



Aspley East State School



2019 Music Program

INFORMATION BOOKLET

The Music Program

Music is an integral part of life at Aspley East State School. The Music Program aims to develop creativity, which is present in varying degrees in all children. The development of the child's awareness of music, response to music and the development of the capacity for self-expression can achieve this. As in other curriculum areas, learning is activity based and through a variety of such activities, the children are taught the basic skills of music – beat, rhythm, pitch, singing, movement, listening, musical literacy, creating and playing. Great emphasis is given to the playing aspect.

In addition to the Classroom Music Program, the Instrumental Music Program aims to:

- give students the opportunity to study a musical instrument in a group setting
- provide ensemble experience for students, to develop performance skills
- complement classroom programs in the development of music throughout the school and
- add an extra dimension to the school music program.

Music Staffing at Aspley East State School is as follows:

Mr. Mik Van Poelgeest – Instrumental Music Teacher (Brass/Woodwind/Percussion)

Ms. Amanda Jerram – Instrumental Music Teacher (Strings)

Mr. Dean Le Vesconte – Classroom Music Teacher (Choirs/ Guitar/Ukulele Groups)

Our school has the following ensembles and choirs at present:

- Concert Band
- String Orchestra
- Senior Choir
- Signing Choir
- Junior Choir
- Guitar/ Ukulele Groups

Many of these groups participate in competitive and non-competitive events during the year.

The following musical instruments are taught at Aspley East State School

Ukulele and Guitar (in Classroom Music)

Strings (*Violin, Viola, Cello, Double Bass*) from Year 3

Woodwind (*Flute, Clarinet, Saxophone*) from Year 4

Brass (*Trumpet, Trombone, Euphonium*) from year 4

Percussion (*Snare & Bass Drum, Aux. Percussion, Xylophone*) from year 4

Please Note:

1. The School Instrumental Music Program is an optional program. Acoustic guitar and piano/keyboard lessons are not conducted as part of the Education Queensland syllabus: it is necessary to arrange private lessons with external teachers or music schools for students wishing to learn these instruments.
2. Instrumental tuition is free; however, a \$90 levy per year applies for the use of supplementary equipment such as band/orchestra music, folders and general program costs. Students using a school instrument (if eligible) will be required to pay a total levy of \$120 for each year of the loan (reverting to \$90 in the next year after purchase of their own instrument). Levy charges are subject to change, due to the high cost of maintenance, repairs and replacements.
3. Placement in the program is confirmed annually either upon full payment of the \$90 or \$120 levy per student (depending on whether an instrument needs to be hired) or by submission of an agreed payment plan by the stated deadline (to be advised).
4. The Instrumental Music Program is a formal state school subject with a curriculum. As such, reporting takes place at the end of each semester (and will be printed on the school report card).

Loan Instruments

Some instruments are owned by Education Queensland (Aspley East State School) and can be borrowed on an annual basis. Some instruments are also owned by students within (or entering) the instrumental program. Recruitment is limited to the instruments for loan available as well as the instruction time available: purchase of an instrument will not guarantee a place in the program unless your child has already been offered a position. Most loans are for a twelve-month period. Parents are expected to purchase an instrument after the loan has expired. This ensures that the next year's intake of students can be offered the same opportunity to enter the program. Instruments available for a twelve-month loan are flute, clarinet, trumpet, alto saxophone, violin and viola. Larger, expensive instruments (such as cello, double bass and tuba) may be available for extended loan or as needed.

Insurance advice: You are asked to add the instrument to your home and contents insurance while it is on loan to you. Education Queensland insurance only covers fire or break and enter incidents that occur at school.

Many hire/buy agreements are available through music retailers. Please see your child's instrumental instructor if you need advice.

A loan agreement will be signed before the loan is complete. It is expected that your child will follow guidelines below:*

1. Do not give the instrument to other people or let other people play your instrument.
2. Notify the school and send a letter to your child's instrumental music teacher if a problem occurs with the instrument. (Minor issues, such as broken strings, are easily fixed, provided that your child owns and brings the required accessories to each lesson).
3. Maintain the instrument correctly during the loan period.*

*Strings students should refer to Appendix 1.

