



AHS MUSIC



Instrumental Music Handbook

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Overview

This program provides students with the opportunity to learn a woodwind, brass, percussion or string instrument in addition to their timetabled subject selections.

Aims and Philosophy

The aims of the Instrumental Music Program at Aviation High School Music are to:

- Provide an extra dimension to the school's classroom music program, ensuring that educational outcomes are maximised for all students.
- Provide ensemble experience for all students so that they develop ensemble performance skills in Concert Bands, Jazz Bands, String Ensembles and other music clubs. This is an integral part of Instrumental Music Education

Expectations of Students

To participate in this program, each student must agree to;

- Practice regularly
- Respect instrument and school property
- Attend one weekly Instrumental lesson during school time
- MUST participate in at least one core school ensemble. This includes rehearsals, performances, all concerts and competitions for that group.
- Abide by school rules regarding behaviour and dress code.

Staffing

Principal Mr David Munn	dmunn1@eq.edu.au
Deputy Principal Mr Andrew Read	aread30@eq.edu.au
Deputy Principal Mrs Mara Kitson	mkits4@eq.edu.au
Deputy Principal Mrs Nadene Benjak	nbenj1@eq.edu.au
Head of Department (The Arts) Mr Jack Clarke	jclar535@eq.edu.au
Head of Instrumental Music – Multi Bands and Vocal Teacher Mrs Rachael Doucet	rdouc1@eq.edu.au
Arts Co-ordinator & Vocal Group Teacher Mrs Melissa Ellis	melli232@eq.edu.au
Classroom Music Teacher, Percussion Teacher, Wind Ensemble Conductor Mr Mitchell Albury	malbu9@eq.edu.au
Strings Teacher Mr Ben Leong	blong89@eq.edu.au
Guitar Club Teacher Mr Terry Lung	tlung1@eq.edu.au

AVIATION HIGH SCHOOL - Performance Groups

- Wind Symphony (Level 3-4 Concert Band) (Selected WW, Brass, Bass & Perc students)
- Wind Ensemble (Level 1-2 Concert Band)
- Big Band (Level 3-4 Jazz Band) (Selected WW, Brass, Bass, Guitar, Piano & Perc students)
- Stage Band (Level 1-2 Jazz Band)
- String Ensemble (All String students)
- Symphony Orchestra (All String students + Selected WW, Brass, Perc)
- Percussion Ensemble (Selected Percussion students)
- Vocal Group (All welcome)
- Guitar Club (All welcome)

Cost – Invoiced in term 1 (COMPULSORY to be PAID before any excursion)

Instrumental **tuition (lessons and ensemble) is free**; however, families are asked to make a contribution towards music, equipment and other equipment. This contribution is collected as part of the annual subject levies and will be invoiced in Term 1 of every year.

INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC SUBJECT LEVY is \$175 per student.

HIRE a school instrument - families are **invoiced \$175** instrument charge to assist in covering costs of servicing and general maintenance yearly.

Percussion Fee \$100 annually

All levies and loan instrument charges are non-refundable if students leave the program.

Timetables

Instrumental lessons are scheduled on a rotational basis to ensure students attend their lesson in a different period each week. Timetables will be published on the music block noticeboard at the beginning of each semester. Every student will have a personalised COMPASS class for their instrumental music lessons. Timetables are also emailed to parents on the email list. It is the student's responsibility to refer to the timetable and know when his/her lessons occur. If it is not possible for a student to attend their lesson, the teacher must be informed prior to the scheduled time.

Practice

Assessment items are set each term and weekly practice targets are set and are expected to be completed.

Reporting

Results for Instrumental Music are included in semester 1 & 2 reports. Students are expected to complete one Instrumental Music Curriculum level every year of tuition. Sample assessment:
Semester 1 – Major and Minor Scale as per curriculum level + Large group ensemble pieces
Semester 2 – Chromatic Scale as per curriculum level, Small group ensemble piece + SOLO work
Results take into consideration literacy, technique, performance, behaviour and effort.

Instrument Storage

Students are expected to safely transport their instrument to and from school. Whilst at school instruments can be left in the music store room. Instruments are expected to go home for practice and not be left in the storeroom permanently.

Student Activities when Co-Curricular Commitments Clash

At Aviation High, we prioritize the holistic development of our students, encouraging them to excel academically while actively engaging in the school's sporting and cultural endeavors.

Recognizing the potential for scheduling conflicts among our most dedicated students, our directors are readily available for consultation to help students manage their various commitments effectively.

In the event of a scheduling conflict, students are expected to approach the directors of both activities involved, demonstrating responsibility in discussing the clash. In most cases, a mutually agreeable compromise can be reached to ensure the student's continued participation in both activities without compromising overall quality.

