

2026

Instrumental Music

Handbook



HAILEYBURY
RENDALL SCHOOL

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

The community of Haileybury Rendall School acknowledges and pays respect to the Traditional Custodians of the Land on which it is based, the Larrakia People, and pays respect to the Elders — past, present and future.



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About Haileybury Rendall School

At Haileybury Rendall School we are dedicated to creating a nurturing environment where 'Every student matters every day'.

Vision

To be recognised as a great world school.

The Instrumental Music program aims to be a leading example of quality music education through the provision of individual lessons on a variety of instruments, high quality ensemble programs, and both internal and external performance opportunities.

Mission

To deliver an exceptional educational experience that fosters the growth of each student through leading teaching and learning programs, a wide array of opportunities, within a culture of high expectations, empowering students to excel.

Introduction to Instrumental Music

Instrumental music forms an integral part of the Haileybury Rendall School's music program, allowing students the opportunity to express their creativity through learning an instrument in an individual lesson environment. Students who enrol in the Instrumental Music program are also expected to participate fully in the ensembles on offer as a means of rounding out their instrumental music experience at school.

Individual tuition provides the platform for each student to receive personalised instruction from a specialist in their field of music. This ensures every child's progress is tailored to their learning style, speed of comprehension and physical development.

"Musical activity involves nearly every region of the brain that we know about, and nearly every neural subsystem."

Daniel Levitin

Over the past two decades, several large-scale studies have found that instrumental music students outperform academically compared to other students, and often by large margins.

Instrumental music study leads to lasting changes in children's brains, increasing their capacity to perform tasks that require sustained attention, careful listening and reading. Parents can be confident that an investment in music lessons will deliver lifelong benefits for their child.

Instrumental Music program

Lessons

Instrumental music lessons are offered on a weekly basis, in addition to the class music program offered by Haileybury Rendall School.

The following instruments are available to learn:

Instrument	Available from	Ensemble
Violin	Transition to Year 12	String Ensemble
Viola	Transition to Year 12	String Ensemble
Cello	Transition to Year 12	String Ensemble
Double Bass	Transition to Year 12	String Ensemble
Piano	Transition to Year 12	Choir or Percussion Ensemble
Trumpet	Year 3 to Year 12	Concert Band or Symphony Orchestra
Flute	Year 5 to Year 12	Concert Band or Symphony Orchestra
Clarinet	Year 5 to Year 12	Concert Band or Symphony Orchestra
Saxophone	Year 5 to Year 12	Concert Band or Symphony Orchestra
Euphonium	Year 5 to Year 12	Concert Band or Symphony Orchestra
Trombone	Year 5 to Year 12	Concert Band or Symphony Orchestra
Percussion	Year 5 to Year 12	Percussion Ensemble, Concert Band or Symphony Orchestra
Classical Guitar	Year 5 to Year 12	Contemporary Ensemble
Electric Guitar	Year 5 to Year 12	Contemporary Ensemble
Bass Guitar	Year 5 to Year 12	Contemporary Ensemble, Concert Band or Symphony Orchestra
Voice	Year 5 to Year 12	Choir

Ensembles

Ensemble learning is designed to support your child's musical journey, providing many rich and memorable experiences that accelerate learning and build a sense of responsibility. As part of learning to play an instrument, students are required to take part in one of the large ensembles offered at Haileybury Rendall School. Instrumental tutors will advise when students have reached the appropriate level to participate in an ensemble.

All ensembles perform at least once a semester within the Haileybury Rendall School environment. In addition to this, there are often opportunities to perform at professional venues such as the Waterfront, Darwin Entertainment Centre, the Darwin Convention Centre and the Nightcliff Seabreeze Festival.

Ensembles are included in the lesson fee for those students enrolled in individual lessons. Students who learn a musical instrument outside the school are also welcome to participate at a cost of \$500 per year*.