Selection Process

As stated in Education Queensland's Instrumental Guidelines, recruitment depends on available time for tuition, expansion of the program, size of the school and so forth.

In choosing students for the following year, the following processes are applied:

LIAISON WITH CLASSROOM MUSIC – The classroom music specialist gives advice regarding lesson behaviour, attitude and musical abilities in rhythmic, melodic and harmonic perception.

LIAISON WITH CLASSROOM TEACHER – The classroom teacher will give marks for homework, behaviour, attitude and a general comment on the child.

THE INSTRUMENTAL TEACHER – will test for physical attributes, e.g. height of child, size and agility of fingers, whether child has/will get braces, whether child has an overbite, etc.

Information is collated and children are placed in groups according to the suitability of instruments. Cut-off must be made for a balanced instrumentation in the ensembles. Students may be placed on a waiting list because not all students can be accepted due to time allocation and maximum teaching numbers. We try our best to suit the children to their chosen instrument but more importantly we want your children to enjoy their musical experience at Aspley East State School.

Ascertainment Process

Rationale

1. As many children as possible are to be given the opportunity to participate in the Instrumental Music Program.
2. All children are to have an equal opportunity of being involved considering both prior experience and lack of experience.
3. Children in the higher levels will be given first preference to ensure all children have the opportunity of being involved before leaving primary school. However, if enrolled for Year 6 only, it may not be possible to start lessons.
4. In general, strings are started in Year 3 and other instruments in Year 4. Children who are already playing instruments when entering the school will be given a position in the program if a lesson vacancy exists.

Expectations

Children in the instrumental program are expected to become members of the school-allocated ensembles when they have attained the necessary standards, usually by the second year. The ensembles rehearse once a week and perform at school and community functions. Ensemble playing is a very important part of the musician's development. Your child may be required to perform at functions out of school hours and it is expected that they attend these functions. You will be notified in writing of all external performances. Being a member of a band, choir, orchestra or other ensemble is like participating in the ultimate team sport! To create music successfully, every single performer has an important role to play. Absences due to illness or major difficulties require a written note from parents, as soon as possible.

Choir

Experience in choral singing is available for children in years 2-6. Choirs are listed below:

- Junior Choir - Open to all Years 2 – 3 & Senior Choir - Open to all Years 4 – 6
- Signing Choir
- Extension Vocal Groups - Open to all Years 3 - 6

Choir/vocal group membership involves attendance at all rehearsals and performances throughout the year. (These choirs/groups may be changed in 2019 and are at the discretion of the Classroom Music Teacher).

Practice

Children in the music program are expected to practise for a minimum of 20 minutes per day (starting with about 10 minutes). The amount of work our teachers can accomplish during a lesson will depend on the work completed at home. Please encourage your child into a routine and provide a suitable space for their practice. A music stand is necessary for the development of good posture. Please see Appendix 2 for Practice Hints and Appendix 3 for a sample Practice Record.

Kickstart Program

All new Woodwind, Brass and Percussion students will be involved in the Kickstart Program within the first 3 weeks of school. New String students will be timetabled into double lessons in weeks 2/3 only. Instruction will include important factors such as:

- safely taking the instrument out of the case
- assembly of the instrument
- maintenance
- posture
- holding the instrument

Lessons

After Kickstart, children learning brass, woodwind or percussion will move to a weekly lesson. Continuing string students will commence weekly lessons. Lessons for all instrumentalists will occur in the instrumental music room and will rotate on a weekly basis on an allocated day. Children will be issued with a lesson timetable and must become aware of their responsibilities to arrive on time. Rotation is necessary to avoid the same lesson being missed in any particular subject. Please note that changes may occur from time to time, due to internal school events and external factors (such as camp audition days). Children are advised to check notices before each week's lessons. Tuition is given in groups of between two and eight students. Due to the fact that the instrumental music teachers have several schools' programs to cover each week (and due to rehearsal commitments) it is not possible for students to be taught outside school hours.

N.B.: Parents are asked to note that students must commit themselves for a full year's involvement in the instrumental music program. Notices regarding continuation are sent home during Term 4.

