



**WOOGAROO CREEK
STATE SCHOOL**

REACHing new heights...

Instrumental Music Program Overview

Education Queensland provides a program of Instrumental Tuition in Primary and Secondary Schools throughout Queensland. Students are provided with a half-hour small-group lesson each week during the school day (rotating timetable). When a sufficient standard has been attained by students, they also participate in one band rehearsal per week (lunch time). The band performs regularly in our community.

Student Selection

Students are carefully selected for the program in order to achieve a successful outcome for all involved. As much information as possible will be collected to give the best possible chance of a suitable match of instrument with each child. Information from classroom teachers, musical aptitude tests and instrument suitability tests (instrument tryouts) as well as students' personal preferences will all be considered when making a final decision as to which students will be chosen for the program and which instrument will be allocated to each student.

If your child is chosen to participate in the program, they may not end up being offered their chosen instrument. The reasons for this are generally because of either a shortage of available instruments, or because they do not have the physical requirements for that instrument. It is also important to maintain a balance of instrumentation in the band to give students the best possible musical experience.

Playing an instrument should be a rewarding experience. The recruiting process outlined above is recommended by Education Queensland and is designed to ensure that students have a positive musical experience and the greatest possible chance of success. Initial enrolment in the class is for a **minimum** period of one year, subject to a one-term probation.

Instruments and Costs

An Instrumental Music Levy of \$40 will be charged to all participating students. This covers the cost of borrowing a tutor book from the Discovery Centre, photocopying, ensemble resources and other shared materials. Students are encouraged to have their own instruments. There are, however, a limited number of instruments that can be hired for a period of 12 months for \$60. The larger, more expensive instruments are provided by the school for the duration of your child's involvement. The less expensive instruments such as flutes, clarinets, alto saxophones and trumpets will be loaned to students for a maximum period of twelve months. After this trial period, students playing these instruments are expected to purchase their own instrument.

When parents are considering the purchase of an instrument for their child, they are advised that it is often false economy to purchase cheap instruments from auction sites or overseas as the instruments are often poor quality and difficult to play. This hinders progress and causes much frustration to beginners. Learning an instrument is challenging enough without additional problems being caused by a faulty instrument!

Regular expenses are incurred at various intervals for reeds, cork grease, valve oil, etc. and these must be met by parents.

Instrument choices

Woodwind - flute, clarinet, saxophone

Brass - trumpet, trombone, euphonium.

Bass Guitar (No acoustic or electric guitar lessons are provided at school)

Percussion – please note that students learn to play concert band percussion instruments such as snare drum, bass drum, cymbals, xylophone, glockenspiel and small hand percussion. This program is not suited to students who are only interested in playing the drum kit.

Search Youtube to get an idea of what these instruments look and sound like!

Woodwind Instruments

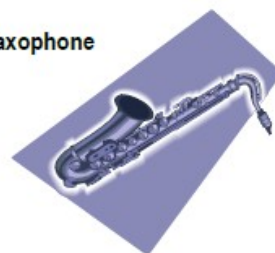
☐ Flute



☐ Clarinet



☐ Saxophone



Brass Instruments

☐ Trumpet



☐ Trombone



☐ Baritone



☐ French Horn



☐ Euphonium



☐ Tuba



Rhythmic Instruments

☐ Bass Guitar



☐ Percussion

Percussion includes all of the instruments in the percussion family including:



Glockenspiel
&
Drums



Equipment Requirements for Instrumental Music

All students will need:

- 1 clear display folder
- 1 2B or HB pencil and soft eraser
- A satchel or simple bag to hold books and other equipment

Flute

- Polishing Cloth
- Cleaning cloth

Clarinet

- 4 size 2 clarinet reeds
- Cork grease
- Clarinet cleaning cloth

Alto Saxophone

- 4 size 2 alto saxophone reeds
- Cork grease
- Saxophone cleaning cloth
- Multi-purpose cleaning cloth from home

Tenor Saxophone

- 4 size 2 tenor saxophone reeds
- Cork grease
- Saxophone cleaning cloth
- Multi-purpose cleaning cloth from home

Trumpet

- Valve oil
- Tuning slide grease

Trombone

- Slide cream
- Tuning slide grease

Baritone

- Valve oil
- Tuning slide grease

Percussion

- 1 pair 5a drum sticks
- 1 Remo-style tuneable practise pad

Bass Guitar

- Multi purpose cleaning cloth from home



Your child will greatly benefit from using a **Music Stand** if possible. Whilst a music stand is not essential at this stage, it is important that you organise somewhere that your child can play with their book in an upright position. A cookbook stand on a desk is a good substitute. **The worst possible playing position is sitting on a bed trying to read from a book that is lying flat!** Your child needs to be standing or sitting upright on a firm chair, feet flat on the floor, with the music directly in front of them.

Workshops and Performances

What participating in Instrumental Music at WCSS, students have the opportunity to participate in a variety of school and community programs. Students are required at all performances like the Musical Muchies Concerts. As a school we participate in Regional Music Workshops as well; these are a fantastic opportunity for our students to play in a much larger group and receive specialist tuition.

Continuing Beyond the First Year of Playing

When enrolling in Instrumental Music, it is expected that student's will participate for the duration of their Primary School years. This means students are expected to purchase their own instrument, unless they are playing the Euphonium, Trombone, Bass Clarinet or Tenor Saxophone. Percussion students are also required to have a drum pad and a glockenspiel.

The recruitment process is a thorough process which ensures each student is matched to the instrument that will be the most successful for them, therefore, changing instruments after recruitment is up to the teacher discretion and only occurs in exceptional circumstances.

Student and Parent Commitment

Every student must agree to:

- Practise regularly. 20 minute, 4 times per week.
- Become a member of a Woogaroo Creek SS Concert Band when invited by the music teacher.
- Take part in **all** concerts and workshops.
- Attend weekly lessons and rehearsals consistently.
- Look after school and your own equipment. Report all breakages immediately.

Parents must agree to:

- To provide your child with necessary equipment and a suitable instrument if required.
- Support your child to find the best time in the family routine to practice.
- Support your child to complete weekly practise and provide a suitable place to practise.
- Make sure your child attends lessons, rehearsals and performances and brings all necessary equipment.
- Notify music teacher of all absences via email before the lesson, rehearsal or performance.