For instance, if a student is involved in a sport with three weekly training sessions and a musical group with one rehearsal, the student may opt to miss one training session to attend the rehearsal, provided they make up the missed training independently. Similarly, if a musical ensemble holds two rehearsals per week, the student may miss one rehearsal with the understanding that any missed material will be covered later.

Occasionally, a student may need to miss a drama rehearsal to fulfill a service learning commitment, in which case they would be expected to obtain notes from the rehearsal to stay updated without disrupting the production.

However, we acknowledge that in certain elite groups, a student who is clearly overcommitted may need to prioritize one activity over another in the interest of fairness to all involved.

Camps and Tours

A Music Camp or Tour is held each year (alternatively) for all members of the school bands. The purpose of these are to provide the opportunity for intensive rehearsal and develop a team spirit within the program. All members of school bands are invited to participate in Music Camps and Tours. Approximate cost of music Camps can range between \$300-\$350 and Music Tours depend on location touring to. Sydney in 2019 was \$1600, Longreach 2021 was \$1750 (inc a \$150 government rebate for remote travel), Sydney 2023 was \$1850. **In 2025 it is proposed we travel to CAIRNS (Cost similar to 2023)** (ALL IM students are invited gr 7- 12, to hold your students place on for this tour parents will be expected to sign a commitment consent and pay \$150 deposit in November this year)



Loan Instruments and Repairs

The school owns some instruments which can be loaned to students. These instruments are generally larger, more expensive instruments and are usually issued on a yearly basis.

A Loan Agreement Form (External Request for Equipment - EDQUIP EQ11) must be completed for each instrument and held with school records and subject to audit.

Students using a school loan instruments will be invoiced an additional \$175 per instrument to cover the costs of servicing, repairs and maintenance.

Instruments are all cleaned and serviced at the commencement of each year and will be loaned to students in 100% working order. If for some reason your instrument requires repair please consult with the Instrumental teacher before proceeding to source repair.

Music Performance Uniforms (CASUAL & FORMAL)

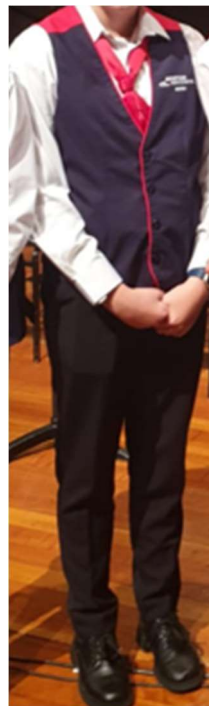
Boys & Girls

CASUAL MUSIC Uniform

- Aviation High Music Polo shirt (Casual Uniform) - \$40 each (invoiced & ordered in term 1)
- School uniform bottoms

FORMAL MUSIC Uniform

- Black Formal Bottoms (Pants/ Long skirt) (own provision)
- White long sleeved business shirt (own provision)
- Boys Aviation High School Tie (own provision)
- Girls Aviation High School Red scarf (own provision)
- Blue Vest (laundered and provided each year)
- Black School shoes and socks



Wearing of Music Uniform is compulsory for all performances.

Annual Compulsory Music Performances

Performances:

- AHS Assembly performances / Student investiture / Graduation Assembly (T1,2,3,4)
- MUSIC MASTERCLASS – Term 1
- ARTS FEST - Term 3 (School Concert Celebrating the Arts)
- Nundah Street Festival Term 3 (Sept)
- AHS Awards Night Term 4
- Competitions / FANFARE (various terms)
- External invitations to perform – Fundraising or exposure opportunities
- MUSIC CAMPS / MUSIC TOURS (Opt in)

Termination

A student may be removed from the program at the discretion of the parent/caregiver by contacting the Head of Department directly. Following a discussion with the Head of Department the student music finalise loan hire arrangements and return all music to the conductor.

The administration may also exclude a student from the program if he/she does not:

- make payment for ALL SUBJECT levies
- payment for school instrument hire
- make steady progress either through lack of practice, aptitude or
- attend classes, rehearsals and performances.

Attendance Policy

Education Queensland provide the Instrumental Music Program very strict details to schools for Instrumental Music Attendance. Please see “Attendance Policy” Page 10 of this handbook.

Facilities

The Music Block is open depending on staff availability. Students are welcome to leave their instruments in the music store room, but no responsibility is taken by the school while the instrument is in that area. Music folders are to be named and left beside the instrument.

All rehearsals and lessons take place in the Music Block.

Resources (provided by School) – PAYMENT of SRS is Compulsory to participate

All woodwind/brass and percussion students will work from the following books;

- Band Folder
- Instrument (if hired)
- Ensemble Sheet Music
- Music stand (at school only)
- Instrument method text book (borrowed through the school library)
- AMEB repertoire chosen by teacher (given by teacher)

Resources (provided by Parents)

NOT provided by school -

Reeds, Oils and any small maintenance equipment for student instruments

Instrumental Music Awards

Instrumental music special cultural awards are presented to students at Awards Night every year. Attendance, behaviour and conduct are major factors in the selection criteria.