Band and Orchestra Uniform/Folders

Concert Band and Senior String Orchestra members are required to wear a uniform for public performances. The \$90 basic Instrumental Music Levy includes the provision of the uniform at no extra charge. The uniform is handed back after the last performance of the school year. Beginners who are not yet performing in the main Senior String Orchestra or Concert Band will not need to hire a uniform.

The girls' hired uniform comprises a full length black skirt, a white, long-sleeved blouse and a bottle green bow tie, cummerbund and scrunchie (for students with long hair, which must be tied back). The boys' hired uniform comprises black trousers, a white, long-sleeved shirt and a bottle green bow tie and cummerbund.

The hired uniform must be taken to and from school on a hanger in a clothing bag. Girls also need to wear the following (purchased) items: black pantyhose or knee high stockings, black, closed-toe, low-heeled plain court shoes. Boys also need to wear the following (purchased) items: black socks and black leather (or leather-look) formal (laced) shoes - not joggers.

Music folders are issued to students upon entry to an ensemble. These are to be returned immediately by students leaving the program/school during the year (and by the end of November for students leaving at the end of the year). All ensemble music must be kept in the folder and returned immediately upon request. (This is to ensure that band/orchestra arrangements are not rendered useless by lost and damaged parts – the average replacement cost of just one piece of ensemble music can be in excess of \$120!

Communication with the School

If your child is experiencing difficulties, the instrumental teachers are very happy to discuss the matter with you. Please call the school to make an appointment. The Principal, in conjunction with the Instrumental Music Teacher, may exclude students from tuition if they do not make steady progress either through lack of practice, attendance or aptitude or if they do not attend practices and functions, as required. In such cases, contact will be made with parents prior to such action. In most cases, solutions can be reached to ensure the best outcome for everybody concerned.

Instrumental Music Staff

Mr. Mik Van Poelgeest (Woodwind/Brass/Percussion) B. Creative Arts (Music), Grad. Dip. Ed.

Mik Van Poelgeest commenced his teaching career in 1996 at Longreach, Queensland. During his four years in Longreach, Mik taught instrumental music at Longreach State High School, Longreach State School, Ilfracombe State School, Barcaldine State School and Blackall State School. Mik also taught classroom music at Longreach State High School for two years. As there were no instrumental music programs in existence at the time, Mik established instrumental music programs at the above mentioned schools in 1996. In 1999, the students involved in the instrumental music program travelled to Brisbane to take part in the Brisbane Schools Band Festival. Following his time in Longreach, Mik taught in a number of districts in Queensland as well as a two year teaching stint in Dubai in the United Arab Emirates, before moving to Brisbane in 2005 where he currently works at Aspley East State School, Boondall State School, Aspley State High School and Sandgate District State High School. Mik's main instrument is the trombone and he has participated in a number of ensembles outside of school both in and outside of Brisbane. In 2006 he formed the Northside Youth Jazz Ensemble which includes students from both primary and high schools on the Northside of Brisbane.

Ms. Amanda Jerram (Strings) B.Mus. (Perf), Dip. Ed., A.Mus.A. (Pfte), A.MusA. (Vln), A.T.M.A., M.I.M.T.

Amanda is a graduate of the University of Qld. She has toured in Australia and overseas as a member of the Blackstone Ipswich Cambrian Choir, the Qld. Youth Orchestra 1 and St. Stephen's Cathedral Orchestra. She has worked as an orchestral violinist with the Qld. Symphony Orchestra and has performed as a violinist, pianist and/or musical director in countless concerts, musicals, and other major works. She continues to play at concerts and functions in various Chamber groups. Highlights include A.B.C. radio live and recorded broadcasts. Amanda has experience as a private music teacher and has taught years 8 – 12 music, history, geography and other related subjects for over 13 years (at Stanthorpe, Redcliffe and Wavell State High Schools). She switched to the field of string teaching in April, 1996. Amanda has also served as a panel member with the Queensland Studies Authority in recent years. She currently teaches in 4 schools and is based at Craigslea State High School.

Mr. Dean Le Vesconte (Classroom Music)

Mr Dean Le Vesconte studied Jazz Guitar in 1994 at the Qld Conservatorium of music and completed a Bachelor of Education majoring in music in 2004. During this timeframe Dean has performed in numerous musical acts within a vocal and instrumental context. Dean has taught general classroom, special education and classroom music.

