

ENGAGING MINDS

IGNITING HEARTS

SERVING OTHERS



MARY
MACKILLOP
CATHOLIC
COLLEGE

75 Highfields Road, Highfields Q 4352

P 4698 7777 **E** highfields@twb.catholic.edu.au



Instrumental Music Handbook

Contents

- GOALS** 3
- ASSESSMENT** 4
- COMMUNICATION** 4
- INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC TUITION** 5
 - Absenteeism 5
 - Fees and Enrolment Permission 5
 - Further enrolment details 6
 - Lesson Timetables 6
 - Storage 6
 - Termination of Lessons 7
- PERFORMANCE ENSEMBLES** 8
 - Expectations of Ensemble Members 8
 - Performances 8



AIMS

The Mary MacKillop Catholic College Instrumental Music Program promotes process-based education in an educational and safe environment. It provides the opportunity for students to develop learning skills, self-esteem and a lifelong involvement in music. The instrumental music program will develop in students the ability to work effectively through such traits as persistence, cooperation, teamwork, responsibility and a positive work ethic that will promote scholarship in other areas of education. Opportunities will be given to students for self-expression and self-discovery in music, fostering a respect for and appreciation of cultural developments, and an awareness of its aesthetic values.

Music enhances the process of learning. The systems it nourishes, which include our integrated sensory, attention, cognitive, emotional and motor capacities, are shown to be the driving forces behind all other learning.

— From Empathy, Arts and Social Studies, 2000; Konrad, R.R.

The aims of the instrumental music program are:

1. To provide an opportunity for the musical development of students through instrumental instruction on a private or small group basis.
2. To provide ensemble experience for students, which will enable them to develop ensemble performance skills as an integral part of their music education.
3. To encourage solo and ensemble performances by students in order to develop confidence and independence in performing.
4. Through music, to develop a sense of artistry, expression and aesthetic sensitivity.
5. To support and compliment the whole-school music program.

GOALS

The goals of the instrumental music program are:

1. To offer students the opportunity to explore and develop their musical abilities through playing an instrument and participating in ensembles.
2. To enhance the student's enjoyment of music by enabling them to respond with deeper understanding and sensitivity gained through a knowledge of melodic and rhythmic properties.
3. To involve students by catering to their individual musical ability and needs.
4. To motivate the students to explore and recognise a variety of musical literature.
5. To discover the value of music as a mode of expression while at school, and in preparation for a life-long leisure activity or vocation.

ASSESSMENT

A comprehensive report on student progress will be provided at the conclusion of each semester. The report will include assessment of performance: musicality, technique, knowledge and understanding and behaviour as assessed by the instrumental teacher on a lesson-by-lesson basis and by an examination assessed by the tutor. If students are working towards external assessments through AMEB, ANZCA or Trinity College, progress and results of these examinations will guide student reports.

COMMUNICATION

All communication and enquires regarding Music tuition should be directed to the Middle Leader – The Arts and Student Engagement.

They can be reached by phone [\(07\) 4698 7777](tel:0746987777) or by email HIGART@twb.catholic.edu.au



INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC TUITION

Lessons are organised on a term basis, with the expected provision of approximately eight lessons per term. Lessons are typically 30 minutes duration but can be longer by request.

Lessons are conducted during class time with some options for lessons during breaks, before, and after school available at the tutor's discretion and availability.

Absenteeism

Students and their families are responsible for reporting any absence from lessons in a timely manner. This includes general absence from school, or involvement in other activities that prevent their attendance.

Absence can be communicated by phone [\(07\)4698 7777](tel:(07)4698 7777) or by email HIGART@twb.catholic.edu.au

Fees are non-refundable in the event of student absence, but will be rescheduled where possible if absence is communicated in advance. If reasonable notice is not given (more than 24hrs in the case of foreseeable circumstances and asap in the case of emergencies) the fees for that lesson are forfeit. Rescheduling of lessons is limited by the availability of the tutor; in the event a lesson is unable to be rescheduled within that term the fees for that lesson are forfeit.

The only exceptions for refunds are tutor absence and mandatory College incursions. Where these cannot be rescheduled, they will be automatically applied as credit to the next term's fees.

Fees and Enrolment Permission

Music tuition fees are added to your school account at the start of each term. They will appear as a separate charge item on your account notice. Payment of these fees align with the guidelines of College account payments set out by the Finance Department. If your account is in arrears at the end of the term, the College reserves the right to cancel your child's Music tuition for any subsequent term of enrolment.

