

MUSIC AND SPEECH TUITION 2021



We foster an interest in and appreciation of music through the Classroom Music Program, musical productions, services, House Music, guest artists, workshops, school singing and excursions. We also offer an extensive Instrumental, Vocal and Theory Tuition Program.

Our Music Department comprises full time teachers and part time instrumental staff. These specialists offer private tuition in orchestral, concert and contemporary band instruments, as well as voice and music theory lessons. Lessons are conducted during the school day and parents are billed each semester.

CO-CURRICULAR MUSIC ACTIVITIES

WOODWIND	MINIMUM YEAR LEVEL	BRASS	MINIMUM YEAR LEVEL	STRINGS	MINIMUM YEAR LEVEL	OTHER	MINIMUM YEAR LEVEL
Flute	4	Trumpet	4	Violin	2	Classical Voice	7
Oboe	5	French Horn	5	Viola	2	Contemporary Voice	8
Clarinet	4	Trombone	5	Cello	2	Percussion	4
Alto Saxophone	4	Euphonium	5	Double Bass	5	Piano	2
Tenor Saxophone	5	Tuba	7	Harp	4	Speech and Drama	2
Baritone Saxophone	8			Guitar	5		
Bassoon	5			Bass Guitar	5		

Music Theory lessons are also offered as shared* or individual lessons. (Minimum Recommended Year level – 4).

Note: Extra-curricular activities are not offered to students in Pre-Prep, Prep or Year 1 except under exceptional circumstances and with the permission of the relevant Head of Junior School and the Director of Music.

COMMENCING INSTRUMENTAL, VOCAL AND THEORY TUITION

Students may commence lessons at the beginning of any term, depending upon the availability of a teacher and timetabling. Application should be made before the end of the previous term. It is recommended that students begin tuition at the start of the year, so that a regular practice routine may be immediately incorporated into their study timetable.

NUMBER OF LESSONS AND LESSON DURATION

Parents will be charged for **16 lessons per semester**, giving a total of 32 lessons for the year. * As the school’s academic teaching programs continue through to the beginning of December, the expectation is that Music and Speech and Drama lessons also will continue to this time. There are occasions when a student receives their allocated 32 lessons prior to December, in which case, a letter will be sent to parents seeking consent to charge for the additional lessons. Most lessons are 30 minutes; however, it is recommended that advanced students receive 45 or 60 minute lessons, as advised by their individual teachers. Students attempting Instrumental or Vocal Examinations at AMEB Grade 4 level and above will require individual lessons of 45 or 60 minutes duration. Students undertaking VCE or IB music in Years 11 and 12 are expected to enrol for 60 minute lessons.

TIMETABLE

Lessons are generally given during class time. Timetabling priority is given to VCE or IB students who may require a lesson during a free period, before school or at lunchtime. Junior School students in Years 2 and 3 are given a set time each week and are collected from the classroom by their instrumental teacher. Students from Years 4 to 10 are given rotating lesson times and are expected to make their own way to music lessons each week. Students are required to attend all the regularly scheduled lessons with their music, instrument, School Record Book and Music Record Book. It is the student’s responsibility to remember their lesson time each week. Timetables are displayed in the Music Department.

All Music students who learn an instrument or voice are *expected to participate in at least one teacher-directed, co-curricular, instrumental or vocal ensemble* when their skills permit this, usually within one year of tuition commencing. We offer a variety of vocal and instrumental ensembles, specialising in a wide range of music styles. Students who elect to learn woodwind, brass or percussion may participate in our Bands Program. Students who learn Strings participate in string ensembles, specific to their experience. We also offer open and auditioned Choirs, Jazz Bands, Chamber Ensembles, orchestras and instrument specific ensembles such as Woodwind, Brass, Guitar and Percussion Ensembles.

The following list indicates the recommended commencement levels.

SPEECH & DRAMA TUITION

The Speech and Drama program is designed to improve confidence and articulation in students. Classes encourage the use of imagination through movement and mime. The program aims to develop clear speech and improve skills in giving prepared and impromptu talks. There is also an emphasis on fluent reading and memorisation of passages from prose, poetry and drama. Students are encouraged to take an examination as a focus for the year’s work. EAL students are encouraged to take Speech and Drama lessons to develop their spoken English. This will assist them to become more confident when presenting talks in class and for general communication beyond school when fluent and clearly spoken English is essential.

SHARED LESSONS

Shared instrumental lessons are offered to beginner students only for the duration of one year and are subject to the availability of another student. Shared Theory lessons are offered to students of AMEB Grades 1–3 level and are subject to the availability of another student. Students attempting a Theory examination at AMEB Grade 4 level or higher will require individual 30 minute lessons.

MUSIC THEORY

Music Theory classes are recommended for students to supplement their practical studies. AMEB requires a Pass in Grade 2 Theory to award a Grade 6 Practical certification. Students commencing VCE or IB music are recommended to have completed AMEB Grade 4 Theory. Basic Music Theory is covered in instrumental lessons and we also offer a free ‘Music Theory Club’ service at lunchtime, one day per week. It is suggested that students of AMEB Grade 4 standard commence individual Music Theory lessons to satisfy pre-requisites for future instrumental examinations.

* In the event that a student has an injury preventing them from playing their instrument, they will be expected to attend their lesson to undertake theory tuition, aural training or to work on their general knowledge.

