



ST COLUMBAN'S COLLEGE

Co-Curricular Music Program Information Handbook

~ 2015 ~



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PRIVATE MUSIC LESSONS

INFORMATION, POLICIES AND ENROLMENT

To promote students' musical education and enjoyment of music, the College offers a private instrumental tuition program. This program is conducted at and administered by the College and includes a variety of opportunities for a student to participate in solo and group performances. A group of qualified and talented instrumental tutors offer their services through the College. If you would like your son to undertake private music lessons at St Columban's College, please read the information below and complete and return the application form to the Music Department at the first opportunity. Students will also have the opportunity, and are encouraged, to further their instrumental studies through external music examinations (AMEB, GUILD, TRINITY etc.). The fee for these exams, associated costs of piano accompaniment and sheet music purchases is not included in the music tuition account. Tuition is available for a wide range of instruments on a fee-paying basis, as set out below.

Lessons are given weekly and occur during the normal school day. The rotation of the school timetable means that students will seldom miss half-an-hour of the same subject to attend their music lesson. Music lesson times can be negotiated to occur either before school, after school or during recess and lunchtimes. Likewise, music lessons can be negotiated such that a student does not miss one or more particular subject/s. When taking lessons it is up to the student to purchase their own lessons books – Standard of Excellence (red, blue and green) or alternative as directed by the teacher.

If you have any questions regarding musical activities at the school, please contact the Cultural Co-Curricular Department Leader.

LESSONS OFFERED

Available to students in Years 7 to 12:

<i>Strings</i>	<i>Woodwind</i>	<i>Brass</i>	<i>Other</i>
Cello Viola Violin Double Bass	Clarinet Oboe Bassoon Flute Saxophone (alto/tenor/baritone)	Euphonium French Horn Trombone Trumpet Tuba	Voice Drum Kit/ Percussion Piano Guitar

TUITION OPTIONS (*Please note: cost of lessons per semester may differ slightly for those provided by external instrumental teachers*)

- A. Regular:** Half an hour lesson per week (*\$550 per semester*)
- B. Paired Lesson:** Half an hour lesson per week – available to **Year 7, 8 & 9 students** on **selected instruments** (*\$450 per semester*). Only possible if a suitable partner is available – if unavailable students will automatically move to regular private lessons.
- C. Comprehensive:** One hour per week (*\$1100 per semester*)
- D. Modified:** A modified program of fortnightly lessons per term is available to encourage

families that may find it difficult to undertake a full regular lessons program.

INVOICING OF LESSONS

Lessons will be invoiced **for the entire year in term 1**. Late payments will result in music lessons being suspended and, ultimately terminated. Once terminated, students may resume lessons after a new lesson application is submitted and payment is confirmed.

FEE SCHEDULE - Regular Lessons (\$32 – based on approx. 18 lessons per semester)

Semester 1:	\$550	Semester 2:	\$550	<i>Annual:</i>	<i>\$1100</i>
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NB: Comprehensive lessons: double the amounts indicated in the above table

FEE SCHEDULE - Paired Lessons (\$25 – based on approx. 18 lessons per semester)

Semester 1:	\$450	Semester 2:	\$450	<i>Annual:</i>	<i>\$900</i>
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NB: Paired lessons are available in Years 7, 8 & 9 only.

Fees for instrumental lessons are in line with recommended rates by the Music Teachers Association of Queensland. The amounts indicated for each semester are based on the likely number of lessons students may receive.

Please note that external instrumental tutors that come into the College on specific days provide Percussion/ Drum Kit, Piano and Guitar lessons. These lessons are billed separately, by the individual teacher and prices may differ slightly to those outlined above.

CANCELLATION OF LESSONS

Parents may cancel their child's private lessons, provided they give **one full term's notice in writing** to the Music Department (it is expected that students will complete lessons for a whole semester). Failure to give appropriate notice will result in a withholding of credits or extra charges for missed lessons. Music students will be automatically re-enrolled in private music lessons every year while at STC until such time as parents provide appropriate notification of termination as indicated above.

ILLNESS & MISSED LESSONS

When a student cannot attend a music lesson due to illness, please inform the Music Department on (07) 5495 3111 as early as possible *prior* to the scheduled lesson. Make up lessons will **not** be given unless at least 24 hours prior notice of absence is given. 48 hours notice is required if a student wishes to change his lesson time to accommodate other school activities such as tests, excursions and sporting commitments. Lessons missed are not refundable unless the Instrumental Teacher has been absent. Any and all refunds will be realised at the end of a student's year or years of undertaking music lessons as a final reconciliation of payments made & lessons undertaken.

SCHOOL MUSIC ACTIVITIES

It is an expectation that all music students participate in school ensembles and music making activities. This encourages further musical development of the students beyond their normal lessons and gives opportunities for performance. Students will be placed into an ensemble suitable to their instrument and standard. Opportunities may exist to join or audition for further ensembles. This is strongly encouraged.

