mon, Mar 2, 2026	Kiwanis Concert Band Festivals (CB08, CB09, CB10, SWE)	All Day	Times TBD
Tue, Mar 3, 2026	Kiwanis Concert Band Festivals (CB08, CB09, CB10, SWE)	All Day	Times TBD
Mon, Mar 9, 2026	Elementary Zone Concert (SWE & Volunteer Setup Crew)	6:30PM	8:30PM
Tue, Mar 10, 2026	Sound of Spring Concert (CB08, CB09, CB10, SWE, JC, SC)	6:30PM	9:30PM
Thu, Mar 12, 2026	Kiwanis Choir Festival (JC, SC)	All Day	Times TBD
April or May TBD	Junior Music Tour (CB8, CB9, JC, JJE)	MultiDay	
May 11-16, 2026	Senior Music Tour (CB10, SWE, SJE, SC, VJ)	MultiDay	
Wed, Jun 3, 2026	ESPRESSIVO: Summer Pops (ALL ENSEMBLES)	5:00PM	9:30PM
Mon, Jun 8, 2026	District Vocal Jazz Festival (VJ @ WGSS)	6:30PM	9:30PM
Fri, Jun 12, 2026	Year-End Music Lunch	12:00PM	12:35PM

*Academics, Arts, Athletics and Leadership work together to allow students to be involved in as many areas of the school as they choose. If scheduling conflicts arise, whether around a regular rehearsal or a performance, please have your child speak with the relevant teachers/coaches and we will look for the best solution to support your child's experiences here at DW Poppy.*

## ATTENDANCE & LATES

- If students are late or absent for rehearsal, we require a note, e-mail or call-in from a parent (or teacher if students have been held late in the previous class) to avoid a "late" or "unexcused absence".
- **"Off-timetable" classes require the same regular attendance as those "in-timetable" to meet these outcomes. As they are not connected to the absence system at the school, please email Mr. Follett or Mr. Del Rio if your child will be late or absent for an early-morning, lunch or after-school class.**
- As repeated absences and/or lates can significantly impact student progress and the other students in the ensemble, they will impact that student's grade and opportunities. Please contact us if there are extenuating circumstances we should be aware of.

## REGULAR PERSONAL PRACTICE

- **Regular personal practice outside of rehearsal is essential for student progress.** Each instrument and part has its own challenges and regular personal practice gives students time to address issues and move ahead without pressure from or waiting for others.
- **As musicians are building muscle-memory, regular short practice sessions are essential to student growth. You can't cram practicing for music any more than you can cram training for a sport. 15-30 minutes a day, 5 days a week is a good guideline to start with, but...**
- Students are busy, so they should focus on improving what they can do with their music. Practicing should be about getting better at a specific section, not just putting in time.

## PERFORMANCES: Participation is a course expectation

- DW Poppy's music classes are performance-based and dates are sent home in September to give time for families to plan accordingly. If students have been part of the rehearsal process and miss a performance, it can significantly impact the other students in the ensemble so **participation in all events listed in the "Calendar of Events" is a course expectation and an unexcused absence from a performance will directly impact their grade.**
- We know that students have lots of things going on outside of music, so **please contact us regarding any potential conflicts as soon as possible.** We will work with you to find a solution in everyone's best interest.
- In case of emergency situations, please contact your child's teacher as soon as reasonably possible. We understand that regrettably, things occasionally happen that are urgent and will do our best to support everyone.

## PERFORMANCES: Set-up and Clean-up

- **Students are expected to setup for two school performances during the year.** Signup will take place during the first week of school and the setup crew list will be posted in the music hall. Concert setup generally takes 30-60 minutes (except for ESPRESSIVO events) and students need to sign-out at the end of the setup process to receive credit for that setup.
- After performances, **every participating student is expected to stay and clean up.** When cleanup is done, a sign-out list will be posted to take attendance.
- If there are extenuating circumstances, please communicate those as soon as possible, but we expect all musicians to do their fair share when it comes to putting on events.

