

TOHO GAKUEN COLLEGE MUSIC DEPARTMENT (桐朋学園大学)

Evaluation summary

“Standard 1. Mission and Objectives, etc.”

The TOHO GAKUEN COLLEGE MUSIC DEPARTMENT publishes its mission and objectives within the campus and among society based on the motto of its parent organization “Music School for Children” - “free and creative education of sensitivity”. The college defined three policies (diploma policy, curriculum policy, and admission policy) reflecting its mission, objectives, and educational objective and formulated a middle- and long-term educational concept. Its education is predicated on solfeggio and ensemble as characteristics of the college. The college adheres to the related laws and regulations, and plays an active role to attain its mission and objectives, as well as trying to improve the quality of education in order to enhance global competitiveness in world music education.

“Standard 2. Learning and Teaching”

The admission policy is clearly defined and the college is accepting students according to this policy. Although students who set their face to classical music are decreasing, the college continues receiving students with some bias in instruments that students study specially. A policy to organize the educational curriculum is specified and the educational curriculum is systematically organized. The college sends out lecture evaluation questionnaires and questionnaires for students at the college on a regular basis to improve its curriculum.

The college has a wide variety of scholarship systems, maintains a student counseling room and a healthcare room, and has secured the number of teachers required to promote its educational curriculum. It also has a streamlined system to improve the quality of teachers and the Faculty Development (FD) Committee is working. Areas of the compound and buildings satisfy the standard of establishment and the music college tries to maintain an environment where students can practice voluntarily.

“Standard 3. Management, Admission and Finance”

The Incorporated School TOHO GAKUEN (hereinafter called the corporate business) respects the autonomy of three schools (School for Boys, School for Girls, and School of Music). The TOHO GAKUEN COLLEGE MUSIC DEPARTMENT belonging to the School of Music has a Faculty Council as its body to discuss teaching issues and the “Sengawa Campus Conference” as a body to discuss management issues and has established its own operative method. It responded to the revised School Education Act which has been enforced since April 2015 and adheres to the related laws and regulations, such as the Private School Act. Educational and financial information is published on its website and regular publications.

The “Corporate Business Governing Council” plays a role in coordination between the respective schools and the Board of Directors can make decisions from a strategic standpoint.

The corporate business runs middle- and long-term financial simulations and secures students of the college steadily. It also has enough retained earnings, so the financial ground is stable. The code of accounting procedures and other regulations are maintained and audits are properly conducted by chartered accountants and auditors.

“Standard 4. Self-Inspection and Evaluation”

To accomplish the mission and objectives, the college had formulated a code of Self-Inspection and Evaluation and other regulations and has performed Self-Inspection and Evaluation autonomously and voluntarily since 1998. Staff, as well as teachers, attend the Self-Inspection and Evaluation Committee to organize an evaluation system inside and outside teaching. A collection of evidence is prepared to guarantee an objective evaluation and shared in various internal meetings. Reports of the Self-Inspection and Evaluation are also published externally.

For meeting committee structures, including the Faculty Council, there is a system to give feedback to improve education based on the Self-Inspection and Evaluation. The plan-do-check-action (PDCA) cycle to improve the education is working, centering the President.

In general, the music college originating from a music school for children with a long history makes a strong effort in its characteristic solfeggio education and high-quality classic music with a stable number of students. We would like to value its approach to create classical music unique to Japan and enhance the quality of education, with keeping up a tradition of classical music and challenging advanced experiments.

Please see the general comments of the standard for “Standard A. Performance Activities and Cooperation with Local Community and Society” defined as a unique framework of the college based on its mission and goal.