Texts and Accessories

(Stringed Instruments)

ESSENTIAL items which need to be **purchased** by strings students are as follows (for students using both school instruments and their own instruments):-

For Violin or Viola: (prices given are approximate and will vary)

1. rosin - \$5.00
2. **1 set of spare strings of correct size - \$14 to \$40 (steel). Please wait until your child is issued with an instrument before purchasing strings, so that the size is known.**
3. Shoulder rest (of correct size) - up to \$50 (depending on quality and type). Less expensive brands are adequate for beginners. Everest, Hidersine, Fom, Kun and Willy Wolf brands are recommended for functionality, comfort and durability. **School violins and violas will be issued with a shoulder rest (which must be returned at the end of the loan period).**
4. 2 cleaning cloths (**clean rags will do**)
5. 1 **thin** exercise book or notebook (for handouts/instruction)
6. Tuning device (as advised by teacher - \$6.95 to \$45.45 depending on type). **This is not necessary for any student who has daily access to an electric keyboard or piano. Phone and tablet apps can also be used.**
7. Music stand for home practice and use at music camps in later years - \$23
8. 2 x **6B** pencils
9. "String Basics", Book 1 for Violin (or Viola) by Jeremy Woolstenhulme and Terry Shade - \$21.95 (prices vary from store to store)

For `Cello:

1. rosin - \$5.50
2. **1 spare "A" string (of correct size) - \$18.50. Any student with his or her own instrument will require a full set (about \$80). Please wait until your child is issued with an instrument before purchasing an A string, so that the size is known.**
3. 2 cleaning cloths (as for Violin/Viola)
4. 1 thin exercise book or notebook (as for Violin/Viola)
5. Tuning device (as for Violin/Viola)
6. Music stand (as for Violin/Viola)
7. 2 x **6B** pencils
8. "String Basics", Book 1 for `Cello by Jeremy Woolstenhulme and Terry Shade - \$21.95 (prices vary from store to store)

For Double Bass:

1. rosin - \$5.50
2. 1 set spare strings (of correct size) - \$120 (only required by a student using their own instrument; strings may be purchased individually when needed)
3. 2 cleaning cloths (as for Violin/Viola)
4. 1 thin exercise book (as for Violin/Viola)
5. Tuning device (as for Violin/Viola)
6. Music stand (as for Violin/Viola)
7. 2 x **6B** pencils
8. "String Basics", Book 1 for Bass by Jeremy Woolstenhulme and Terry Shade - \$21.95 (prices vary from store to store)

Most items will last indefinitely and can be resold. The set book comes in three volumes, so upgrading is necessary as a student progresses. Book 1 will be required for 2019. Spare strings (for emergencies) need to be replaced as they are used. Steel strings are the most economical. Please note that brands and prices vary a great deal between stores. For items such as rosin and strings, it is advisable to ring stores and compare prices. Quality influences price. Local general music stores (as well as the specialist retailers listed in Appendix 1) carry some or all of these necessary accessories.

(Brass, Woodwind and Percussion Instruments)

BRASS

Trumpet :

Valve oil/tuning slide grease/mouthpiece brush/polishing cloth and "Standard of Excellence", Book 1 (Red)

Trombone :

Slide Cream/tuning slide grease/mouthpiece brush/polishing cloth and "Standard of Excellence", Book 1 (Red)

Euphonium/Baritone/Tuba:

Valve Oil/tuning slide grease/mouthpiece brush/polishing cloth and "Standard of Excellence", Book 1 (Red)

WOODWIND

Clarinet :

Clarinet Reeds Size 1 ½ /cork grease/pull thru cloth and "Standard of Excellence", Book 1 (Red)

Flute :

Polishing cloth/cleaning rod/cleaning cloth and "Standard of Excellence", Book 1 (Red)

Saxophone :

Saxophone Reeds Size 1 ½ /cork grease/pull thru cloth and "Standard of Excellence", Book 1 (Red)

PERCUSSION

All percussion students need a practice pad to practice their drumming and a "Standard of Excellence" Percussion Book, Book 1 (Red)

