



ORMISTON COLLEGE

Pathway to Performance

Beginner Band and Wind Ensemble

2026 and 2027



Pathway to Performance

Pathway to Performance is an immersive two-year band experience commencing at Year 5 for students wishing to learn a band instrument. The program is designed to provide an engaging and rigorous instrumental music education that prepares our emerging maestros for the rigours of Co-curricular Music in Secondary School and beyond.

Enrolment

On **Thursday 11 September**, our Year 2, 4 and 6 cohorts will attend the Junior School Recruitment Concert. Students will enjoy performances by Bellas, Big Band, Symphony Strings, Wind Symphony, and Redbacks, designed to inspire their musical journey. **After the concert, all Year 4 students will receive a link to submit an application for consideration.**

With only **40 places** available in 2026, students will be selected based on their application, commitment, enthusiasm and instrument suitability testing. Students awarded a position will be invited to attend **Instrument Testing on Thursday 9 October.**

At this event, students will have the opportunity to try a range of instruments. Core instruments include the flute, clarinet, saxophone, trumpet and trombone. In addition, students demonstrating *strong commitment* and *musical aptitude* may also be offered the chance to explore bassoon, tuba, French horn and oboe. This experience will support students in finding their best fit, while enjoying the excitement of making music for the first time.

On **Tuesday 21 October**, students who complete their trial will be invited, together with their families, to attend our Pathway to Performance Celebration. At this event, they will hear our current Beginner Band and Wind Ensemble perform, and will be officially welcomed to Pathway to Performance.

Pathway to Performance - First Year

Successful students are welcomed to the program as members of **Beginner Band**. Each week, students complete a one-hour rehearsal under the guidance of their ensemble director and are supported by a Music Tuition Specialist. This weekly rehearsal, occurring on **Wednesday** mornings from 7.15am to 8.15am, will develop ensemble playing, build collaboration skills and hone technique in preparation for regular performances.

Students will also undertake a weekly 30-minute small group lesson on their instrument with a Music Tuition Specialist. This direct instruction will ensure students refine the technical skills required to excel on their chosen instrument and consolidate their ensemble music. These lessons will run at either **8.15am to 8.45am** or **3.30pm to 4.00pm** on a **Thursday** or **Friday**. Exact times will depend on Music Tuition Specialist availability and will be communicated at the commencement of 2026.

Students receive access to an instrument for the full two years.

Throughout the year, our Beginner Band performs at the following events:

- A Little Night of Music
- Redlands Eisteddfod
- Gala
- Pathway to Performance Celebration
- Junior School Music Tour

At the conclusion of the first year in our Pathway to Performance experience, students graduate from Beginner Band into Wind Ensemble. The cost of participation in the first year of the program was **\$200** per term in 2025. This covers the cost of music tuition, music resources, instrument servicing and hire. Fees for 2026 will be confirmed soon.

Pathway to Performance - Second Year

Students continue their instrumental education as members of **Wind Ensemble**. Like their first year, students complete a one-hour rehearsal each week under the guidance of their ensemble director and supported by a Music Tuition Specialist. This weekly rehearsal, occurring on a **Monday** morning from **7.15am** to **8.15am**, will be used to further develop ensemble playing, introduce full ensemble pieces and refine instrument technique.

Students continue to undertake a weekly 30-minute small group lesson on their instrument with a Music Tuition Specialist. This direct instruction will build on the skills taught in their first year of learning. These lessons will run at either **8.15am to 8.45am** or **3.30pm to 4.00pm** on a **Wednesday** or **Thursday**. Exact times will depend on Music Tuition Specialist availability and will be communicated at the commencement of 2026.

As an additional offering, select students are invited to join **Jazz Band**, our entry level Jazz Program ensemble that performs swing, rock, pop and Latin repertoire. Jazz Band will run on a **Thursday** morning from **7.15am** to **8.15am**.

Students receive access to an instrument for the full two years.

Throughout the year, our Wind Ensemble performs at the following events:

- A Little Night of Music
- Redlands Eisteddfod
- Gala
- Pathway to Performance Celebration
- Junior School Music Tour

At the conclusion of their second year, students graduate from Wind Ensemble and move into Wind Orchestra and individual or paired music tuition. Students participating in Jazz Band will graduate to Stage Band.

The cost of participation in the second year of the program was **\$200** per term in 2025. This covers the cost of music tuition, music resources, instrument servicing and hire. Fees for 2026 will be confirmed soon.

We look forward to sharing our application link later this week. If you have any further questions, please email music@ormistoncollege.com.au.

We look forward to welcoming your child into our wonderful world of music and commencing their instrumental music journey.

Kind regards,

Jason Taggart
Dean of Music