



Thursday 6 October 2022

*Please complete the application form and return it to the school office by **Friday 21 October 2022**.*

## **Instrumental Music: Information for students in Years 2, 3 and 4 regarding the 2023 Queensland Department of Education funded Instrumental Music Program**

*(Please note: Students already in the program from Years 3 to 5 in 2022 do not need to reapply – their position in the program is secure for 2023)*

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

We are now inviting students to apply to learn instruments in the Instrumental Music Program from the start of the 2023 school year. This program offers free instrumental lessons across a wide range of instruments.

### **Year 3 to Year 6 String Program:**

Students currently in Years 2 and 3 are invited to apply to learn violin, viola, or cello.

Students currently in Year 4 are invited to apply to learn the double bass.

### **Year 4 to Year 6 Concert Band Program:**

Students currently in Years 3 and 4 are invited to learn flute, clarinet, alto saxophone, tenor saxophone, bass clarinet, trumpet, trombone, euphonium, baritone, tuba or percussion.

### **How does the program work?**

- Instrumental Music lessons take place during school hours, with band and orchestra rehearsals taking place before school.
- Students learning an instrument **must attend** their scheduled lessons, their band or orchestra rehearsals, and scheduled concerts which involve their ensemble.
- Students **must commit to the program** for a minimum period of one year (the first year of lessons).
- In subsequent years, if a student wishes to withdraw from the program, this must be done only at the end of the school year and after conversation with Mrs Douglas or Mrs Davidson. Please note this is a requirement of starting in the program, and is to be agreed to, when signing the program enrolment form.
- Students are not permitted to withdraw from playing one instrument and change to another. This policy is in place to ensure balance within the ensembles.
- Students are not able to learn two instruments in this program (e.g. violin and clarinet).

### **What does the Program Cost?**

- **All students involved in the program require an instrument.** Some instruments are available on loan from the school.
- In the strings program, cellos and double basses are available on extended annual loan. **Parents and Caregivers must purchase or hire violins or violas from instrument retailers, depending of which instrument is required.**
- In the band program, bass clarinet, tenor saxophone, trumpets, trombones, baritones, euphoniums and tuba are available on extended annual loan. **Parents and Caregivers must hire or purchase the following -**

- flutes, clarinets, alto saxophones or percussion kit, from instrument retailers, depending on the instrument required.
- Students who are allocated a school instrument on loan pay a \$70 hire fee annually (via a Student Resource Scheme) for the hire of the instrument.
- Students require the recommended music tutor book, with this cost ranging from \$14.95 to \$29.00.
- Each year we ask Parents and Caregivers to pay an annual **Instrumental Levy (via a Student Resource Scheme) of \$40 for each family member in the program.** The Instrumental Levy supports the running costs of the instrumental music program (the purchase of materials for the use of the children in the program, competition fees, costs associated with enrichment experience/s).
- All students in the Corelli Strings, Vivaldi Orchestra and Concert Band (Yr 5 and Yr 6 students) wear **the performance uniform** at Prom Concerts, special events (e.g. Vivaldi Orchestra at Graduation ceremony) and music competitions. Strings students will require the performance uniform when they move into the Corelli Strings (second year of lessons). Year 4 Concert Band students will also require the uniform in their second year of lessons. The performance white shirt can be purchased from the uniform shop (at a cost of \$42). The performance uniform also includes black dress pants (traditional long black pants, no jeans), black enclosed shoes and black socks.

#### **How are students selected?**

- **There is an extensive selection process** that enables us to best match student requests and aptitudes with the spread of instrument placements available. Data from classroom teachers and the music teachers is considered, along with a standardised music test and physical and music aptitude tests (with the Instrumental Teachers).
- All music results are rank ordered. If there are large numbers of applications, **this rank ordered list of student results is used as a tool for selection of students for placement in the program.**
- Concert bands and string ensembles must have an appropriate balance of instruments. Student instrument preferences are looked at to best match preferences with the requirements of a balanced ensemble. For this reason, we ask you to select two instruments that your child would like to learn. We try to accommodate at least one of your preferences. Subsequent to this process, offers of placement in the program are made.

If you would like to apply for a position for your child to commence lessons in the Instrumental Music Program in 2023, **please complete the application form and return it to the school office by Friday 21 October.** If you would like to complete an application online, please email your application to [instrumental\\_music@belmontss.eq.edu.au](mailto:instrumental_music@belmontss.eq.edu.au) by Friday 21 October.

If your child is in Year 3, 4, or 5 and is already in the program, please note you do not have to re-apply as your child is already included in the program and timetables for 2023.

Yours in Music,

Mrs Mary MacDonald-Raymond  
 Music Teacher  
 School Music Coordinator (Instrumental and Classroom)

Mrs Lauren Davidson  
 HOD Curriculum (Yrs 4 – 6)  
 Upline Music Manager