



**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

<b>Principal</b> Mr David Munn	<a href="mailto:dmun1@eq.edu.au">dmunn1@eq.edu.au</a>
<b>Deputy Principal</b> Mr Andrew Read	<a href="mailto:aread30@eq.edu.au">aread30@eq.edu.au</a>
<b>Deputy Principal</b> Mrs Mara Kitson	<a href="mailto:mkits4@eq.edu.au">mkits4@eq.edu.au</a>
<b>Deputy Principal</b> Mrs Nadene Benjak	<a href="mailto:nbenj1@eq.edu.au">nbenj1@eq.edu.au</a>
<b>Head of Department (The Arts)</b> Mr Jack Clarke	<a href="mailto:jclar535@eq.edu.au">jclar535@eq.edu.au</a>
<b>Head of Instrumental Music – Multi Bands and Vocal Teacher</b> Mrs Rachael Doucet	<a href="mailto:rdouc1@eq.edu.au">rdouc1@eq.edu.au</a>
<b>Arts Co-ordinator &amp; Vocal Group Teacher</b> Mrs Melissa Ellis	<a href="mailto:melli232@eq.edu.au">melli232@eq.edu.au</a>
<b>Classroom Music Teacher, Percussion Teacher, Wind Ensemble Conductor</b> Mr Mitchell Albury	<a href="mailto:malbu9@eq.edu.au">malbu9@eq.edu.au</a>
<b>Strings Teacher</b> Mr Ben Leong	<a href="mailto:blong89@eq.edu.au">blong89@eq.edu.au</a>
<b>Guitar Club Teacher</b> Mr Terry Lung	<a href="mailto:tlung1@eq.edu.au">tlung1@eq.edu.au</a>

## Performance Groups

- Wind Symphony
- Wind Ensemble
- Big Band
- Stage Band
- String Ensemble
- Symphony Orchestra
- Guitar Club
- Percussion Ensemble
- Vocal Group

## Cost

Instrumental ***tuition is free***; however, students 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. **This levy is \$175 per student.**

Students making use of a school loan instrument are asked to pay an \$175 instrument charge to assist in covering costs of servicing and general maintenance. Percussion Fee \$100

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 are published on the music block noticeboard at the beginning of each semester and copies are available for every student. 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 the end of semester reports. 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 believe in the balanced growth of every student and we encourage every child to do their best academically and to be involved in the sporting and cultural life of the school.

The most committed students can find themselves in a position where they have clashing cultural, service and sporting commitments. Directors are concerned to enable students to do justice to all their activities.

If a clash occurs, students are expected to act responsibly and discuss the clash with the directors of both activities. In most cases, a satisfactory compromise will be reached where the student will still be able to participate in both activities in a shared manner if the overall standard of the activity will not be compromised.

For example, in the case of a sport where there are three training sessions a week and a musical group has one rehearsal, the student might miss one of the training sessions to attend rehearsal on the understanding that the student will make up the training in his own time. If a musical ensemble has two rehearsals each week, the student might miss one rehearsal in the week on the understanding that any missed material will be caught up. A drama rehearsal might be missed to enable a service learning commitment to be met; the student would be expected to get notes from the rehearsal so as not to hold up the production.

It is recognised, that in some elite groups, a clearly overcommitted student will have to forego participation in one of the activities in the interests of fairness to all concerned.

## 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 expected 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 \$1400 (\$150 government rebate), Sydney 2023 \$1850.

## 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

### Boys & Girls

- 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)
- Aviation High Music Polo shirt (Casual Uniform) - \$40 each (ordered)
- Black School shoes and socks

**Wearing of Music Uniform is compulsory for all performances.**

## Annual Compulsory Music Performance

Performances:

- Assembly performances / Student investiture / Graduation Assembly
- MASTERCLASSES
- CAMPS
- Aviation Arts Festival (School Concert Celebrating the Arts)
- Nundah Street Festival (Sept)
- Awards Night
- Competitions
- External invitations to perform – Fundraising or exposure opportunities

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

## 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) – SRS 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 maintenance equipment

## 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 classroom 'pull-out'

The scheduling of music lessons during the busy school day can be quite a challenge. Many schools schedule students on a weekly rotating basis: one week the new musician leaves his or her 1st period class for instrument lessons, the following week music lessons take place during the 2nd period class, and so on. Parents often express concern that the loss of this classroom time will have a detrimental effect on their children's academic performance. Several studies have addressed this concern.

Kvet studied over 2000 students in four different school districts and discovered that children who were removed from class to study music did not demonstrate any decrease in their reading, language, and math abilities as compared to their non-musical schoolmates. Earlier studies by Friedman\*\* and by Groff\*\* had also produced the same results. In all three studies, the students were matched for variables such as age, gender, I.Q., and cumulative achievement. Additionally, the researchers' results held true despite differences in school size and socioeconomic level. Parents need not worry that missed class time due to music instruction will adversely affect their child's report card. In fact, teachers and parents may well observe that music participation leads to greater success with other academic challenges!

\*1985 Kvet \*\*1963 Friedman \*\*1963 Groff

A number of studies have examined the relationship between music instruction and reading skills. In one study\*, 110 third graders were divided into two groups, equally matched on I.Q., gender, reading ability, and spelling ability. The students in the experimental group, however, received 25 weeks of instrumental instruction (using stringed instruments). The control group received no such instruction.

By the end of the study, the students receiving the music instruction were reading at a level almost 2 months ahead of those who were not provided with music education. Furthermore, when the achievements of the low readers in each group were compared, it was discovered that the students in the music group had progressed a full 3 1/2 months beyond their counterparts in the control group.

These findings are consistent with other, similar research, all of which point out that learning to play a musical instrument will augment the reading ability of the young musician. In addition, Pelletier's work demonstrates that the practice of discouraging or prohibiting the lower-achieving student from participation in music lessons is unwarranted. Music education has been shown to enhance, not hinder, students' performance in other academics.

## Teacher Absence

Where possible Ensemble rehearsals before and after school will proceed.

In the case 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](mailto:rdouc1@eq.edu.au)



# AVIATION HIGH SCHOOL INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC Timetable 2024

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