



Instrumental Music Handbook 2023

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St Ursula's College Instrumental Music Program

Music Education is a vital ingredient for a holistic education: Music stimulates academic excellence, motivation, discipline, self-esteem, teamwork and fun.

At St Ursula's College, the Instrumental Music Team is dedicated to providing students with a comprehensive and extensive Music program, encouraging them to join Choir, Jazz band, String group as well as specialised ensembles. Students are also encouraged to sit Practical and Theory Music Exams with the Australian Music Examination Board (AMEB) but have the option of learning just for enjoyment. An understanding, appreciation, and love of Music is something students can take with them throughout their lives.

Lesson Times

Tuition is conducted during class time and consists of one 30-minute lesson per week. The time slot is rotated throughout the term so students avoid missing the same lesson each week. Some tutors also provide lesson times before and after school, though these time slots are limited.

Instrumental Music students need to catch-up on work missed in class, as well as to check their lesson time and attend lessons punctually. This develops good time management skills and efficient work habits.

Students learning more than one instrument will need to have a lesson outside the school day, either before or after school or during breaks.

Lesson times for the week are posted on the Student Reception window on a Monday morning and are attached to the College's Morning Notices. It is the girls' responsibility to check this weekly and students are advised to make note of the time in their Planners.

Performance Opportunities

Performing is an integral element of the Music program at St Ursula's College, promoting self-esteem and the sharing of one's gift. Students are encouraged to sing or perform within the College community at Assemblies, College Masses and other functions.

St Brendan's College students are welcome to join into our ensembles.

St Ursula's College Arts Showcase evening presents creative highlights from throughout the year.

In 2023 there may be an opportunity for our students to participate in the Queensland Catholic Schools' Music Festival, State Honours Ensemble Program, Rockhampton Eisteddfod, Village Festival and Yeppoon Pinefest.

Uniform

All students who are members of ensemble groups will be required to purchase a Music uniform. The new long black pants available at the Uniform Shop is required for performances. We also have a smart casual St Ursula's College Music shirt that girls will wear for some performances and when travelling together in groups for events. They will also require polished black College shoes and black socks. Students will be notified by the Instrumental Coordinator when shirt can be purchased as it is currently undergoing a redesign.

Instruments

The College owns a limited number of instruments, so students are encouraged to use their own. We do have some instruments available for hire; cost is \$25/term/instrument, which covers the maintenance (but not the consumables, e.g. strings, reeds, valve oil, etc.) of the instrument. Available instruments are Guitar, Keyboard, Violin, Cello, Double Bass, Flute, Piccolo, Oboe, Clarinet, Bass Clarinet, French Horn, Trombone, Tenor Sax and Baritone Sax. Please contact Shannon du Plessis regarding availability. A Rental Request and Agreement Form is required to be submitted.

Tutors

At St Ursula's College, tuition is offered in the following instruments:

- **Piano** – Jane Bacon (0417 770 112) janeb@stursulas.qld.edu.au
- **Guitar/Voice (pop, rock, contemporary)** – Mitch Vanhoff (0408 683 961) mitchv@stursulas.qld.edu.au
- **Violin/Viola/Cello/Double Bass/Voice (classical/folk)** – Kate Ellis (0418 787 096) katee@stursulas.qld.edu.au
- **Drum Kit/Percussion** – Judy Carling (0436 382 888) judyc@stursulas.qld.edu.au
- **Brass / Woodwind** – Aleta Ballment aletab@stursulas.qld.edu.au
- **Voice (exam level) /Flute/Theory** – Tink Boyd (0429 392 346) tinkb@stursulas.qld.edu.au

(Please note that Mrs Boyd is NOT available during school hours in 2023 and has limited spots for before or after school lessons)

Tuition Fees and Conditions

Fees are less than the recommended hourly rate set by the *Music Teachers' Association of Queensland*.

Weekly Lesson Type	Cost
30 min individual lesson	\$35
30 min group lesson	\$20

Discount will be given by individual tutors if they teach two (2) or more students in the same family (individual lessons only). For further information, please contact the relevant Music Tutor.

Parents will receive an account each term and fees are payable by the due date on the account. Students must attend lessons for a whole term. NO credits can be given once lessons commence. **Instrumental Music lessons are a separate account and are NOT PART OF COLLEGE FEES.**

If a student knows in advance that she is unable to attend a lesson due to excursions, dental/medical appointment, competitions, subject exam, etc., all efforts should be made to advise the tutor IN ADVANCE and arrangements made for a lesson change.

As a general policy, if a student fails to attend a lesson without giving a tutor **advanced notice of at least 24 hours**, the normal fee applies. Unforeseen circumstances such as sudden illness will be taken into account.

Expectations of Students

Students making a commitment to private tuition need to understand the importance of regular and consistent practice. *Perfect Practice makes Perfect!*

Students must continually check notices in Student Café for lesson and rehearsal times and other musical information.

Students must promptly return to class after music lessons and it is their responsibility to communicate with teachers regarding any missed work.

Attendance at lessons and any extra musical ensemble **IS COMPULSORY**. If girls are absent from lessons two (2) weeks in a row, parents will be contacted. Failure to attend will result in the student forfeiting her place in any performance (especially the QCMF event).

Absences must be notified in advance so that rescheduling of a lesson can occur. If a student misses a lesson and does not attend the substitute lesson, the lesson will be charged. Tutors will **NOT** make up lessons missed due to a student forgetting or not being punctual.

Students **CANNOT** be contacted during class time to remind them about their Music lesson, so it is important that they remember their lesson time.

Boarding students will have access to the Chapel to practice – contact the Boarding Supervisor for this to occur.

It will be **COMPULSORY** for students who are undertaking Voice lessons to be members of the College Choir. It is **STRONGLY ADVISED** that all girls participating in the Instrumental Music Program join Choir. It is extremely beneficial for the Music reading, understanding of part-work and developing listening skills.

Support of Parents

The Instrumental Music tutors request full parental support for the practice schedule and commitment to ensembles.

There may be some additional expenses throughout the term. These may include purchasing Music, Eisteddfod entries, exam entries, participation in Music programs outside school, or excursions.

Equipment Required

Learning an instrument often requires the purchase of small consumable items e.g. reeds, picks, etc. Individual Instrumental tutors will notify parents and students upon acceptance into the program of any equipment that needs to be purchased.

Tutors' Commitment to You

As an Instrumental Music Team, you will find us approachable and dedicated to your daughter's musical journey, enabling and encouraging her to achieve her own individual potential.

Instrumental Music tutors do not issue reports; however, time will be available to discuss your daughter's progress at Parent-Teacher interview sessions. Please contact any Tutor via email throughout the term with any questions or enquiries regarding your daughter's progress.

Date Claimers - 2023

- Instrumental Music forms will be emailed out in Week 1 - forms **MUST be returned to Student Reception by Monday, January 30, 2023.**
- Lessons will start Week 2 - students will receive an email from their tutor with the timetable.
- MEETING - Year 7 students - meet with Instrumental Music tutors **Friday, January 27, 2023, in BCC - First Break time (10.40am)**
- MEETING - Years 8-12 students (new and existing) - meet with Instrumental Music tutors **Friday 27 January, 2023 in BCC - Second Break time (1.00pm)**
- Queensland Catholic Schools and Colleges Music Festival, Brisbane - Dates TBC
- State Honours Ensemble Program (SHEP) - TBC

Should you have any questions on the above information or anything else, please phone or email.

Thank you

Shannon du Plessis

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