Missing from Class -Answers to parents' concerns about missing other class work

Scheduling music lessons within the confines of a busy school day poses a considerable challenge for many educational institutions. Often, schools adopt a rotating weekly schedule, where students alternate leaving their regular classes for instrument lessons. Concerns frequently arise among parents regarding the potential negative impact of missed classroom time on their children's academic progress. However, numerous studies have addressed these concerns.

"Kvet's" extensive study, which surveyed over 2000 students across four diverse school districts, found no evidence of diminished reading, language, or math abilities among students who participated in music lessons compared to their peers who did not. This finding was consistent with earlier studies conducted by Friedman and Groff. Notably, these studies meticulously controlled for variables such as age, gender, intelligence quotient (I.Q.), and overall academic achievement. Remarkably, the positive effects of music education persisted across schools of varying sizes and socioeconomic backgrounds.

Parents can take comfort in the reassurance that the time spent in music instruction does not compromise their child's academic performance. On the contrary, teachers and parents may observe that involvement in music enhances students' overall academic success.

Further studies delve into the correlation between music instruction and reading skills. For instance, one study divided 110 third-grade students into two groups matched for intelligence, gender, and literacy skills. The experimental group received 25 weeks of instrumental instruction, while the control group did not. By the study's conclusion, the students receiving music education were reading at a level nearly two months ahead of their peers. Notably, even among struggling readers, those in the music group demonstrated significant advancement, surpassing their counterparts by over three months.

These findings underscore a consistent trend across various research endeavors: learning a musical instrument positively impacts reading ability in young learners. Moreover, Pelletier's research challenges the notion that music education is unsuitable for lower-achieving students, demonstrating instead its capacity to enhance rather than hinder academic performance.

Growing BIGGER BETTER BRAINS

www.biggerbetterbrains.com.au

Teacher Absence

Where possible Ensemble rehearsals before and after school will proceed with supervising teacher.

In the cases where the Instrumental Music teacher is absent from school without notice due to illness and we are unable to staff this rehearsal, students are to go directly to the office where supervision will be organised for your child. All lessons will be cancelled that day. All effort is made if possible to let you know beforehand if teacher will be absent.

Further Questions

If you have any further question about the Aviation High School Music department, please contact Rachael Doucet rdouc1@eq.edu.au

AVIATION HIGH SCHOOL INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC

Timetable 2024

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
7.40am – 8.40am BEFORE SCHOOL	Wind Ensemble MR ALBURY	Percussion Ensemble MR ALBURY	Stage Band MRS DOUCET	Symphony Orchestra MRS DOUCET	String Ensemble MR LEONG
10.05am- 10.35am 1st BREAK			Vocal Group MS ELLIS & MRS DOUCET		Guitar Club MR LUNG & MR LEONG
2.50pm – 4.15pm AFTER SCHOOL	Wind Symphony MRS DOUCET	Big Band MRS DOUCET			



“Pursue Excellence”

INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC ATTENDANCE POLICY

The purpose of an Instrumental Music Attendance Policy is to:

1. ensure that the department’s region allocated teaching time is utilised effectively
2. maintain high levels of communication between teachers and their students/families
3. reflect high expectations for students attending IM lessons and band
4. maintain the positive, high expectations of an Aviation High School Student
5. ensure students demonstrate their best for regular, formal reporting junctures

Attendance expectations

Rolls are marked for all music lessons and ensembles. Lessons occur on a rotating timetable, and run for 35 minutes. This ensures students only miss minimal teaching time in other classes. Attendance at lessons and ensemble rehearsals will be tracked separately.

It is an expectation that juniors (years 7-9) will maintain a minimum of 85% attendance and seniors (10-12) will maintain a minimum of 75% attendance. Attendance at ensemble rehearsals should not fall below 90% for any student, unless a genuine absence is recorded.

Students should communicate with their Instrumental Music teacher, any changes required to their timetable, to accommodate assessment, excursions and other events. Flexibility can always be made for early communication of changes to lessons, rather than an absence occurring.

Genuine Absences

Students are required to communicate in writing (email) to make changes to lessons during the school day. For all **outside school hour** rehearsals

Parents are required to explain all absences before they occur, or at least within 24 hours of their occurrence.

Unexplained Absences

Any absences that are unexplained are to be dealt via the following:

- a. 1 absence per term. No further action.
- b. 2 absences per term. Email to parents
- c. 3 absences per term. Arts Coordinator phone call to parents
- d. 4 absences per term. HOD/Deputy meeting with parents and student to discuss possible exclusion from program.