## EQUIPMENT AND MATERIALS

**If there are financial reasons that families are unable to provide the following items, please email us. We will find a way for everyone to have what they need.**

Concert Dress (Uniform For ALL Performances)

### **Grade 8 & 9 Junior Ensembles (CB08, CB09, JC, JJE)**

- Long sleeved black dress shirt
- Black dress pants
- Black socks & dress shoes

### **Grade 10, 11 & 12 Senior Ensembles (CB10, SWE, SC, SJE, VJ)**

- All items above
- Red Poppy Music Tie or Scarf (purchased for \$10 through School Cash Online)

Band Students will need to supply:

- Instrument in good condition with **name and contact information on the case**
- Necessary accessories (Reeds, Valve Oil, Spare Strings, Patch Cords etc.)
- Check with your home insurance policy as your house insurance may cover the instrument. Teachers and the school are not responsible for students' instruments.

Items Purchased Through **SchoolCashOnline**:

- **Band 8** - Sound Innovations Book 2 (RED) \$15
- **Band 8 & Choir 8** - Master Theory Book 1 (BLUE) \$12
- **All Band Students** - OPTIONAL - Personalized Band Folder - \$40
- **All Choral Students** - OPTIONAL - Personalized Choir Folder - \$40
- **Grade 10-12 Students** - Red Poppy Music Uniform Tie or Scarf - \$10

### **All Percussionists (Drummers)**

- **HOME ONLY** - a Bell Kit for home practice
- **HOME ONLY** - a Snare Drum (or practice pad) for home practice
- Stick Bag to carry sticks and mallets
- Two pairs of 5A Wood Tip drumsticks (so that you have a backup when one breaks)
- One pair of soft yarn mallets (For cymbals & vibraphone)
- One pair of medium timpani mallets (For timpani)
- One pair of hard plastic bell mallets (For bells & xylophone)

**Percussionists (Drummers) in Jazz Ensemble** also need the following:

- **HOME ONLY** - A Drum set for home practice (Contact Mr. Follett to discuss options)
- One pair of wire brushes (ie. Los Cabos Drumsticks Standard Retractable Brush)

Lost or Damaged School Materials

- Fines for lost/damaged original sheet music parts would be assessed at \$5.00 for band parts, \$2.50 for Choir parts.
- Fines for other lost/damaged materials will be assessed at the cost of repair or replacement.

**\*\*Please label all items so they can be returned if they get misplaced\*\***

## ASSESSMENT

Students' study of music moves forward from their own previous experience, so benchmarks for success include individual growth and contribution to the ensemble. These are all experienced and demonstrated through performing and non-performing actions and activities.

Activities demonstrating students' musical knowledge/skills/understanding often will be assessed using the EXT-PRF-DEV-EMG scale, to indicate their progress. For clarification as to how they are applied in the music program:

EXT (Extending) indicates exceptional work and/or "mastery" relative to grade-level expectations

PRF (Proficient) indicates proficient work or meeting grade-level expectations

DEV (Developing) indicates work approaching (but not yet meeting) grade-level expectations

EMG (Emerging) indicates work is not yet demonstrating the related knowledge/skills/understanding

### Instrumental Music Weighting (Concert Band & Jazz Band)

Weighting of activities and observations are approximate and will vary term to term, but this should help students expectations and how term assessments/grade are assigned

		Band 8 & 9*	Band 10-12	Jazz Band
Playing (60%)	Demonstrating what you can do as a musician	60%	60%	60%
	Warm-ups (Be on-time and physically prepare)	5%	5%	5%
	In-Class Observations (Work to improve)	25%	25%	25%
	Playing Tests (Be prepared / Turn them in)	15%	15%	15%
	Performances (Be awesome!)	15%	15%	15%
Literacy (15%):	Demonstrating what you know about the language of music	15%	15%	15%
*Band 9 uses Master Theory handouts for 1st Semester and then transitions to the Band 10-12 Literacy grading	Master Theory Progress Checks & Quizzes	5%		
	"Quarter Page" Concept Checks (Throughout)	5%	10%	10%
	Repertoire-based Quizzes (1-2 per set)	5%	5%	5%
Context (15%)	Demonstrating your deeper understanding of music	15%	15%	15%
	Listening Assignments (1 per Term)	5%	5%	5%
	Reflections (Concerts, Festivals, Rehearsals, Recordings)	5%	5%	5%
	In-Class Observations (Discussion and adjustments in playing))	5%	5%	5%
Ensemble Skills (10%)	Demonstrating understanding of how musicians work together	10%	10%	10%
	Preparation (Bring your stuff)			
	Rehearsal Skills (Engage and support your peers)			
	Setup/Cleanup (Do your share)			
	Communication (Be clear and open)			
		100%	100%	100%

What if...?

