



INSTRUMENTAL
MUSIC HANDBOOK

2024





Cleveland District State High School *MESSAGE TO PARENTS*

Perseverance makes us stick with a job until it is done. It is our own built-in taskmaster.

When a student learns to play a musical instrument, they are also learning perseverance.

Students need real determination to take the mystery out of notes and rhythms, and turn them into music. It is a healthy determination that develops into perseverance, and the reward of perseverance is accomplishment. This determination and perseverance have been shown to improve the academic outcomes of students, developing their brains and ability to organise to a greater degree than students who don't study instrumental music.

Can Your Student Attain This Quality? – Yes!

In time, perseverance becomes a good habit that benefits any endeavour - music, schoolwork, sport and almost anything else.

This is an opportunity to give your student not only the vast benefits of a musical education but also, some of the necessary skills for a full and happy life - poise, self-confidence and concentration.

Whether your student goes on to be an accomplished performer or just finds enjoyment through playing an instrument, music will do much to enrich their life.



*Years from now
Your child will thank you*



Aim of the Instrumental Music Program

The pursuit of excellence is social, personal and musical development attained through musical instruction, ensemble rehearsal and performance.

This booklet is a guide for students undertaking Instrumental Music. Instrumental Music can be both an enjoyable and rewarding experience. By following the instructions in this booklet, students will be able to get the most out of the Instrumental Music Program.

Instrumental Music Staff

Simon Watson – Head of Department

Shane Purnell – Band, Instrumental Music Coordinator

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday afternoon and Friday pm

Rebecca Purnell - Choral

Tuesday, - Friday

Ashley Higgins – Percussion

Thursday

Thea Cleary - Band

Tuesday, and Friday

Joanna Wolfe – Band

Monday

Andrea Slater - Strings

Wednesday, Thursday

Lisa McDuff – Junior Choir and C-Club

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday

Students Undertaking Instrumental Music Commit To:

- ♪ Attend all lessons
- ♪ Maintain regular home practice
- ♪ Participate fully and co-operatively in school ensembles
- ♪ Attend all performances and rehearsals as directed by instructors
- ♪ Develop a supportive attitude to other students in lessons and ensembles
- ♪ Adhere to guidelines outlined in this handbook

Attendance:

Students will have an instrumental lesson once a week. This will be on a rotating basis to ensure that they do not always miss the same class lesson (Maths, etc.). It is important that students attend lessons and rehearsals in order to receive a rating on their report card. All students must log onto the online Daymap system using their student card or number.

Be Sure To:

- ♪ Check the timetable on the Performing Arts Notice Board
- ♪ Write the dates in the student diary
- ♪ **See teachers if there is a problem with the time of lessons, rehearsals or performances and make alternative arrangements.**

Events in 2024:

The events for 2024 may involve:

- ♪ Concerts on the Green - held at school
- ♪ Music Showcase to be held in the Paul Bancroft Centre
- ♪ Small Ensemble Feature Concerts
- ♪ Various performances featuring all ensembles throughout the year
- ♪ Eisteddfods and other competitions
- ♪ Various Workshops

What to Bring to Your Instrumental Music Lesson:

- ♪ Instrument
- ♪ Tutor book
- ♪ Band music and folder
- ♪ Pencil
- ♪ Accessories for all instruments – Oils, Pencils, Cloths, Reeds, Strings etc.
- ♪ Percussion students must bring mallets (required pack will be forwarded by Mr Higgins)
- ♪ Enthusiasm

Please note: The required method books will be advised by your teacher.

PLAYING A MUSICAL INSTRUMENT MAKES YOU SMARTER

Please have a look at Bigger Better Brains and other links below for information relating to music and the mind.

- <https://biggerbetterbrains.com/>
- <https://www.ucf.edu/pegasus/your-brain-on-music/>
- <https://www.learningpotential.gov.au/musical-benefits>

Resource Fee

The Instrumental Music Department at Cleveland District High school has developed into a leader in music education, and has a proud history of excellence. Your student will experience the very best in teaching and learning, equipment and facilities, and will be involved in a wide variety of performances. Instrumental music is fun, engaging and has been proven to be highly beneficial for brain development and academic success.

A \$100 fee is required for the year, and will be invoiced to parents early in the year. This is consistent with the Student Resource Scheme. If your student chooses to leave the program during Semester 1, they may be eligible for a \$50 refund. This is because funds have been committed and resources purchased by the Department. This policy encourages your student to see out the semester, as the performances traditionally happen at the end of this period, and this is the major highlight for our students and is the greatest reward for their efforts. If your student does decide to leave the program, parents will need to communicate this in writing to the relevant teacher.

