



# **INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC PROGRAM HANDBOOK**

**2023**

## RATIONALE

Music, as a strand within the Arts, is an integral part of school education and plays an important role in developing the child. Numerous extrinsic and intrinsic justifications are given for the inclusion of music in the curriculum.

Many people recognise the enjoyment and pleasure music brings. This, however, is not the only reason for allowing a place for music in the curriculum. Some of the many other purposes music has in the curriculum include: developing students intellectually and emotionally, providing an outlet for creativity and self-expression; facilitating learning in other subject areas; a means of transferring learning; improving spatial reasoning; encouraging holistic development; and providing insight into our cultural heritage.

At Woodcrest State College we believe music is important to every student's growth and development and needs to be experienced by every student, every year. This means that during specialist music lessons all students are present. All grades participate in specialist music lessons throughout the school.

This quote taken from Rattle, 1998 articulates our underlying beliefs of music education.

*Music is for everybody, and like many of the other marvels of humanity, needs to be inculcated as early as possible. This is not some kind of 'high culture' limited to the privileged, but a treasure chest which can and must be made available and accessible to enrich every life.*

## AIM

All students who wish to be involved in the instrumental program are given the opportunity to join. Our only limitation is the number of instruments that we have available to students for hire. The Selmer test and classroom music results are used to determine the aural awareness of students wishing to be involved in the instrumental program and this assists in choosing students who receive a college instrument for hire. All students who have their own instrument may learn in our program. It is expected that students of this program must attend all lessons, rehearsals and performances.

### **The aim of the Instrumental Music Program at Woodcrest State College are to:**

- provide an opportunity for the musical development of students through instrumental instruction,
- provide ensemble experience for these students so they can develop performance skills,
- encourage the enjoyment of personal achievement through performances and learning a musical instrument,
- develop students' team building skills,
- develop an appreciation for music, and
- have fun!



## INSTRUMENTS

### String Family

Violin  
Viola  
Cello  
Double Bass  
Bass Guitar

### Woodwind Family

Flute  
Clarinet  
Bass Clarinet  
Alto Saxophone  
Tenor Saxophone  
Bassoon

### Brass Family

Trumpet  
French Horn  
Trombone  
Baritone  
Euphonium

### Percussion Family

Glockenspiel  
Snare Drum  
Bass Drum  
Drum Kit  
Auxiliary Percussion

## INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC PROGRAM

Lessons will commence in early 2023 for successful students upon return of parental agreements and payment made towards fees for Instrumental Music.

### 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 grouping 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.

### Ensembles

Woodcrest State College is a growing program, offering a variety of performance ensembles. All instrumental music students are placed into an ensemble at the discretion of the instrumental music staff. The College offers Concert Bands, Stage Band and String Ensembles. These ensembles provide the opportunity to demonstrate learning on their instrument in real life contexts and also contributes towards student assessment.

Ensemble rehearsal times will be confirmed at the beginning of the 2023 school year and can include before school, after school or during lunch times.

***As part of the curriculum for the instrumental music program, student attendance at rehearsals and performances are compulsory.***

## STUDENT & PARENT COMMITMENT

*The world is in great need of more music education. When students play music, it allows a part of their artistic mind to express itself, which is very important in helping to balance a child intellectually, spiritually and emotionally.*

Paul Reed Smith

As a student:

- I need to commit to learning for the full year.
- I understand that I need to make time to practice at home each week.
- I understand that I need to be prepared for lessons and ensemble rehearsals each week.

As a parent:

- Understand that your child needs to commit to learning for the full year. We understand that it may be difficult at times, however, consistent practice routines will help students overcome challenges
- Help your child make practice a habit, like brushing your teeth or doing your homework.
- Have a quiet space for practice set aside with a music stand away from distractions.
- Ensure that they are prepared for lessons and arrive to rehearsals on time.

- Ask your child what they are playing and what they need to practice, ask to hear the pieces.
- Even if you don't understand music, tell them they sound great – encourage them, be positive.



### UNIFORMS

For all performances, students will be required to wear long black formal pants, black socks and black leather shoes. A polo shirt will be given out to students for performances and will be collected after the performance.

### SCHOOL INSTRUMENT LOANS

The College has a limited number of instruments that can be lent to students in their first year of the program. A part of the Instrumental Music Fee covers the use of these instruments. Some of the larger, and more expensive instruments may be hired in their second or subsequent years, though will be required to pay an additional hire fee.

An **External Request for Equipment Hire (EQ 11) Form** must be completed and submitted to loan school instruments before they may be taken home, along with payment or payment plan made. Students must show great care with these instruments and the hirer of the instrument should be the only user of that instrument. Instrument checks will occur on a regular basis.

Where parents are considering the purchase of an instrument for their child, it is important that they consult with the Instrumental Music Teacher before making any purchase. The brand and other specifications need to be carefully considered.

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

### INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC RESOURCE SCHEME

This system provides a source of funds for the repair, replacement and enhancement of instruments and the purchase and photocopy of music.

The scale of contribution is as follows:

College Instrument Hire Fee	Participation Fee	TOTAL
\$50 (first year)	\$40	\$ 90
\$75 (second year)	\$40	\$115
\$100 (third year)	\$40	\$135
\$125 (fourth and subsequent years)	\$40	\$165
Percussion \$50	\$40	\$90

**\* If the student has their own instrument only the Participation Fee is applicable each year.**

Payments for the 2023 Program must be paid in full or payment plan enacted by the end of term 1. Instruments will not be allocated to students until payment is received and forms returned. If you are experiencing financial hardship please email [accounts@woodcrestsc.eq.edu.au](mailto:accounts@woodcrestsc.eq.edu.au) to make payment plan arrangements.

**Conditions:**

- The parent is responsible for the loss or damage of a school instrument.
- The hire of a College instrument is only available in the first year of the program. (Except for the Bassoon, Bass Clarinet, Tenor Saxophone, Baritone Saxophone, French Horn, Baritone, Euphonium and Tuba).

**REPAIRS**

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

**EQUIPMENT**

To assist you in providing all the necessary equipment for your child, an accessories list for each instrument will be provided. The list includes all the necessary cleaning and maintenance items, as well as accessories required to play the instrument. All students must have a music stand to develop correct breathing, posture and practise skills.

**CONTACT DETAILS**

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