

2025 INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC HANDBOOK - BAND

OVERVIEW

The Instrumental Music curriculum enables teachers to plan a course of study through which students become musicians, through the development of musical literacy, technique and performance. The course seeks to extend a student's musical experience through participation in large performance ensembles as well as small group lessons.

COURSE COMPONENTS

Students become musicians through participation in the Instrumental Music program which incorporates performance ensembles, small group lessons and home practice. All three course components are required for progress and achievement in the subject.

Performance Ensembles

Ensembles provide the opportunity to demonstrate instrumental music learning in real-life contexts. The ensemble experience is enabled through the formation of school symphonic concert bands and orchestras. Schools may run optional extension ensembles such as stage bands and percussion ensembles.

Group Lessons

Small group lessons are the avenue through which music literacy, techniques and performance skills, specific to the instrument and level of the student, are explicitly taught. Lesson groupings are arranged according to the learning needs of the student and the school context. Most often, these are like-instrument and/or like-ability levels.

Home Practice

It is expected that students will complete regular home practice to make musical progress on their instrument. Teachers should provide resources and teach routines around home practice for students as needed.

TIMETABLING

Students may engage in the Band Program year 4 (band) to year 12. The weekly contact time required for the program includes 1 x 1hr ensemble rehearsal and 1 x 30-35min group lesson, as well as regular home practice.

STAFF

Lorna van der Merwe (Classroom Music)
To be announced (Instrumental Music - Band)



INSTRUMENTS

The school has a number of instruments available for hire. Parents are not expected to purchase large, expensive instruments which include the Euphonium, Baritone, French Horn, Bass Clarinet, Tenor Saxophone. Pupils using these school instruments will be asked to pay a hire fee each year.

Where parents are considering the purchase of an instrument for their child, it is important that they consult with the instrumental teacher or the co-coordinator before making any purchase. The brand and other specifications need to be carefully considered.

School instruments are to be returned at the end of each year on a date as advised by the instrumental teacher.

OTHER EQUIPMENT

If you agree to join the Instrumental Music Program your child will also require the following equipment for the year. This is in addition to either hiring or providing an instrument.

All Players				
<input type="checkbox"/> Sound Innovations – Book 1 (Relevant Brass, Relevant Woodwind, Bass Guitar or Combined Percussion***) <input type="checkbox"/> Cleaning and or polishing cloths <input type="checkbox"/> Music stand - for home practice (ideally foldable). Available from local music stores. <input type="checkbox"/> Pencil & Eraser <input type="checkbox"/> Pegs for holding music in windy weather				
Clarinet and Saxophone	Bass Guitar	Percussion	Brass	Flute
<input type="checkbox"/> 2 x size 2 & 2 x size 2½ reeds.* <input type="checkbox"/> Cork grease <input type="checkbox"/> All sax players-junior neck strap.** <input type="checkbox"/> Cloth Pull through <input type="checkbox"/> Teeth guard for mouthpiece <input type="checkbox"/> Thumb rest for clarinet. <input type="checkbox"/> Small rag in Zip Lock Bag for wiping condensation	<input type="checkbox"/> Full size or short neck electric BASS guitar <input type="checkbox"/> Quality padded bag or case <input type="checkbox"/> Quality instrument lead <input type="checkbox"/> Practise amplifier- 10-15 Amp (for home use only) <input type="checkbox"/> Guitar or chromatic tuner (essential)	<input type="checkbox"/> Drum sticks- 5A or 5B Nylon or wood tip <input type="checkbox"/> Practice pad-rubber or and or Snare drum <input type="checkbox"/> 32 Note chromatic glockenspiel including hard mallets.**	<input type="checkbox"/> Trumpets-valve oil <input type="checkbox"/> Trombone- slide cream & water spray bottle <input type="checkbox"/> Polishing cloth <input type="checkbox"/> Small rag in Zip Lock Bag for wiping condensation	<input type="checkbox"/> Cleaning rod** <input type="checkbox"/> Pull through cloth <input type="checkbox"/> Polishing cloth <input type="checkbox"/> Small rag in Zip Lock Bag for wiping condensation

*Additional reeds will need to be purchased throughout the year. Not supplied with school instruments.

** Supplied with school instruments.

*** The book for percussion is larger than the other books and therefore a little more expensive.

Most retailers will sell percussion and bass guitar packs suitable for school students with all of the above equipment included. Second hand instruments are suitable. Bass guitars may require new strings, if this is the case, please ensure they are purchased and put on before tuition begins.

LESSONS AND PRACTICE

Lessons are conducted in school time once a week. Each of these lessons is half an hour in length and is conducted on a group basis with no less than 3, no more than 10 students learning together. On occasions these classes are made up of a mixture of instruments.