The fee assists with the cost of resources required for the Instrumental Music Program:

- Purchasing of ensemble and lesson repertoire (one piece costs between \$60-\$300)
- Maintenance and use of music stands, music practice rooms, technical equipment (amps, TVs, lights, computers, etc.), maintenance of larger more expensive school-owned instruments (e.g. tuba \$8500, baritone sax \$7000, set of timpani \$20,000)
- Purchase of expensive larger school instruments to keep up with the demand of enrolment
- SmartMusic access for lessons, ensemble and, from next year, private practice at school
- Cost of hiring of trucks and buses to performances and camps
- Subsidy of camp and ensemble workshop costs
- Photocopying costs for ensemble and lessons
- Computers to run SmartMusic for individual use at lunch times and in spares
- Entry fees to festivals and competitions (sometimes \$120 per ensemble)
- PA hire and technician fees for concerts
- Concert fees for showcase concerts
- Purchase of furniture (Music cabinets, chair and stools, etc.).

Education Queensland provides specialist teachers for Brass, Woodwind, Strings and Percussion. Each student is eligible to access free group lessons.

Choirs have a resource fee of \$25, because the resource fund required are lower.

Ensemble Uniform Requirements

A basic uniform is used for all the bands, ensembles and orchestras, with some changes as your student progresses through to some senior groups.

Students are expected to wear the appropriate clothing and accessories to provide uniformity and a sense of community and belonging. The students' appearance is also judged during competitions and eisteddfods. The items have been chosen for their versatility, low cost and suitability for a variety of student shapes and sizes.

The BLACK microfibre embroidered Business shirt for seniors will be loaned through the school at a later date provided by our parent committee (CAST).

The basic uniform requirements are listed below and should be worn by the following bands, ensembles and choirs:

Please note - During Creative Arts Showcase concerts your student may be asked to wear a black shirt.

Junior Concert Band / Choir / Symphonic Band, Junior Strings (see below):

Please note - Formal school shirt.

Formal school uniform shirt



Black Dress Trousers – Must be waist high. No hipsters, cargo pants, cuffs, splits in legs or decoration of any kind.

Black Dress Shoes – Enclosed (low heeled ladies). No sling backs, sandals, boots or joggers.

Black Socks – no other colours.

Hair – Collar/Shoulder length hair must be tied back and all accessories must be black or white. **This applies to boys as well as girls.**

Chamber Ensembles – Wear your Symphonic band or Wind ensemble shirt.

ALL SENIOR ENSEMBLES AND JAZZ ORCHESTRA

Wind Ensemble/ Senior Strings/Percussion Ensemble/ Senior Vocal ensemble



- **Black Dress Trousers**
- **A school loaned BLACK microfibre embroidered Business Shirt. Vocal Ensemble will have a striped black shirt. (NO JACKET) Shirts are to be returned at the end of the year. Boys Shirts are worn tucked in. Black shoes and socks. Hair as described in Basic Uniform Requirements.**

Hair, make-up and jewellery must align with the school's uniform policy

Jazz Collective:



- **Black Dress Trousers**
- **Black Jacket – Suit/Sportscoat**
- **A loaned BLACK microfibre embroidered Shirt Business Shirt.** Shirts are to be returned at the end of the year. Shirts are worn tucked in, collar is open and outside the jacket lapels.

Black shoes and socks. Hair as described in Basic Uniform Requirements

Hair, make-up and jewellery must align with the school's uniform policy

Jazz Orchestra:



- **Black Dress Trousers**
- **A school loaned BLACK microfibre embroidered Shirt Business Shirt.** Shirts are to be returned at the end of the year. Shirts are worn tucked in, collar is open and outside the jacket lapels.
- **Black shoes and socks. Hair as described in Basic Uniform Requirements**

Hair, make-up and jewellery must align with the school's uniform policy



Assessment

Progress is monitored each week during lessons, ensemble rehearsals and performances. Students will receive a OneSchool report at the end of each semester and it is vital they attend lessons, rehearsals and performances in order to receive a good report.

Instrumental Music as a QCAA Recognised Study Advice to Schools and Teachers

The Department's Instrumental Music curriculum has been approved as a QCAA Recognised Subject, allowing year 11-12 students to obtain 1 QCE credit point when completing each of levels 7-10 of the curriculum. The conditions around which students may access these points are as follows:

Time requirements: weekly contact time required for this program includes 1 x 1hr ensemble rehearsal and 1 x 30-35min group lesson, as well as regular home practice. Each level will comprise of a minimum of 55 contact hours across 37 weeks.

Assessment will be based on the following criteria:

- ♪ Level of Achievement
- ♪ Attendance at both lessons and rehearsals
- ♪ Positive and co-operative attitude
- ♪ Professional Conduct
- ♪ IM curriculum level requirements set by QCAA

Visit www.smartmusic.com for information about *SmartMusic* software for use at home, lessons and band rehearsals.

Absences



At School but Absent from Lessons:

If students are at school on the day of their instrumental lesson and have **(a) an examination or (b) an excursion** they may be excused from their lesson; however please still contact the Instrumental teacher to advise them of the absence.

Absent from School:

If students are absent from school on the lesson day, please contact the relevant teacher via email.

Unexplained absences will be monitored. A student's position will be reviewed should these absences total 3 or more.