MUSICAL INSTRUMENT HIRE

The Music Department has a number of instruments available for hire at a cost of \$75 per semester (\$150 per year). Instruments available include flutes, piccolo, clarinets, saxophones, trumpets, trombones, violins and cello. Instrument hire is heavily subsidised by the school with hire costs generally covering maintenance and servicing. The College's stock of instruments exists primarily to service the year 8 instrumental classroom program. As a result, instruments are not always available for on-going students.

This service is an excellent opportunity for students to acquire practical skills on a variety of instruments without the immediate expense of purchasing. As there is a limit to our resources, only students undertaking private music tuition at STC are eligible to hire instruments when available.

The care of an instrument is the student's responsibility. Negligence will immediately terminate the hire agreement for which the hire fee is non-refundable. Any loss or damage of instruments will be at the cost of the student. It is recommended that all hirers record the instrument make, model and serial number and clearly label the inside and outside of the instrument case with their name, school and telephone number.

All instruments are to be returned at the end of each semester for maintenance and servicing. Students continuing with an instrument may, on application, take the instrument home over the holiday period at no additional cost. In the event that the school cannot provide an instrument for your needs, please contact a private organisation that deals with music instrument hire.

1. Hire Instruments are serviced and checked for any defaults and a report is included naming dents and any imperfections that are present on each instrument. This document is signed by student and parent to acknowledge existing imperfections to the instrument. Any further damage to the instrument when handing it back will be billed for the repair work.
2. Each instrument will have a "How to care for my instrument booklet".
3. Every instrument should have all cleaning equipment present in their cases at the beginning. Students are expected to clean their instrument after every use.
4. It is encouraged that students purchase their own instrument after 1 year of hiring.

EXPECTATION OF STUDENTS

1. All students taking instrumental lessons at the College must be involved in concert band.
2. All students studying voice at the College must be involved in College Voices.
3. Students are encouraged to be involved in at least one other ensemble – vocal group, clarinet ensemble, saxophone ensemble, percussion ensemble, guitar ensemble, rock band, brass ensemble, small ensemble.
4. Students must practice their music for the ensemble they are participating in.
5. It is an expectation that students must be present at **all** rehearsals and **all** concerts, competition and performances.
6. Purchase the appropriate uniform and wear it with pride.

MUSIC CO-CURRICULAR GROUPS

ENSEMBLES

The musical experience of instrumental/vocal lessons is best developed when working in conjunction with rehearsal and performance of music pieces in an ensemble group. As such, lesson and ensemble membership work together to provide a balanced and guided education in music.

Concepts and techniques introduced in lessons are applied in the ensemble setting. Ensemble parts perfected at an individual level in lessons are then brought together to create the whole through the ensemble.

All students who undertake lessons are encouraged to join one or more of the College's ensembles, as advised by their instrumental music teacher in relation to readiness and potential. For most music students, the 'step up' to ensemble membership is eagerly sought, and once obtained is something they treasure due to the music challenges presented, the camaraderie of working closely with their peers, and the opportunity for recognition of their skills through a variety of performances. The College provides a range of ensemble opportunities including:

Concert Band	College Voices	Guitar Ensemble	Saxophone Ensemble
Rock Band	Senior Vocal Ensemble	Percussion Ensemble	Clarinet Ensemble
Brass Band	String Ensemble		

Times	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<i>Lunch</i>	Saxophone Ensemble	Clarinet Ensemble	Percussion Ensemble	Brass Band	Senior Vocal Ensemble
<i>After School (3-4:30pm)</i>	Concert Band	Rock Band	Guitar Ensemble	College Voices	

SCHOOL & COMMUNITY PERFORMANCES

All students involved in the music program at St Columban's are encouraged to participate in a variety of performance opportunities. These opportunities showcase the development of personal and ensemble music skills include:

- School services such as ANZAC Day, assemblies, awards nights, Foundation Day, Liturgies
- School events such as the St Columban's Open Day
- Formal competitions such as the Villanova – Catholic Schools Music Festival, STC Concert Band and Ensemble Spectacular, STC Vocalise
- Formal examinations through official organisations such as AMEB, Trinity and Guild
- College recital evenings to provide parents an intimate showcase of each teacher's student group
- Community events
- End of Term Concert
- Music Camp/ Intensive workshop days.



St Columban's Concert Band

THE STAFF OF ST COLUMBAN'S MUSIC DEPARTMENT:

Cultural Coordinator	Miss Andrea Hickey
Classroom Music Teachers	Mrs Jillian Dearling, Mr Michael Dougherty & Miss Olivia Blackie
Brass Teacher	Mr Gregroy Wilson
Guitar Teacher	Ms Ellie Wust
Piano Teacher	Ms Marion Kilchester
Percussion Teacher	Mr Bob Oliver
Strings Teacher	Mr Yuri Djachenko
Vocal Teacher	Mrs Judit Molnar
Woodwind Teacher	Mrs Darlene Ferguson

CONTACT US:

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