LESSON TYPE	COST
INDIVIDUAL LESSON	\$320 p/term
GROUP LESSON	\$220 p/term

These fees are determined with reference to the Music Teacher's Association of Queensland guidelines and are reviewed annually.

Further enrolment details

- Group tuition consists of 2-3 students chosen based on similar proficiency .
- As group lessons are dependent on finding a suitable group match and are not guaranteed to be available.
- Teachers may elect to end group tuition at the end of a term based on emerging differences of ability over time.
- Once a student has reached grade 3 AMEB, ANZCA or Trinity College level of achievement, they are required to have individual lessons.
- It is HIGHLY RECOMMENDED for students in 5th grade or above to have hour-long lessons to achieve requirements and standards for these advanced levels.
- Students preparing for examinations or other solo performances may also be required to pay out-of-pocket fees for the examination and use of an accompanist (to be organised privately).
- Tutors may require students to purchase additional materials to allow them to learn pieces suited to their interests or higher-graded/international examinations

Lesson Timetables

- Timetables will be sent to individual students as well as being physically posted on the Music Room notice board. Timetables can be emailed to a parent/guardian email address if requested.
- It is the responsibility of the student to check their lesson times for the following week and write their lesson time into their diary. This record is also used by classroom teachers to verify that a lesson is scheduled.
- Although every attempt is made to keep lesson times on the same day from week to week, lesson times often change due to excursions, camps, public holidays and other College activities.
- Lesson timetables are negotiated early in the first semester each year. If students have a clash with their lesson time they are encouraged to negotiate a more suitable time with their instructor as early as possible.

Storage

All instruments, when not in use, should be stored in the storeroom or tutor room within the Music Department and must be clearly labelled. The College will not be held liable for lost or stolen instruments.

Termination of Lessons

Should you decide to withdraw your child from instrumental lessons, it is necessary that such notice of withdrawal is communicated directly to the Middle Leader - The Arts and Student Engagement.

It is recommended that before a student is withdrawn from tuition that a conversation is had with the Middle Leader - The Arts and Student Engagement to identify any rectifiable issues that lead to the end of a student's lessons. Students will often assume that difficulties in their tuition cannot be addressed; however, these can often be an opportunity to develop a student in their learning journey by addressing their concerns and ensuring that the lessons meet their educational needs.

If notification is not received before the end of a term withdrawing them from lessons, their enrolment will automatically roll over into the following term and full term fees will be charged. This allows the College to meet its contractual obligations with part-time instrumental staff.



PERFORMANCE ENSEMBLES

ENSEMBLE FEE	\$60 PER STUDENT EACH SEMESTER
This fee is to cover tuition costs, photocopying, uniforms (where required) and entries to competitions and festivals. It is a single charge that covers any number of ensembles a student may be involved in. This fee does not include any transport and accommodation fees, which will be calculated for individual events.	

Expectations of Ensemble Members

As a member of a Mary MacKillop Catholic College Instrumental ensemble, students are required to adhere to the following terms and conditions:

1. Attend all designated performances and rehearsals. Attendance at a rehearsal is required even if you are unable to play/sing due to health reasons on that day. Where attendance is not possible notification is required to the appropriate ensemble director.
2. Failure to attend two performances will result in a meeting with the Middle Leader - The Arts and Student Engagement to discuss continuation within the ensemble.
3. It is expected that all students participate to their full potential during the rehearsal. Full concentration on both the music and the ensemble director is expected. Appropriate behaviour is expected at all times.
4. Students will be required to practise the music given in preparation for fluent ensemble rehearsals and bring all accessories (including music and a pencil) necessary.
5. Students must ensure they are seated and ready to start at the designated rehearsal time. Students should arrive 10 minutes before the rehearsal commences so they can warm up and prepare for the rehearsal.
6. Co-operation is expected in the setting up and packing down at rehearsals and performances.
7. The student is expected to take care of all sheet music handed out, throughout the year.

Performances

Proposed dates for the year are posted in the MMCC Calendar at the beginning of each College term. As much forward notice as possible is also given of a special event, such as requests to play for concerts, festivals, etc., through notes, emails, and the College newsletter. Any College commitment must take priority over a commitment with an outside group. Any concerns about the impact of any performances on a student's academic or social well-being should be discussed with the Middle Leader – The Arts & Student Engagement.