

Encore! School of Music - Trinity Exams 2020

Information Sheet for Students/Parents/Caregivers

Exams are not compulsory here at Encore! but we are excited about providing our students with the opportunity to sit for exams if they wish to. Trinity College is a leading international music examinations board. Trinity exams are designed to help students progress in their musical journey and to mark an achievement at each stage of their development.

The following Trinity exams are available to Encore! students this year:

MUSIC Exams (classical)

- Instruments: Piano, Guitar, Singing, Woodwind, Strings, Percussion (Drum Kit)
- Grade Levels: Initial, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8

Exam Session	Closing Date
Late May	Friday 28th February
August	Friday 1st May
Late October*	Friday 17th July
November*	Friday 17th July

*** Please note on the entry form if you are entering for October or November as these are two separate sessions.**

ROCK & POP Exams (contemporary)

- Instruments: Keyboard, Guitar, Singing, Bass, Drums
- Grade Levels: Initial, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8

Exam Session	Closing Date
August	Friday 1st May

WRITTEN Exams (music theory)

- Grade Levels: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8

Exam Session	Closing Date
Saturday 9th May	Friday 6th March
Saturday 7th November	Friday 4th September

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

1. How do I apply to sit for an exam? Discuss with your teacher about whether it is appropriate for you to sit for an exam. If you both agree to go ahead, please make sure you inform the office by emailing info@encoreschoolofmusic.co.nz. The office will then contact you with an online enrolment form to complete. This online form must be completed by the closing date (as stated above) of the exam you are interested in.

2. What will it cost to sit an exam?

There are four items that you may be invoiced for if you choose to sit for an exam:

- An exam fee set by Trinity – see table on price list link
- Exam Books (approx \$20 - \$50 each):

Practical exams – this will contain a selection of songs/pieces/exercises to select from.

Theory exams – this will contain the skills and exercises required and sample exam paper.

Additional Exam books: Your teacher may potentially order additional books such as Trinity aural and/or sight reading books for you.

Other resources e.g. sheet music, backing track. Most exams don't require these but some exams, such as singing exams, might.

An administration fee of \$20.00 You may also want to take into account the additional cost of an accompanist if you require one for your exam (please refer below).

3. What type of exam and grade level should I sit for?

Your Encore! teacher has knowledge about the requirements for each exam and what might suit you best. Therefore it is an Encore! requirement that students engage in discussion with their teacher before signing up for any exams, and that the teacher's recommendations are adhered to.

4. What are the requirements for each type of exam and grade level? Music Exam basic structure:

- Three (or sometimes four) pieces - Technical work featuring scales & arpeggios, exercises or orchestral extracts - Supporting tests – choose two from a selection including sight reading, aural, musical knowledge and improvising.

Rock & Pop Exam basic structure:

- Three songs - Session skills – choose either Improvising or Playback

You can go to <http://www.trinitycollege.co.uk> to download syllabuses for the exam(s) you're interested in. These provide specific information as to the requirements for each exam/grade level and the skills/knowledge examiners will be assessing.

5. What if I require a musical accompanist for my exam?

It is your responsibility to organise an accompanist if you require one for your exam (whether it be for live accompaniment or for recording purposes); this includes liaising with them to attend lessons/rehearsals, providing them with sheet music, payments, etc. Encore! does not currently provide accompanists for exams, however, we may know of accompanists who may be available so let us know if you need help with that.

6. What is the Encore! process for completing an exam?

The table below details the process for Encore! students who wish to sit for exams:

1. Expression of interest
<i>The student/teacher will engage in discussion about which exam might suit the student best, considering the student's current ability and the length of time available to prepare.</i>
2. Sign up Make sure you inform the Encore! Office via email (info@encoreschoolofmusic.co.nz). The office will then email an online sign up form for the student/caregiver and teacher to complete.
3. Book for student Encore! will provide music book(s), ordered by the teacher,

appropriate to the exam the student is sitting for

4. Invoice *The student/parent will be invoiced for the relevant fees as outlined above.*

5. Date/time/venue

Encore! will receive appointment slips from Trinity regarding the date/time/venue information for the student's exam and will pass these on to the student.

6. Preparing for exam

The student will be required to spend plenty of time practicing/preparing at home for their exam – as set by their teacher. The student's teacher will also dedicate lesson time to prepare them for their exam.

7. Sit exam *The student will be responsible for attending their own exam.*

8. Results *Encore! will receive the student's exam results and feedback form and pass them on to students.*

9. Certificate *At a later date, Encore! will also receive the student's certificate, which will also be passed on.*

7. What if my exam is scheduled at the same time as my Encore! lesson or class?

You will find out well ahead of time the actual date/time for your exam, so please make sure you inform us if there is a clash.

Individual lesson students – As per usual policy, if you provide us with notice of your absence (by 4.00 pm the day before your lesson) we can provide you with a catchup lesson at the end of the term. Unfortunately, we cannot provide more than one catchup lesson per term.

Group class students – Group classes will continue to be held regardless of absences so we are unable to provide a refund for any group classes missed. In situations where the majority of the class will be absent due to an exam, e.g. Theory class, we may be able to cancel the class and reschedule it for catchup day.

We trust you will gain a great deal of enjoyment and musical accomplishment in the process of sitting for Trinity exams.

If you have any questions that are not answered in this information sheet please don't hesitate to contact us!

- Your Friendly Team At Encore! School of Music