Absent from Rehearsal:

- ♪ Give as much notice as possible to the Band Director.
- ♪ Bring a note /Email from Parents or Guardian.
- ♪ Leave music with the Director so someone can cover the part!

Attendance Procedures

REHEARSALS

- ♪ Attendance at all rehearsals is **COMPULSORY**
- ♪ All rehearsals begin **ON TIME**
- ♪ Students must be in attendance at least **10 MINUTES** prior to the start of rehearsal
- ♪ All students must set up prior to, and pack up after all rehearsals
- ♪ Rolls will be marked at the beginning of each rehearsal
- ♪ All absences **must** be explained by a note signed by Parents/Guardian

CONCERTS

- ♪ Directors must be made aware the day before if, the student is not able to attend a concert (a suitable reason must be provided by parent/guardian)
- ♪ Attendance at all Concerts is **COMPULSORY**.
- ♪ All concerts begin **ON TIME**.
- ♪ Students must be in attendance **AT LEAST 30 MINUTES** prior to a performance.
- ♪ Rolls will be marked at each Concert.

Please note that you may receive a letter from the Head of Department for any of the following:

- **Attendance record at Rehearsals (has missed at least 3 Rehearsals)**
- **Instrumental Lessons (has missed at least 3 Lessons)**
- **No Instrument or Music (regularly at band or lessons)**

This is a matter of concern as both band rehearsals, lessons and having the correct instrument and music are an integral part of the success of our instrumental Music Program. Attendance and rehearsal skills are two of the areas of assessment that are reported on when your student's semester reports are issued. As you will understand, an ensemble can only achieve great things when students attend regularly, practice independently and bring the required equipment.

Sheet Music

- ♪ Students must have a music folder (Supplied by Music Department)
- ♪ Any music lost may be charged to the student at \$5.00 per band/choir part.

N.B. A student who is in both Symphonic Band and Big Band may have up to 40 pieces of music, all paid for per-sheet by the Department. The loss of a Music folder could be very expensive!

Termination of Lessons

It quite often happens that, at the beginning of a new year, students reconsider their involvement in Instrumental Music. This is because the start of the year feels overwhelming to all of us, and the student looks for any avenue to relieve this anxiety. We believe that not only can your student **handle** the commitment involved in Instrumental Music, but that this commitment will **improve** your student's schooling overall. We have seen this time and again – they learn structure, teamwork, creativity, and much more from our program, and create lifelong memories.

Throughout the history of Instrumental Music at CDSHS, many of our school's highest-achieving students were part of our program, and saw the benefits throughout their schooling lives.

We strongly encourage all students to start the new year strongly. If a student wishes to leave the program, they will need to bring a letter from home, signed by a parent or guardian, and we would appreciate the opportunity to discuss this with the student and/or parent/guardian.

- Students must have an interview with their respective teacher and the Head of Department prior to termination of lessons.
- Parents/guardians will not receive a refund for the current semester.

Creative Arts Support Team (CAST)

This is a group of parents, teachers and friends who work together as a support group for Creative Arts.

The group will meet at times to be communicated to all interested parents and carers. More information will be sent home.

2024 ENSEMBLE REHEARSAL TIMES

ENSEMBLE/ GROUP	DAY	TIME	Venue	DIRECTOR
SYMPHONIC BAND	Tuesday	2.50- 4:30pm	Performance Space	Ms Cleary tclea49@eq.edu.au
WIND ENSEMBLE	Wednesday	2.50- 4.45pm	Performance Space	Mr Purnell spurn1@eq.edu.au
SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA	TBA			Ms Slater/Mr Purnell
CONCERT BAND	Monday	2.45-4pm	Performance Space	Ms Wolfe Jwolf4@eq.edu.au
JUNIOR CHOIR (YRS. 7-9)	Thursday	7:45- 8:35am	P1	Mrs McDuff mcduffl@eq.edu.au
JAZZ COLLECTIVE	Tuesday & Wednesday mornings	7:30- 8:35am	Performance Space - Vocalist Wednesdays	Mr Purnell spurn1@eq.edu.au
SENIOR PERCUSSION ENSEMBLE	Thursday morning	7:20- 8:35am	Performance Space	Mr Higgins ahigg3@eq.edu.au
JUNIOR STRING ENSEMBLE (7-9)	Thursday afternoon	2.50- 4:00pm	Drama Space	Mrs Slater aslat50@eq.edu.au
SENIOR CHOIR (YRS. 10-12)	Thursday morning	7:30- 8:35am	P2	Mrs Purnell rmcdo6@eq.edu.au
JAZZ ORCHESTRA	Friday afternoon	2.50- 4:15pm	Performance Space	Ms Cleary
SENIOR STRING ENSEMBLE	Wednesday morning	7:30- 8:35am	Drama Space	Mrs Slater
JUNIOR C CLUB JUNIOR JAZZ	TBC TBC			Mrs McDuff MS CLEARY/MR PURNELL
JUNIOR PERCUSSION ENSEMBLE	Thursday	2.45-4pm	Performance Space	Mr Higgins ahigg3@eq.edu.au