**Fireflies and Contento Choirs are the exception as they are paid for by the School and offered free to any student wishing to sing in a group environment.*

Day	Time	Ensemble – Terms 1, 2 & 3
Monday	2.50 pm – 3.50 pm	Animato Strings
Monday	3.00 pm – 3.50 pm	Voice Master Class (not available during School Musical time)
Tuesday	Lunchtime	Fireflies Choir
Thursday	Lunchtime	Percussion Ensemble B
Thursday	3.00 pm – 4.30 pm	Symphony Orchestra
Thursday	3.00 pm – 4.00 pm	Chamber Strings
Thursday	3.00 pm – 4.00 pm	Concert Band
Friday	7.45 am – 8.25 am	Contento Choir

In-class instrumental music lessons

In addition to our individual lesson program, students are exposed to various instruments at Year 2 (strings) and Years 5 and 6 (wind and brass). This allows students to try out various instruments in an engaging and safe environment before enrolling in individual tuition.

Year 2 Strings program

All Year 2 students participate in the Year 2 Strings program. This program provides lessons in small groups and orchestral training for beginners. Students learn violin, viola or cello for a semester. Group tuition is included as part of the curriculum; therefore, no tuition or hire charges will be incurred. Parents can also enrol their child in individual tuition during Year 2, but normal tuition and hire fees (if appropriate) will be charged.

Years 5 and 6 Band program

All Years 5 and 6 students participate in the Band program, learning in an ensemble setting during classroom music for one semester. Students are offered the opportunity to play flute, clarinet, saxophone, trumpet, trombone, euphonium and bass guitar in small group lessons. Specialist teachers for each instrument work with the students in small groups. Students play together in one large band. Group tuition is included as part of the curriculum; therefore, no tuition or hire charges will be incurred. Parents can also enrol their child in individual tuition during this time, but normal tuition and hire fees (if appropriate) will be charged.

Health, wellbeing and personal development

Giving focused attention to each individual student's health, wellbeing and personal development is central to all we do. Building strong, supportive and nurturing relationships is essential in our daily practices and provides the foundation for our students to develop and thrive in a complex and everchanging landscape.

A pre-requisite for effective learning is that the students are happy and confident within their school environment. For Instrumental Music students, this means having teachers and tutors they trust and respect, a quality curriculum that challenges them to higher standards and a network of friends with like-minded interests.

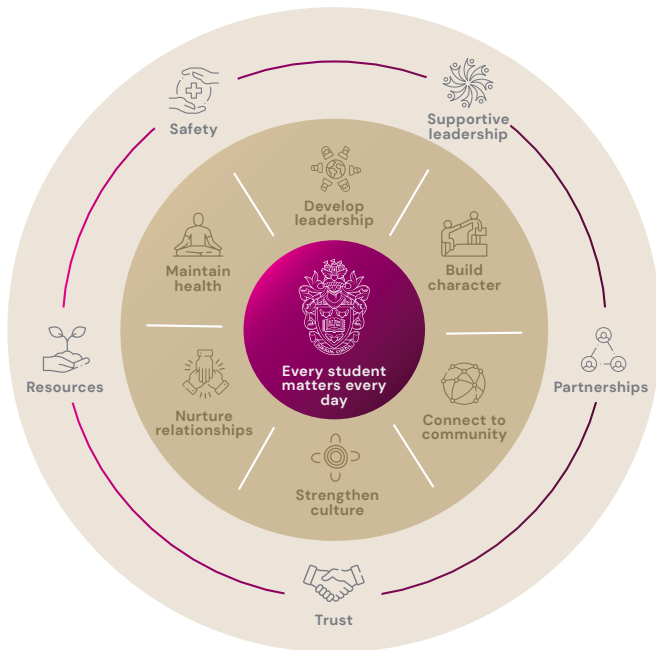
Students are supported in establishing friendships and, through participation in lessons and ensembles, are given ample opportunity to make new friends and interact positively with students across multiple year levels.

A multitude of research over the past 15 to 20 years has shown that from early childhood through to retirement years, whether involved in recreational music making or training for a professional career, people who are engaged in music lessons are more adept at personal connection, have higher functioning cognitive skills and have a greater sense of identity.





Our priority is to develop, build and strengthen the capabilities of our students to ensure we live out our principle that 'Every student matters every day'. Ultimately, by engaging in instrumental music lessons, students will have the skills, knowledge and understanding to be confident learners who succeed throughout the remainder of their school and in later life.