During lessons, students will be taught musical exercises, studies and ensemble work appropriate to their ability levels. Equal practice in these three areas is fundamental to developing a solid musical foundation. Students will be given a practice sheet for the year, where they will record which exercises, studies and ensembles are to be practiced and how many minutes they practice each day. The Department of Education recommends that 30 minutes practice to be done every day. However, for beginners, this may not be possible until they gain a little more knowledge (15 minutes per day). Teachers will check regularly on the amount and consistency of home practice.

ENSEMBLE REHEARSALS / PERFORMANCES

Beginner instrumental students will be expected to join the Junior Band. The band rehearse once a week in the music room. The music selected for the band will be a balanced program of styles and is designed to complement the skills learned during lessons. Once the band has prepared enough material for a public performance, it will perform at school functions about once each term. Other events throughout the school year may include eisteddfods. It is expected that the instrumental students be available for all of their band performances.

REPAIRS

Repair costs from wilful damage or negligence by the student must be met by the parent. The cost of servicing school instruments annually will be met by the school.

CAMPS

Non-residential day camps are held annually (one in each year your child learns an instrument). The cost of these camps is kept to a minimum. Parents are encouraged to help with transport as necessary.

MUSIC RESOURCE SCHEME

All participants in the Instrumental Music Program are required to contribute financially to the program. The management fee is calculated to cover the cost of many aspects of the program and is collected as a one-off payment at the beginning of each year. This approach reduces the ongoing administration of the program.

The management fee includes:

- competition fees
- sheet music
- repair and replacement of equipment
- program administration

The management fee is paid as a lump sum or a payment plan can be negotiated with the school administration.

STUDENT AND PARENT COMMITMENT

Students and parents involved in both the instrumental music program are required to sign an enrolment agreement. These agreements outline the expectations and commitments associated with both programs.

Every student must agree to:

1. Practise regularly at home (15 - 30 minutes 3 times per week)
2. Become a member of a school concert band
3. Take part in all lessons, rehearsals, workshops and performances. (Attendance is monitored by teachers, missed lessons or rehearsals require a note to the teacher. If a student does not observe school policy on attendance at lessons, rehearsals or performances, the lessons may be terminated.)
4. Student behaviour at rehearsals and performances must at all times comply with the Redland Bay State School Rules.

Students who do not sustain their commitment to the program may be requested to leave.

Parents are required to:

1. Provide a suitable instrument (where necessary) and keep it in good repair.
2. Find a quiet place for them to practise without interruption.
3. Arrange a regular time for practise every day.
4. Listen to and help with practise.
5. Promote care of instrument.
6. Provide suitable music materials, grease, oils etc. and cleaning needs.
7. Encourage your child to be on time for lessons and rehearsals.

8. Encourage your child to play for others whenever possible.
9. Never make fun of any 'strange' sounds he/she makes.
10. Contribute to the appropriate music management fee.
11. Consult with the instrumental Music Teacher, Music Co-coordinator or School Principal if they feel their child is having difficulties.

SUMMARY OF FEES - **MUST BE PAID BY END OF TERM 1**

Ensemble	Description of Fee	Cost	Special Notes
<i>Junior Band</i> (1 st year of learning)	Music Resource Levy	\$20	
	Beginner's Music Workshop	\$20 (subject to change)	This is an optional activity – it is highly recommended that students participate
<i>Senior Band</i> (2 nd or 3 rd year of learning)	Music Resource Levy	\$20	
	Intermediate or Advanced Music Week	\$15 - \$300 (subject to change)	These are optional activities – it is highly recommended that students participate
Those students in the Band program using a school instrument	School Instrument Hire Fee	\$90	Must be paid before taking the instrument home

PURCHASING AN INSTRUMENT

Below is some information to assist you in purchasing an instrument for your child and a list of recommended retailers and repairers. In general, good quality brands of instruments to look for are:

- Flutes Yamaha, Buffet, Artley, Armstrong, Trevor James
- Clarinets Yamaha, Buffet, Artley, Armstrong, Selmer, Le Blanc, Jupiter, Vito
- Saxophones Yamaha, Keilworth, Armstrong, Selmer, Jupiter
- Trumpets Yamaha, Jupiter, Conn, King
- Trombones Yamaha, Jupiter, Conn, King, Besson
- Glockenspiel 2 ½ octaves

Binary Music	Shop 12 Cleveland Plaza, 48 Bloomfield Street, Cleveland	3488 2232
Geoff Secomb Music	1631 Wynnum Rd, Tingalpa	0431 271 526
Woodwind & Brass	88 Flinders Parade, North Lakes QLD 4509	1300 378 452
Ozwinds	Shop 11-33, 360 Logan Rd, Greenslopes.	0403 252 282
Blow Woodwind & Brass	149 Musgrave Rd, Red Hill	3367 8776
Mick's Mobile Music	www.micksmobilemusic.com	0416 150 213

Please contact Mrs Lorna van der Merwe (Instrumental Music Co-ordinator) if you have any questions or concerns.

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