

# Tamborine Mountain State High School



## Instrumental Music Choral Music Handbook 2023

# Instrumental Music/Choral Policy Statement

## Recruitment

Students who have not previously learned an instrument and who wish to learn will be given a musical aptitude test by the Instrumental Teacher to ascertain their ability in four areas – pitch, rhythm, chord recognition and memory retention. Once students have been matched to an appropriate instrument, parents/caregivers will be notified of the possibility of their child being involved in the Instrumental Program at this school. Basic expectations and costs will be outlined at this stage.

The decision to accommodate a student will be determined by the Instrumental Teacher and the Music Teacher. Students arriving from other schools, who wish to participate in the Instrumental Program/Choral Program, should see the Instrumental Teacher or the Classroom Music Teacher as soon as possible after their arrival at the school.

Students new to the school in Years 7-12 who have their own instruments and who wish to continue their instrumental lessons should also arrange to discuss this with the Instrumental Teacher.

## Instruments

Students who have been successful in gaining entry to the Instrumental Program may be loaned their instrument if available for the period of the school year. After this time, students are expected to purchase their own instrument. Not all instruments are available. Please consult with the Instrumental Teacher.

These instruments belong to the Department of Education and must be kept in the condition in which they were issued. Specific information regarding instrument care and use will be given by the Instrumental Teachers.

Instruments will not be issued until the Instrumental Agreement EQ 11 has been signed by a parent or guardian and the fee has been paid in full. All original copies of this agreement will be filed and copies given to the Instrumental Teacher. A registry of each instrument's original condition will have been recorded prior to distribution.

## Communication

Every term parents/caregivers will be notified of any information session relating to the Instrumental Music/Choral Music Programs, where information will be provided by the Principal, Instrumental Teacher and the Classroom Music Teacher. These sessions are conducted during school hours.

Parents/caregivers are welcome to contact Mr. Ross, Music Head of Department with any concerns regarding the Instrumental Music or Choral Music Programs. Mr Ross can be contacted by telephone - 55457222 or email - [cross55@eq.edu.au](mailto:cross55@eq.edu.au).

## Fees

The fees for Band and Strings cover the following:

- Entry fees into competitions
- Buses during the year; to and from venues
- Resourcing the music library
- Wear and tear on equipment used at school
- Maintenance upon return of instrument

## Costs

- \$100.00 – student's participations in the Instrumental Music Program
- \$120.00 – student instrumental hire if required
- (Therefore \$220.00 for Instrumental Program participation and instrumental hire)
- \$15.00 (approximately) - tutor book

## Repairs and Wear and Tear

Repairs to school instruments will be paid for by the school unless wilful damage or neglect is involved. These costs will be borne by the child's parents/caregivers.

The loss or damage of school instruments should be reported to both Administration and the Music Department as soon as possible.

Parents/caregivers are required to sign a Loan Agreement form which states that any damage to an instrument which is not just wear and tear must be paid for by the parents/caregivers. An invoice will be forwarded to parents/caregivers for prompt payment.

## **Return of Instruments**

Instruments on hire from the school will be collected by mid-November by the Instrumental Teacher. Once the instrument is returned, the instrument will be checked, tested, sterilised and serviced depending on need.

## **Tutor Books**

Each student is expected to purchase a tutor book as prescribed by the Instrumental Teacher. A list of tutor books for each level will be provided at the beginning of each year. Details will be given at parent information meetings and via written correspondence. Approximate costs will be \$10.00 - \$15.00 a booklet.

Costs for books and accessories vary from instrument to instrument. The Instrumental Teacher will distribute this information at the beginning of the year. This cost is additional to the standard fee due to the individual relevance of the book. Prices are subject to change.

## **Tuition**

Each student will be given one thirty minute lesson on a rotational basis during school time. This rotational timetable will make sure that students do not miss the same lesson twice in a row. If there are any concerns with this please contact the relevant Instrumental Teacher. Group size can vary from three (minimum) to eight (maximum) students depending on the instrument and the ability of players.

A copy of the timetable is continually updated on the Performing Arts noticeboard as well as emailed to all relevant students. It is the students' responsibility to check this regularly for possible changes as they may occur during the year. Classroom teachers will be notified of these lessons via a timetable.