Haileybury Rendall School Health and Wellbeing Framework

Terms and conditions

Lessons

Students are to receive a minimum of eight lessons per term. Lessons may not be possible in weeks during a major concert, Musical or Speech Night rehearsal, during exams, or due to public holidays, school-based excursions, etc.

Lessons occur during class time and are rotated as fully as possible to ensure fairness for all students. A timetable will be emailed to both parent and student at the beginning of each term. It is the student's responsibility to check their lesson time.

Occasionally a change of time is necessary, usually due to the busy nature of school activities. A change of time will be notified by the music teacher.

Lessons before and after school are limited and prioritised

for senior students. These lessons will only be allocated in consultation with the Head of Music.

Lessons are not available during lunchtime as teachers are often involved in ensemble programs, rehearsals, or other staff commitments during these times.

Lessons are not available during school holidays or at weekends.

Up to and including Year 6, students are escorted to and from their classrooms by their music teacher. From Year 7, students are expected to make their own way to music lessons.

Students are not required to enrol each year for the same instrument as enrolment continues from one year to the next.

Lesson length

Lesson length will depend on age and stage of learning. To begin with, students up to Year 6 are offered a 30 minute lesson. From Year 7 onwards, 45 minutes will be offered. These times can be negotiated between both parent and teacher. The length of lesson will be communicated at the commencement of the first lesson, and again when a variation is needed.

Absence

If your child cannot attend a lesson, please ensure the music teacher is advised, giving as much notice as possible. Please email the instrumental teacher directly.

If your child will be absent for an extended period, please contact the Head of Music to discuss suspension of lessons.

Parents will be contacted should a student miss consecutive timetabled lessons.

Tuition fees

Music tuition fees cover weekly individual lessons (minimum eight per term), one ensemble lesson, one tutor book per year, accompaniment for exams (if appropriate) and one music practice journal.

Lesson type	Lesson length	Total per annum
Individual tuition	30 mins	\$2,109
Individual tuition	45 mins	\$3,061

*Instruments are provided for the Year 2 Strings program, and the Years 5 or 6 Band program. Instrument hire is only charged for students continuing with individual lessons.

Fees are charged per term, for a full term of eight lessons

(minimum) *even if the student withdraws during the term.* Fees are charged each term to your school account in arrears.

Term	Fees due
1	Last day Term 1
2	Last day Term 2
3	Last day Term 3
4	Last day Term 4

Discontinuation of music lessons

One full term's notice is required to discontinue instrumental music lessons. Please note that lesson fees are billed per term, and you will be charged for a full term of tuition regardless of what point in the term the student withdraws. Please provide notice in writing by emailing the Head of Music. It is strongly recommended that you and your child speak to their music teacher before providing notice.

Equipment

Each student is issued with a music practice diary and a tutor book each year. The music practice diary is used for communication between the music teacher and the parent/guardian, and we ask that you check and sign this each week. The teacher also uses the music diary to indicate the lesson plan, homework and time of the next lesson.

Instruments

The Music Department is unable to purchase instruments on behalf of students but is happy to give advice regarding the purchase of an instrument.

Orchestral strings, brass and woodwind instruments are available for hire at a flat fee of \$475 per year (\$118.75 per term), billed separately to the tuition fee. Pianos, guitars, drum kits and percussion are not available for hire.

After the first year, students are expected to have their own instrument; however, larger instruments such as the euphonium may be hired for longer periods.

The hire fee covers routine maintenance and basic accessories. Costs arising from loss or damage caused by negligence will be charged to the School account.

Piano students must have access to a well-maintained acoustic piano, or a full-sized electric piano with 88

weighted, touch sensitive keys and a sustain pedal. A height-adjustable stool, as well as annual tuning for acoustic pianos, is recommended.

Insurance

The School insurance policy covers damage to, or loss of School-owned instruments only, provided that due care has been demonstrated by the student. Parents are strongly encouraged to insure personal (i.e. not School-owned) instruments as they are not covered by School insurance

Reporting

Students who participate in individual lessons will receive regular updates via the MyLearning app. A report will be issued at the end of the school year, in conjunction with academic reports.

