



Brisbane Bayside State College
INDEPENDENT PUBLIC SCHOOL

INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC PROGRAMME HANDBOOK

Name: _____

Instrument: _____ Class: _____

Important Message to Parents/Caregivers

Dear Parents, Carers and Students,

Welcome to the Instrumental Music Programme at Brisbane Bayside State College.

Learning a musical instrument is a wonderful experience for any child. Research shows that music can also help your child learn a number of other valuable life skills. Music, as well as being an enjoyable mode of self-expression, contributes to intellectual and cognitive growth. Participation in group lessons and rehearsals also results in the further development of social, emotional and communication skills.

Students who learn to play music also develop better concentration, determination, and perseverance. While there may be challenges along the way, students will feel a sense of accomplishment and pride as they overcome these challenges.

We would like to thank you for supporting your children in their artistic endeavours. Looking back in years to come your children will thank you.

Please find introductory information about our Instrumental Music Programme on the following pages.

We wish you an engaging and rewarding Music experience.

Mr Richard Maher

Acting Head of Department – The Arts

The aims of the Instrumental Music Programme are to:

- give students the opportunity to learn musical instruments in group lessons;
- provide ensemble experience in one or more of the many school ensembles;
- give students the opportunity to develop performance skills;
- complement classroom programmes in the development of music throughout the school; and
- develop links between students and the wider community.

Instrumental Music Staff

Mr Richard Maher

Acting Head of Department – The Arts

Instrumental Music Coordinator

String Ensemble

rhmah0@eq.edu.au

(07) 3893 5323

Mr Richard Cipollone

Instrumental Teacher (Friday)

Stage Band

rcipo1@eq.edu.au

(07) 3893 5323

Mr Russell Sullivan

Instrumental Teacher (Tuesday – Thursday)

Concert Band

rsul0@eq.edu.au

(07) 3893 5323

*Staffing allocation and staff availability is subject to change.

EXPECTATIONS & REQUIREMENTS FOR INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC

LESSONS:

1. **Participation in an ensemble is compulsory** if you are having lessons, unless the teacher decides you are not at that level yet.
2. Each student **must** attend weekly lessons unless attending an exam or excursion or absent from school. (You are required to bring a note from your parents for all absences.)
3. Lessons will be **scheduled on each student's timetable and updated once a semester**. This is to meet the minimum requirement of hours for QCE points for students enrolled in levels 7-10.
4. Students who are absent for many lessons will be dropped from the programme, unless they have provided legitimate reasons, in writing and signed by parents for each absence.
5. Students should **bring their instrument, tutor book, practice diary, school music folder, all ensemble music, pencil** and eraser as well as their best behaviour to each lesson. You must purchase the required tutor book. The practice diary will be issued to students once fees have been paid.
6. **Students are required to maintain a regular practice routine and have short nails**. Complete the practice chart each week and practice 5 x 30mins each week. A minimum 3 x 30 minutes each week is required. Practice is to be recorded in your practice diary.
7. Students should have a music stand and a quiet place to practice at home.

ENSEMBLE:

1. **Attend all rehearsals**. Written explanation, signed by one of your parents, is required for all absences.
2. **Attend all performances**. When in extreme cases this is not possible, written explanation, signed by one of your parents, is required not less than two weeks in advance.
3. **Prepare and learn your music outside rehearsals**. The rehearsals are to prepare our performances, not to learn notes.
4. **Keep your music in good condition**. Marks can be made in pencil only.
5. **Be seated and ready to rehearse** at the designated rehearsal **starting time**.
6. **Be responsible** in actively wanting to make the best possible contribution to the ensemble.
7. **Be a learner and not talk or distract others during rehearsals**.
8. **Take note of all memos, letters, and notices and show them to your parents**.
9. **Bring your music** (in your school folder), a pencil and eraser, to **every** rehearsal.
10. **Inform the music staff personally if illness** or any other emergency **precludes your participation** in an event at the **last minute**. **A message via a friend is not acceptable**.
(Please ask your parent/guardian to contact Instrumental Teacher as per contacts listed above.)
11. **Show courtesy and consideration** to the other members at all times.
12. **Always sit in the seat designated** by the Director.
13. Only change parts in the ensemble after consultation with the Director.
14. Consult with the Director and administration if you find that you must leave early from ensemble. A note from parent is required.
15. **Attend** the rehearsal if you are at school, **even if for health reasons** you are unable to physically play on a particular day.
16. **Stay until all pack up has finished**. A note from parent is required if you need to leave early.

