

MT MARIA MUSIC





INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC HANDBOOK 2019

Welcome to Mt Maria's College Instrumental Music Program. This handbook provides information to help parents/caregivers understand what is being offered to support your child's music development. Whether your child is interested in trying out an instrument for the first time, wishes to continue lessons or has advanced musical skills and knowledge, our Music Instructors can adapt to every student's needs.

Please read the following information carefully and keep it for reference. If you wish to begin learning an instrument, please return the attached enrolment form. Feedback is important to us and you are invited to contact the Instrumental Music Coordinator, Ms Alex Khafagi, by emailing akhafagi@bne.catholic.edu.au at any time.

BROAD AIMS OF THE INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC PROGRAM

The aim of the Music Performance Program is the development of students' musical, social and personal awareness through participation in instrumental music instruction, ensembles, rehearsal and performance. Undertaking the study of music not only involves the learning of new skills, it also teaches important timetabling and time management skills, as students are given the responsibility of managing their lesson timetables.

Students will be encouraged to participate in a wide variety of musical ensembles and musical activities, allowing them to experience the joys of music making and to stimulate their creativity. In addition to involvement in Sport and Service, music will enhance the academic life of each student during their time at Mount Maria.

LESSONS AVAILABLE AT MOUNT MARIA

Tuition is available for students in the following specialities:

Strings	Woodwind	Brass	Other
Violin	Flute	Trumpet	Piano
Viola	Clarinet	French Horn	Voice
Cello	Saxophone	Trombone	Percussion
Double Bass		Euphonium	Music Theory
Acoustic Guitar		Tuba	
Electric Guitar			
Electric Bass			

ENROLLING IN LESSONS

All requests for Music Tuition are to be made by email directly to akhafagi@bne.qld.edu.au who will provide you with an Instrumental Music Enrolment Form.

Ms Khafagi will be able to answer any questions, and direct you to the most suitable Music Instructor.

If a student wishes to discontinue lessons during the school year, the current term of lessons must be completed, and at least four weeks of notice given. Such notice of withdrawal should be stated in a letter to both the Music Instructor and to the Music Program Leader, Ms Alex Khafagi (email akhafagi@bne.qld.edu.au). Where notice has not been given, it is expected that parents pay for lessons in the new term even if the student does not wish to partake in them. This allows the school to meet its contractual obligations with its visiting Music Instructors.

TUITION FEES

Payment for lessons is a private arrangement between visiting Music Instructors and the parent/caregiver. Lessons will be charged at the following rates:

Lesson Delivery	Cost per 30 minute lesson
Individual	\$32
Groups of 2*	\$22
Groups of 3*	\$16

*Not available for piano or vocal lessons, only available when students are of similar levels.

LESSON STRUCTURE

Students receive one lesson per week with a specialist Music Instructor of the student's chosen instrument. Lessons occur during regular school hours and students will be permitted to leave their regular scheduled class to attend lessons. These lessons are 30 minutes in duration and are delivered in either individual or group setting. Students learning in a group will be matched with other students of a similar standard. Group lessons are not available for piano students.

Students will attend lessons according to a rotating timetable to minimise the impact on any particular school subject. A timetable will be provided to students, detailing the lesson time for each week. Some lessons may be offered outside of class time at the Music Instructor's discretion. It is the student's responsibility to know when their scheduled lesson for each week is. Students are expected to attend all lessons and bring all tutor books, music and instruments to each lesson.

If a student is unable to attend their instrumental lesson, they must advise the instrumental Music Instructor **24 hours in advance or in the case of illness, before 8.30am on the day of absence**. In most cases, with prior notice, an alternative lesson time may be arranged in consultation with the Music Instructor. However, lessons missed without prior notice or an adequate excuse will incur the cost of the lesson and the Music Instructor will not be required to reschedule the lesson. Even when a student is absent on official College excursions, year-level camps or because of assessment, it is still vital that Music Instructor is contacted.

YEAR 7 BEGINNER BAND PROGRAM

Mt Maria offers a Year 7 Beginner Band Program. This program will be open to about 40 Year 7 students each year who wish to begin learning a woodwind, brass or percussion instrument.

Lessons will be delivered in small groups (3-4) and charged at the reduced rate of \$10 per lesson through the parents' College Account. In addition to the lessons, there will be a weekly full band rehearsal. An instrument will be provided free of charge for the duration of this one-year program. At completion of this programme, students will have the chance to continue to learn their instruments and join the Wind Band.

The Year 7 Beginner Band Program is generously subsidised by the P&F Foundation.