- **I can't make it to the concert because of a "a family commitment/emergency":** We will not share information with others, but we will need more information than this. Everyone receives months of notice to plan around concerts or to let us know so we could plan around your absence. Sometimes there are emergencies that we would agree are way more important than a concert so please communicate as soon as possible so that we can minimize the impact of your absence on the rest of the students.
- **I can't make the concert because I don't have a ride:** With months of notice for concerts, this is not considered an excused absence. Please ensure you plan ahead: if there is a possibility your ride might fall through, please be sure you have a backup plan.
- **I'm sick, so I'm not coming to the concert:** If you are healthy enough to attend classes, you can participate performances. A cough or a sneeze during the show is understandable under any circumstances. If you're so sick you are not able to attend a performance, please let us know as soon as possible so we can minimize the impact of your absence on the rest of the students.
- **I am sick so I didn't bring my instrument:** If you are healthy enough to attend classes, you can participate in music. Bring your instrument and we'll adjust expectations for the day, but do as much as you can.
- **I forgot my instrument:** Tell us before rehearsal begins. If we can loan you a school instrument for the day, we will. We know this may happen once or twice during the year, but more is a concern.
- **I forgot my music:** Tell us before rehearsal begins. We will ask you to share with another student on the same part or loan you music for the class. We know this may happen once or twice during the year, but more is a concern.
- **I lost my music:** Please check the folder rack again and then tell us so we can help find it. If it is really gone, we will sort out what has to happen to replace it. No music (or book) means you have no way to practice so please deal with this as soon as possible.
- **I'm late for class:** If you're late for an extended-day rehearsal, please message us so we know you're safe and we can make any adjustments to the lesson we may need. If a teacher held you back during the day, please ask for a note or an email. Any other lates fall under the school's attendance policy.
- **I know won't be able to complete my assignment on time:** Talk to us before the due date to ask for an extension. If your request is reasonable, we'll help you out as much as we can.
- **I didn't finish my assignment:** Talk to us on the due date (or when you get back to class if you've been absent) and we'll figure out how to find a fair solution that allows you to show your learning.
- **Anything else that might be going wrong...** "Problems are like mushrooms - they grow in the dark." If something is going on, talk to us. We're here to help you get that resolved, but we can't do anything if we don't know about it.

## Music Student Information & Understanding of Expectations

**Please return this page by Friday, September 12, 2025**

Musicians rely extensively on each other to create a successful final performance. To ensure everyone is on the same page please sign and initial below so everyone is clear and all the kids can have a successful year.

Your signatures and initials indicate that Parents/Guardians and the Student:

1. have reviewed the DW POPPY MUSIC 2025|26 HANDBOOK
2. are aware of the performances listed below and in the "Calendar of Events" and the student will fully participate in all of their ensemble's performances
3. will communicate any conflicts as soon as possible so they can be resolved to support everyone
4. are aware of the uniform and other materials required for participation in the ensemble(s)
5. are aware of the Regular Personal Practice expectations for success in music classes

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**Student Name (Printed)**

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**Parent/Guardian Name (Printed)**

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**Student Signature**

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**Parent/Guardian Signature**

If you have any questions or have conflict attending any of the events listed, please contact us as soon as possible at [mfollett@sd35.bc.ca](mailto:mfollett@sd35.bc.ca) / [mdelrio@sd35.bc.ca](mailto:mdelrio@sd35.bc.ca) or 604.530.2151(235) so we can resolve any issues as soon as possible. Every effort is made to ensure the calendar is accurate but changes may occur, in which case we will communicate with families as soon as possible.

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