# **School Policy**



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### Mission & Vision

#### Deo • Ecclesia • Litteris

The **mission** of the Academy of Sacred Music Francesco Azopardi is to offer a professional musico-spiritual formation to members of the Catholic Church who wish to worship God through the art of music.

The **vision** of the Academy of Sacred Music Francesco Azopardi is to meet the needs of music in the liturgy in the 21<sup>st</sup> century by investing in the professional training of music ministers while acknowledging the glorious history of sacred music in Malta.

#### **Ethos**

In line with its vision, the Academy of Sacred Music Francesco Azopardi is mainly focused on the spiritual and musical formation of its students by nurturing the musical talents of each pupil within a mutually respectful, safe, and supportive environment. In so doing, the Academy focuses on:

- Music
- Academic excellence
- Discipline
- Commitment

- Catholic spirituality
- Character formation
- Respect

#### Code of conduct

The Academy of Sacred Music Francesco Azopardi is founded on strong values based on the Catholic faith and spirituality. The Academy respects and admits students of any race, color, national origin, and ethnic background as long as students accept and respect that the Academy is a Catholic institution and formation in the Catholic faith is a core part of its mission. Thus, Academy students are expected to share these values and uphold the following code of conduct:

- Respect towards superiors, colleagues, and self
- Discipline during rehearsals, classes, liturgical services, and concerts
- **Commitment** for all activities that form part of the Academy's curriculum
- Behavior should be such that respects the sacred nature of the music ministry
- ♣ Dress appropriately in accordance with directives issued by the Academy
- Digital responsibility at all times and by all ages

#### **Policies**

- The Academy has a zero tolerance policy for fighting, insulting, lying, rudeness, bullying, or other unruly behavior.
- Punctuality is expected for classes, liturgical services, and concerts (including warm-ups) in order to keep disturbance to a minimum while showing respect to the tutor and to colleague students.
- Mobile phones may be carried but may not be used in class unless given permission by the tutor.
- Attendance for all activities is obligatory and will be recorded.
- Absence due to sickness needs to be verified by a medical certificate (to be sent as a soft copy to <a href="mailto:info@asm.mt">info@asm.mt</a>). Students failing to send a medical certificate will be marked absent.
- All registered students are required to compile any information or consent forms issued by the Academy.

- Students under the legal age of adulthood may only be collected by parents or legal guardians listed in the Academy's Info & Consent Form. The Academy needs to be informed in advance and in writing of any exceptions.
- Preferred method of communication is via email on <a href="info@asm.mt">info@asm.mt</a> and should always be addressed to the Head. Students, parents, or guardians may not contact directly any of the tutors unless specifically consented by the Head or the respective tutor.
- Without prejudice to the above, students, parents, or guardians are encouraged to contact directly and immediately the Academy's Designated Safeguarding Officer in the case of any safeguarding concerns.
- In emergency situations, the Head may be contacted via mobile or WhatsApp.
- All students are encouraged to maintain active participation within their respective music ministries and in their respective spiritual lives.
- Students are expected to take good care of all Academy property (instruments, sheet music ...) as well as any property (building, instruments, furniture ...) that may be permanently or temporarily used by the Academy.

## Discipline

Discipline is handled in the spirit of Christian charity with the aim of seeking restoration and growth. However, disciplinary measures may be taken in case of repeated or flagrant violations of the Academy's Code of Conduct or Policies. Disciplinary proceedings will be handled by the Head in consultation with any of the tutors where applicable and may, in extreme cases, lead to suspension or expulsion.

#### **Partners**

The Academy of Sacred Music Francesco Azopardi falls under the responsibility of the Episcopal Vicariate for the Liturgy of the Archdiocese of Malta and is proud of its association with the Pastoral Formation Institute (Malta), the Cappella Musicale del Duomo di Milano, and the AERCO Academy (Bologna).