## **Student Attendance**

Rolls are marked by the Instrumental Teacher at the beginning of each lesson. If a student regularly fails to attend lessons, parents will be contacted. This is important to maximise the number of students who receive instruction.

## **External Tuition**

Instrumental Teachers and Music Teachers are advised by the Department of Education not to tutor a student from the same school.

## **Home Practice**

Beginning players are expected to do fifteen minutes home practice per day five days a week. The amount of practice should increase to thirty minutes per day by the end of the year as the student gains more confidence.

Continuing students should complete thirty – forty-five minutes of home practice per day five days a week. The Instrumental Teacher will issue a practice sheet which is to be completed by parents/caregivers of all students. This will be checked at the weekly lesson to ensure that the appropriate practice has been completed.

Failure to do sufficient practice will result in parent/caregiver contact in the first instance. In the second instance, students will be referred to the Music Head of Department and parents/caregivers will again be contacted.

## **Termination of Lessons**

A students' removal from lessons will only occur after negotiation with the Principal and the Instrumental Teacher.

## Choral Music (Vocal Ensemble)

The Choral Music Program at Tamborine Mountain State High School involves the Vocal Ensemble, with the development of an extension performance group from within. The choir is open to all year levels, Years 7 – 12, to participate in a number of events, both in and out of the school, throughout the year. The underlying tone of this choir is an overall enjoyment in both singing and being an active member.

This year the Vocal Ensemble will be rehearsing in the Performing Arts Centre within the school. It is expected that members of this choir attend all rehearsals with willingness and devotion. This level of commitment allows continual musical development and achievement. It is the students' responsibility to contact Mr Hart in the event of absences at rehearsals. If a continued pattern of absenteeism occurs, with no valid reason, students will be referred to the Music Head of Department.

Further information regarding rehearsal times, events etc will be sent home via an introductory letter.

### Fees for Choral Music

In 2023, there is a Choral Music Levy of \$50.00 per annum. This cost covers:

- Entry fees into competitions
- Buses during the year to and from venues
- Resourcing the music library
- Wear and tear on equipment used at school

Any student who is also a current member of the Instrumental Music Program is not required to pay the Choral Music Levy.

### Stationery

Students will be given the lyrics/scores and all relative information to all the songs as we progress. In view of this, it is required to have an A4 display folder to hold all lyrics, music and information.

### Music Uniform

The formal school uniform is also the music uniform to be worn by both Instrumental and Choral members.

When students are performing in or out of the school, they are representing Tamborine Mountain State High School in a very positive way and are expected to dress and conduct themselves in an exemplary manner. In association with this it is also expected that all Instrumental and Choral members wear their formal school/ music uniform with pride.

### Concerts and Performances

During the course of the school year, Instrumental and Choral members will be required to perform at a variety of functions. It is expected that members make themselves available to attend on all of these occasions. Notice in writing of these functions will be distributed to students prior so appropriate arrangements can be made. An overview of performances throughout the year are identified in the initial introductory letter sent home. A school calendar is also available on the school website <https://tamborinemtnshs.eq.edu.au/Pages/default.aspx>.

If a student is unable to attend any of these functions, a parental note outlining the reason is required.

If parents/caregivers are required to provide transport to and from these functions it is requested that they do so and that punctuality be observed.

## Instrumental and Choral Groups for 2023

For 2023 we will be operating the following Instrumental and Choral Groups:

Mrs Evans will devise a rotating roster for students to ensure that they do not miss the same subjects when they have their weekly lesson.

Monday and Tuesday Instrumental Music rehearsals are conducted after school from 3:15 pm onwards in the Performing Arts Centre.

Thursday rehearsal for the String Orchestra is from 11:00 am onwards in the Performing Arts Centre.

- Wind Symphony (Monday) – 3:15 pm – 4:00 pm
- Stage Band (Tuesday) – 3:15 pm – 4:00 pm
- String Orchestra (Thursday) – 11:00 am – 11:40 am
- Vocal Ensemble (Friday) – 8:00 am – 8:40 am

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