

St Brendan-Shaw College

By faith & deed



Catholic Primary Schools Instrumental Music Program

2025 INFORMATION



Introduction

This Information Booklet gives both parents and students a brief overview of the instrumental music activities on offer beyond the regular classroom music lessons in Devonport and surrounding Catholic Primary Schools.

The primary schools strongly encourage students in Grades 4-6 to become involved in such activities for their own personal enrichment, and also to maximise their enjoyment of their school years. Students who have chosen to take up these opportunities usually end up getting more out of their primary education than perhaps some others. In making the choice to become involved, they take responsibility for their development and progress in a more holistic way, and will be well rewarded.

Remember though, learning a musical instrument is a big commitment, but one that can shape your life forever and provide you with wonderful opportunities.

I truly hope that your child gets as much enjoyment from music as I do.

Mr Gerry Peters

Instrumental Music Coordinator

The Benefits of Music

Music is a wonderful skill for any child, but research shows how learning music can help your child in so many more ways:

- Improved reasoning capacity and problem-solving skills
- Improved maths and language performance
- Better memory
- Greater social and team skills.

Why should my child learn music?

- Music is an excellent accomplishment and part of a well-rounded and balanced education.
- Learning music from an early age enables neural pathways to grow in ways that can help your child maximise the potential they were born with. Research shows that playing music can make significant differences to children's abilities related to learning, memory, and social interactions.

Instrumental Tuition

A wide variety of music tuition is available to all students with the opportunity to learn an instrument through the instrumental music program. Learning to speak the language of music is an important part of education, and a large proportion of students take the opportunity of tuition on a chosen instrument.

Music is a very 'social sport' and students are always encouraged to actively participate in the many opportunities available to them. It not only improves their skills, but also provides a sense of satisfaction and achievement. This usually reflects achievement in other areas of their life also.

Annual Fee

Includes:

- Instrument hire and music
- Small group tuition (60 minutes weekly)
- A program that runs over the entire year
- Lessons held at your primary school*
- Lessons held at the same time every week

Fees are charged by your Primary School. For more information, contact your school accounts office.

- \$760 - 2025 Tuition fee (full year)

**Any arrangements made where students travel to another school are not the responsibility of St Brendan-Shaw College.*

Instrument Hire

The following instruments are available for hire:

BAND	STRINGS
Flute Clarinet Saxophone	Violin* Cello*
Trumpet Trombone Euphonium	

*Hire fees are incurred for the whole year. *Due to staff availability, strings tuition will be available to Sacred Heart students from Term 3 in 2025.*

All instruments must be returned to the Primary School by the specified date (following the St Brendan-Shaw College Annual Concert).

Upon issue of an instrument, the following expectations will apply:

- It is the student's responsibility to keep the instrument secure at all times – at home, school, and whilst in transit;
- Students are not permitted under any circumstances to loan their instrument to other students or to make exchanges;
- Printed music books and other bulky materials are not to be placed inside the instrument case, unless there is special provision;
- The cost of repair to an instrument will be the student's responsibility if the damage was a direct result of student neglect;
- Many instruments come with accessories, for example, all violins are issued with shoulder rests and rosin. It is the student's responsibility to ensure the security of these accessories as well as the instrument itself.
- For health and safety reasons, it is the student's responsibility to purchase their own cleaning equipment from Barratts Music, and to regularly clean their instrument. Local music stores also stock reeds, tutor books, manuscripts, music diaries and many other necessary items.
- Parents can choose to purchase instruments if they wish. Please seek advice from the Music Staff before purchasing an instrument.

Music Program Enrolment Form

Please see the below link for the 2025 Instrumental Music Program Enrolment Form.

Link: <https://sbsc.me/4fwTmfh>

CAN'T ACCESS THE LINK?

- Copy the link and paste it into your internet browser address bar.
- Use a different internet browser.
- Use a different device (preferably not a mobile phone) to either click on or copy and paste the link into your internet browser.
- Check your internet browser settings to ensure your security restrictions allow pop-up windows.

Performance Opportunities

Soirées and Concerts

These events take place in the Genesis Centre at St Brendan-Shaw College, Devonport.

Music Soirées - Music Soirées (Gatherings) are held twice a year. All students, regardless of their standard or experience, can perform at a Soirée if they wish. They must have a piece well prepared and ready for performances – the tutors advise the Program Director of students willing and ready to perform.

Workshop Days - Combined schools Workshop Days will be held throughout the year in preparation for the end-of-year concert.

Major Concert - A combined schools Major Concert will be held for all invited guests, students, staff, parents, and friends at the end of the year.

General Information

Practice

For students to gain the most benefit from music tuition it is recommended that they practice for 5-10 minutes each day in their first year. Spasmodic practice is of little or no use, and it is the regular playing and rehearsing which produces results. The ‘fun’ comes after the hard work, not the other way around!

It is beneficial for parents to be involved in listening to practice as students respond more positively when this occurs. Parents don’t need to be able to read or understand music, just listen, and encourage.

Student Absences

Students are responsible for attendance at all scheduled lessons. Families who opt to take holidays during term time are still expected to pay for tuition if enrolled.

Cessation of Tuition

Students who enrol in music tuition, do so for the whole year and may only opt to cease tuition at the end of that year. To cease a student’s tuition, an email must be sent to music@sbsc.tas.edu.au

Refunds will not be given to students who fail to attend lessons, as the tutor will still need to receive payment for their time and are contracted for the school year.

Notes & Conditions of Tuition

1. Parents and Students are expected to observe the Notes & Conditions of Tuition, to maintain a happy and trusting relationship during the student's course of music tuition. It is understood that these Conditions have been fully read, understood, and accepted when tuition is confirmed, and the student attends their first lesson.
2. Accounts for all tuition expenses will be issued by your Primary School.
3. If payment is not received within the payment period, enrolments may be affected in the future.
4. As the weekly lesson time is reserved in advance, especially for each group, it is not possible to re-arrange or make up lessons when the student is unable to attend. Lessons missed due to the school events are forfeited. Fees will not be refunded or credited.
5. The tutor will decide upon the course of study suitable for the student. In all cases, professional decisions based on experience and expertise will be made in the best interests of the student. Students are always expected to perfect all set requirements before proceeding to new material.
6. Involvement in extra activities and attendance at concerts, all arranged to benefit and further develop the student's overall musical development, are a measure of the students' and parents' enthusiasm and should be considered an integral part of the student's tuition.
7. It must be understood that students are enrolled for a full academic year. Should a student wish to withdraw, you will still be liable to pay the full annual fee. Any fee-related issues are to be discussed with your primary school.