INSTRUMENTS

Mount Maria College has a hire scheme for a limited number of large instruments (eg. Tuba and Baritone Saxophone). Smaller school instruments are only made available to students involved in the Year 7 Beginner Band Programme. Students are to provide their own instruments for lessons and it highly recommended that they are insured. Whilst at school, instruments are to be stored in instrument lockers or rehearsal rooms, as instructed. Should you require advice about buying or renting an instrument, please contact Ms Alex Khafagi (akhafagi@bne.catholic.edu.au) or your relevant Music Instructor.

PRACTICE EXPECTATIONS

For a student to make progress and their musical journey, regular practice is essential. We ask that you assist us in the musical training of your child by ensuring that his or her instrument is taken home and that it is practised at least five times per week. Beginning students should start with about 10-15 minutes a day increasing to 20-30 minutes a day for intermediate students and up to 60 minutes a day for advanced students. A certain amount of practice must be performed regularly simply to maintain a level of ability. Simply put, if you don't practice, you go backwards!

Parents/caregivers should monitor their child's practice where practical Practice at home is more effective if:

1. A space is organised for practice away from the of distractions television, people and pets
2. A set time is allocated for practice each day
3. Parents comment regularly on improvements in their child's playing no matter how small and refrain from making any disparaging remarks

REPORTING PROCEDURE

Instrumental Instructors will prepare individual Music Reports will be sent out at the end of each Semester.

Individual participation in AMEB or Trinity College examinations or competitions and Eisteddfods is encouraged and is entirely at the discretion of the student and parent/caregiver, in consultation with the Instrumental Instructor.

PERFORMING ENSEMBLES

At the time of writing, the following ensembles are available:

Ensemble	Conductor	Rehearsal Details
College Choir (all welcome)	Ms Donna Langford	Wednesday, 7:15am MK09
Vocal Ensemble (by invitation)	Ms Donna Langford	Friday, 7:15am MK09
String Ensemble (must be currently learning)	Ms Alex Khafagi	Tuesday, 7:15am MK09
Chamber String Ensemble (by invitation)	Ms Sarah Luff	Monday, 7:15am MK09
Studio Band (by invitation)	Mr Matt Luff	Wednesday, 7:15am MK02
Year 7 Beginner Band (must be currently learning)	Ms Louise McGill	Friday, 7:15am MK02
Wind Band (Years 7-9) (must be currently learning)	Ms Alex Khafagi	Thursday, 7:15am MK02
Concert Band (must be currently learning)	Ms Louise McGill	Tuesday, 7:15am MK02
Ukulele Ensemble (all welcome)	Ms Alex Khafagi	Tuesday Second Break MK09
Percussion Ensemble (all music students welcome)	Mr Jacob Enoke	Monday, 7:15am MK02
Rock Bands	Student Led (supported by Ms Khafagi)	Music Studios Break Times

ENSEMBLE REQUIREMENTS

There is an expectation that all students involved in music tuition at Mount Maria participate in a college ensemble. Ensembles rehearse once a week building a repertoire of material suitable for public performances. This enables students to progress on their instrument and allows for several performance opportunities to showcase their talents. Notices of major performances are marked in the school calendar and information about upcoming performances will be sent home and advertised in the College newsletter.

Becoming a member of any Mt Maria Ensemble is a serious commitment for the whole year. Attendance at all rehearsals and performances is compulsory. Students who are unable to attend must inform their Ensemble Conductor in advance. Music must be prepared and learnt outside of rehearsals. Rehearsals are for performance preparation, not note learning. Students and parents are required to sign 'Ensemble Agreement' forms at the beginning of each year.

PERFORMANCE UNIFORM

Students performing in school ensembles are required to wear the formal school uniform, including black opaque tights for girls.

CONTACT DETAILS

For general enquires please contact the Instrumental Music Coordinator, Ms Alex Khafagi, at the College by emailing akhafagi@bne.catholic.edu.au, or phoning 3550 3445.

For enquires regarding lessons and payments please contact the Music Instructor listed below:

Music Instructor Name	Instrument/s
Ms Louise McGill E: louise.mcgill@bne.catholic.edu.au	Brass Year 7 Beginner Band Band Conductor
Mrs Donna Langford E: dlangford@bne.catholic.edu.au	Voice Lessons Choir Vocal Ensemble
Ms Sarah Ladd E: sarahladd78@gmail.com	Violin Viola Chamber String Ensemble
MS Alex Khafagi E: akhafagi@bne.catholic.edu.au	Cello Double Bass String Ensemble, Wind Band, Accompanying
Ms Maria Conway E: conway48@ozemail.com.au	Piano Accompanying
Mr Isaac Kennedy E: isaaccollinskennedy@gmail.com	Guitar
Mr Matt Luff E: sendtoluff@gmail.com	Woodwind Studio Band
Mr Jacob Enoka E: jacobmichaelenoka@gmail.com	Percussion