Feedback on student learning can be accessed at other times via the music practice diary or by contacting the student's instrumental teacher via email. The Head of Music is best placed to facilitate face to face contact with an instrumental teacher.

Australian Music Examination Board (AMEB) exams

Although not compulsory, students are encouraged to prepare for and sit AMEB exams when they are ready. Haileybury Rendall School enters students for theory and practical music exams.

Enrolment process

The enrolment process begins by the teacher consulting with the student and parent as to the readiness of the student and the level of examination they will sit. Parents will then be contacted by our exam supervisor to confirm student details and cost of exam. Parents must submit both the completed consent form and the payment to the front office before the due date for enrolment, for the enrolment to proceed.

Practical examinations

Haileybury Rendall School enters students for AMEB Sessions in May and October. Examinations are held at School.

Accompanists

The School provides an accompanist for practical examinations. There will be at least two 30 minute practice rehearsals with the accompanist prior to an examination. This is in addition to the weekly lesson.

Music Theory examinations

The Music Theory examinations are externally conducted and administered by the AMEB. These examinations are conducted online at a date deemed suitable by the student's teacher.

Supporting your child

In addition to the concert calendar, music students also have access to exciting learning experiences throughout the year. Allowing your child to attend Masterclasses and workshops, enables them to work with local and internationally renowned musicians to improve technical and performance skills and inspire new learning.

Your support in terms of the establishment, encouragement and maintenance of a regular home practice routine and a commitment to the ensemble program, assists greatly with the development of every child, and the learning culture established within the department.

Your family's attendance at concerts is so valuable. It allows your child to proudly perform to a supportive audience. It is also a great way to meet other families and music staff.

Lifelong musicians

Students can continue to develop their interest and skills in music through classroom music and in Senior School VCE and VET subjects, either as a precursor to a music related tertiary course, or to simply provide balance within their broader studies.

Music graduates can obtain work in orchestras and bands, in musical theatre, opera, as freelance artists, composers and more. They may also teach either privately, in schools or at tertiary level. Sound technicians can work in sound or lighting design for theatre or television and live events.

You do not need to formally study music to join orchestras, bands and choirs at university and beyond.

Contact us

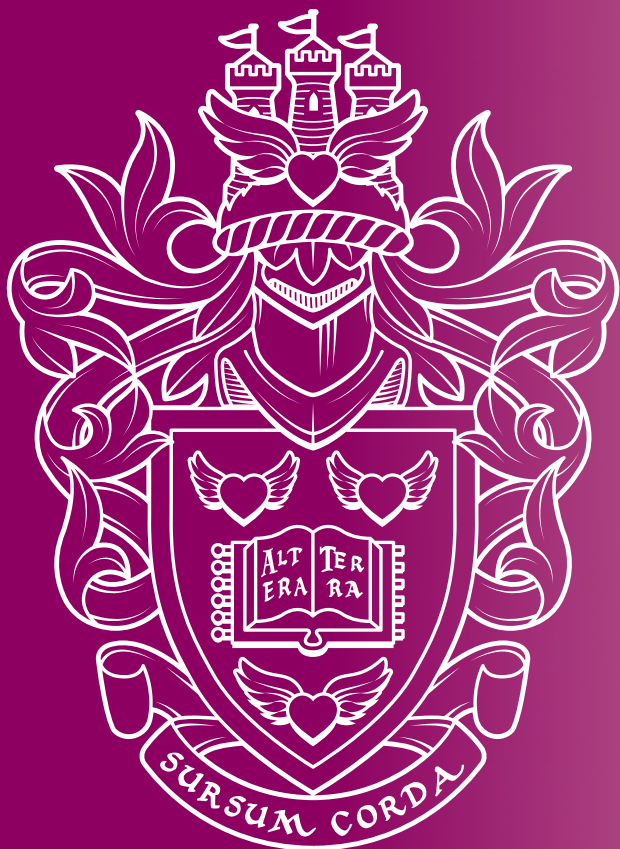
For further information about the Haileybury Rendall School's Instrumental Music program, please contact us:

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