JUNIOR SCHOOL STUDENTS

Parents are asked to give careful consideration to the number of extra-curricular activities taken by their child. As a general rule, for Junior School students, it is suggested that only one extra activity per year be taken. Some parents of new students elect to wait twelve months before the student undertakes an extra-curricular activity at school. A Junior School student who wishes to enrol in one or more extra-curricular lessons does so at the discretion of the Head of the Junior School, who will approve each case according to its merits.

EXAMINATIONS

Whilst external examinations are not compulsory, they are highly recommended to motivate students and to provide an independent benchmark for their progress. A variety of examination pathways, such as AMEB and Trinity, are offered as recommended by the individual instrumental teacher. A minimum of two rehearsals with the accompanist are usually required for AMEB examinations. Charges apply for rehearsals and are included on the school fee account. Entrance fees for external examinations are also charged to the school fee account. Any refunds due will be paid to the school by AMEB and passed on to the family by the school.

MUSIC BOOKS AND ACCESSORIES

The Music Department can order music books and other accessories such as reeds, rosin, strings and valve oil as directed by the teacher. Costs for such purchases are charged to the school account.

FEES

Extra-curricular Music or Speech fees appear on the school fee accounts and are billed once per semester. **All fees cover 16 lessons per semester.** If a student has not received the prescribed number of lessons by the end of Term 4, the account will be credited accordingly in the final billing period of December.

INDIVIDUAL LESSONS	RECOMMENDED LESSON LENGTH	PER SEMESTER CHARGE 16 LESSONS
Instrumental up to AMEB Grade 3	30 minutes	\$696
Speech & Drama (Years 7–12)	30 minutes	\$696
AMEB Grade 4 +	45 minutes	\$1,024
VCE/IB Students	60 minutes	\$1,264

SHARED LESSONS	LESSON LENGTH	PER SEMESTER CHARGE 16 LESSONS
Theory (AMEB Grades 1–3 only)	30 minutes	\$440
Instrumental (Beginners only)	30 minutes	\$440
Speech & Drama (Years 2–12)	30 minutes	\$440

MISSED LESSONS

One week's notice is required to change a lesson because of an excursion or class test. Students are required to remain alert to the scheduling of tests or excursions which clash with their instrumental lessons and inform their teacher when the occasion arises. Where such clashes cannot be avoided, instrumental staff will be required to make up no more than two such lessons per student per year. Teachers are contracted to teach for an entire year based on student enrolments and, as such, are under *no obligation to make up lessons missed due to family holidays, illness or forgetfulness.* We do ask, however, that as a courtesy you inform the Music Department of illness which will result in absence from lessons.

When lessons are missed a letter or email will be sent home informing parents/guardians of the absence and reminding the student of the next lesson time.

DISCONTINUED LESSONS

Enrolling your child for Music or Speech & Drama tuition is considered a year-long commitment. It takes at least a year for a student to make informed decisions about their suitability for an instrument. If, due to extraordinary circumstances, a student wishes to discontinue, then parents should consult the Director of Music immediately. If a consensus is reached between the instrumental teacher, the student's parents and the Director and it is decided that a student cannot continue, then one term's notice in writing is required to be given to the Music Department or a term's fees will be charged in lieu of notice.

HIRE AND PURCHASE OF INSTRUMENTS

We offer beginner students the choice of hiring a school owned instrument. It is desirable, however, for each student to have their own instrument and, therefore, we ask students in consultation with their parents and teachers to purchase an instrument after one year of tuition. The school does not have available for hire acoustic guitars, pianos or percussion; however, we can make arrangements for students to use these instruments for practice during school hours. There is limited availability for hiring a harp.

Please feel welcome to contact the Music Department for any advice with regard to purchasing new or second hand instruments.

INSTRUMENTS FOR HIRE (SUBJECT TO AVAILABILITY)

Flute, Oboe, Clarinet, Bassoon, Alto Saxophone, Tenor Saxophone, Trumpet, French Horn, Trombone, Euphonium, Harp, Violin, Viola, Cello, Double Bass.

INSTRUMENT HIRE

1st Year Hire	\$120 per semester
2nd Year Hire	\$150 per semester
3rd Year Hire	\$180 per semester
4th Year	Hire as arranged with the Director of Music

RESPONSIBILITY FOR A HIRED INSTRUMENT

Students must be responsible for looking after the instrument during the time the instrument is on loan. Students are instructed to label the instrument with a keyring label with their name and phone number. Parents are responsible for any loss of or damage to a loaned instrument whether this occurs at home, in transit or at school. Repairs to a damaged instrument or the replacement of a lost instrument will be co-ordinated by the school's Music Department. The cost of repairs or the replacement cost of an instrument will be placed on a student's account.

INSURANCE

Private instruments are to be insured by the owner. The school will not accept any responsibility for loss or damage either in transit or on school premises. It is highly advisable to include any hired instruments in your household insurance cover.

STORAGE OF INSTRUMENTS AT SCHOOL

Students are not to store instruments in classrooms or locker areas or to leave instruments at school overnight. Specific storage areas are provided for instruments while at school during the day. For secure storage of instruments, music lockers are available for hire for Secondary School students at a cost of \$10 per term. Students are reminded to clearly mark their instruments with their name and contact details.

MUSIC DEPARTMENT

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