HOW THE MUSIC PROGRAMME WORKS

LESSONS AND PERFORMANCES

Students receive one instrumental lesson each week in school time (35 minutes minimum). Lessons are on a rotating timetable system so that different lessons are missed across the year.

Make sure you check your lesson time on the Instrumental Music notice board outside B Block Music room before school on the day of your lesson. If you are unable to make it to a lesson or rehearsal see your teacher as early as possible so that alternative arrangements can be made. Your lesson time should appear on your timetable.

WHAT TO BRING TO EACH LESSON:

- Instrument
- Instrument accessories (*see Instrument specific requirements p 6*)
- Tutor book (specified by teacher)
- Music folder (provided as part of Student Resource Scheme) with all lesson and ensemble music
- Practice diary (provided as part of Student Resource Scheme)
- Pencil and eraser
- Music Stand (for home practice – stands are provided for lessons)

ENSEMBLES

Brisbane Bayside State College offers students a number of ensembles. Anticipated rehearsal days are below:

Concert Band

2:40 – 3:40pm Wednesday

Stage Band

7:30 – 8:30am Friday

String Ensemble

TBC

Soul Band

TBC

Ensembles rehearse once each week, either outside school time or during lunch. Participation in at least one ensemble is mandatory. Confirmation of Ensemble rehearsal times will be sent upon commencement of the programme.

ENGAGEMENTS AND ABSENCES

In order to provide the best possible musical experiences, 100% commitment is required from all students. Performances and events are listed in the school calendar, school newsletters and on the Instrumental Music notice board. It is a requirement that students of the music programme are available for all events throughout the year. Students are expected to attend every lesson unless exam, excursion or absence from school as attendance is now a **mandatory component of the curriculum**.

If a student is unable to attend a performance, lesson or rehearsal, the teacher is to be notified as early as possible with a note from the parent/caregiver. Parents will be notified of attendance concerns for lessons or ensemble rehearsals. Students with frequent absences, without legitimate reason, may be excluded from programme.

MAINTENANCE AND INSURANCE

Students should ensure that instruments are well-maintained by following a regular care and maintenance routine. School instruments damaged through *normal use* are repaired by the school at no cost to the borrower. Damage resulting from carelessness or neglect is the student's responsibility. The borrower will be invoiced for the resulting repair costs.

It is also highly recommended that parents/caregivers obtain insurance for their child's musical instrument/s regardless of whether they are borrowed or privately owned. Many household insurance companies offer "away from home" cover as part of an existing policy, at little or no extra cost.

BORROWING SCHOOL INSTRUMENTS

A small number of instruments are available to hire from the school. A yearly instrument hire fee of **\$150** is charged to keep instruments in good working order. All borrowed instruments are required to be returned at the end of the year for regular servicing and/or maintenance. The servicing of instruments is covered in the hire fee. Where a hired item is lost, not returned, or damaged, parents will be responsible for payment to the school of the value of the item or its repair. Please refer to the Terms and Conditions on the Participation Agreement form for more information.

LEAVING THE PROGRAMME

Students accepted into the programme are expected to participate for a one-year period. At the end of this period, students will have the option to continue for another year. To ensure the high quality of the programme is maintained, parents must inform the Performing Arts Head of Department in writing by completing the *notice of intent to withdraw from instrumental music* form. Should you leave instrumental music during the year, **no hire or participation fees can be refunded.**

BAND UNIFORM

It is an expectation that students wear the formal band uniform at school performances, primary school visits, Eisteddfods and other public performances. The band uniform was designed in consultation with the P and C and incorporates the school's long, navy blue formal trousers. Students who attend performances without wearing the formal band uniform will not have the opportunity to perform.

The band uniform can be purchased from the [College Uniform Shop](#).



STUDENT REQUIREMENTS - INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC

<p style="text-align: center;">PERCUSSION</p> <p>To enable as many students to experience Instrumental Music as possible, lessons are organised on a group basis. Schools provide a lot of percussion equipment necessary for a Band Programme, quite often amounting to thousands of dollars. Each student will receive instruction, over a period of time, on all of these instruments.</p> <p>Students require the following at all rehearsals and lessons:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Drum Sticks ○ Practice Pad ○ Glockenspiel Mallets (an inexpensive brand is fine) ○ Drum Kit (optional) 	<p style="text-align: center;">STRINGS</p> <p>As part of the Instrumental Music Programme, students have the opportunity to learn one of the following stringed instruments:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">VIOLIN, VIOLA, CELLO and DOUBLE BASS.</p> <p>Students require the following at all rehearsals and lessons:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Instrument ○ Rosin ○ Set of spare strings ○ Soft cleaning cloth ○ Shoulder rest (for violin, viola) ○ End pin holder (rock stop/donut) (for cello, double bass)
<p style="text-align: center;">WOODWIND AND BRASS</p> <p>Students require the following at all rehearsals and lessons:</p> <p>FLUTE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ polishing cloth ○ cleaning rod/cloth <p>CLARINET & SAXOPHONE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ polishing cloth ○ cleaning swab ○ cork grease ○ reed holder ○ reeds (size specified by teacher) <p>TRUMPET, BARITONE, EUPHONIUM, FRENCH HORN & TUBA</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ valve oil ○ slide grease ○ mouthpiece brush ○ cleaning cloth ○ cleaning snake brush <p>TROMBONE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ trombone slide cream ○ tuning slide grease ○ cleaning snake brush ○ mouthpiece brush ○ cleaning cloth 	<p style="text-align: center;">GUITAR AND BASS GUITAR</p> <p>As part of our guitar and bass lessons, the school provides a lot of electronic equipment such as amplifiers for student use, quite often amounting to thousands of dollars. Each student will receive regular instruction however Guitar is currently not included in the Instrumental Curriculum (excluding Bass Guitar) and will not contribute towards QCE points.</p> <p>Students require the following at all rehearsals and lessons:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Spare set of strings (for their own instrument) ○ Guitar pick

PROPOSED PERFORMANCE AND EXCURSION DATES

Below are proposed performances and events for members of the Instrumental Music Programme. Please note that confirmation of exact events and dates will be communicated prior to each event.

Term One	Repertoire Day Investiture Ceremony School Assemblies / Celebration Parades
Term Two	Arts Excellence Day Anzac Ceremony Performance Winter Concert School Assemblies / Celebration Parades
Term Three	Excursion School Assemblies / Celebration Parades
Term Four	Picnic in the Grove Wynnum/Manly Halloween Parade MADD Night College Awards Night School Assemblies / Celebration Parades
Other Events	Primary School Visits Eisteddfods

Notice of intent to withdraw from instrumental music programme form

Dear Parents/Caregivers,

As part of our ongoing and consultative commitment to improve and refine the Instrumental Music program at Brisbane Bayside State College, we ask that you indicate specific reasons if you withdraw your child from the strings / band program/s. We would appreciate your suggestions for improvement, and ask you to note them so we are able to discuss them with a view to implementation if possible.

Student Name		
Year Level		
Instrument/s		
Instrumental Teacher/s		
Period of Playing at BBSC		
Period of Playing Overall		
Reason for Request		
Parent Signature		
Date		
School Use Only:		
Date Received		
Action Required		Completed
	Copy forwarded to School Principal	Completed