Dear Parents,

REPAIR OF STRINGED INSTRUMENTS BELONGING TO ASPLEY EAST STATE SCHOOL

Owing to the very large number of school instruments in use at Aspley East State School (as well as in other schools) this year, it is not always possible for the teacher to take damaged instruments to a repairer immediately, or to find a replacement instrument for a student to use while repairs are being made. Therefore, to expedite the process, I am asking parents to follow the procedure listed below:

- 1 Send a brief note so that I am aware of the problem (unless I discover it first). If I can repair the instrument immediately, I will. Otherwise, I will send a message home to indicate what action needs to be taken. Please note that reasonable wear and tear repairs are the school's responsibility but that repairs due to **mistreatment or accidental damage whilst in the care of a student are the responsibility of parents**, as are repairs to privately owned instruments. Strings will break from time to time, so it is essential that all students have the required spares, so they can be replaced immediately. Strings are regarded as consumables and are the responsibility of students and parents.
- 2 If possible, deliver the instrument to a repair shop (after I have inspected the problem and the Music Coordinator has given approval for the repair to be undertaken) and collect the instrument when ready from the repairer. This will avoid delays which will inevitably occur if I have to get the instrument to a repairer and collect it. I visit multiple schools full time and cannot always get to the repairer during business hours.

Please note that delays will also occur if instruments are taken to general music stores, because stringed instruments are always sent away to be fixed. In addition, stringed instruments need to be fixed by specialist repairers.

The closest repairs are available at these businesses:

- Animato Violin Shop 789 Kingsford Smith Drive, Eagle Farm Ph. 1300 739777
- Simply for Strings 78 Enoggera Terrace, Red Hill Ph. 1300 739293
- Morris Brothers Musical Store (usually sent away to the luthier) Billabong Street, Stafford Ph. 3356 3299

It is always a good idea to telephone the first 2 listed repair shops prior to visiting. They can experience busy periods (especially during school holidays) and opening hours may vary.

I will continue to do my best to ensure that all school instruments are maintained and repaired as needed but assistance from parents in this regard will be very gratefully accepted.

Yours faithfully

Amanda Jerram
Instrumental Music Teacher

Helen Butler
Deputy Principal

Dear Parents:

Re: Repair of Woodwind/Brass/Percussion Instruments belonging to Aspley East State School

Owing to the large number of school instruments in use at Aspley East State School, as well as in my other schools each year, it is not always possible for me to take instruments requiring repairs to a repairer immediately. A replacement instrument will be issued for use during repairs if possible (but availability cannot be guaranteed). Therefore, to expedite the process, I am asking parents to follow the procedure listed below:

1. Send a brief note so that I am aware of the problem. The problem will be fixed immediately if possible. Please note that reasonable wear and tear repairs are the school's responsibility but repairs due to mistreatment or accidental damage whilst in the care of a student are the responsibility of parents, as are repairs to privately owned instruments.
2. If at all possible, deliver the instrument to a repair shop (after I have inspected the problem and have given approval for the repair to be undertaken) and collect the instrument (when ready) from the repairer. This will avoid delays, which will inevitably occur if I have to deliver and collect the instrument. I am not at the school daily and cannot always get to the repairer during business hours.

It is always a good idea to telephone the repair shop in advance because they tend to experience busy periods (especially during school holidays) and opening hours vary.

I will continue to do my best to ensure that all school instruments are maintained and repaired as necessary but all assistance from parents in this regard will be gratefully appreciated.

Mik Van Poelgeest
Instrumental Music Teacher

Helen Butler
Deputy Principal

HINTS FOR SUCCESSFUL PRACTICE

Read this with your parents then follow the hints to make your practice time more enjoyable and more successful.

1. Find a place to play where you won't be disturbed.
2. Place your music on a music stand or in a position where you can play comfortably.
3. Start with something you can play well and enjoy. Practise some exercises for a few minutes. Now work on a new piece or the difficult piece from your last lesson.

Play the piece right through slowly.

Begin again. When you come to a difficult section, stop - decide which notes are giving you trouble and practise them slowly over and over again. Don't play them faster until you can do them easily.

Do the same with any other difficult sections in the piece.

Play the whole piece through again quite slowly.

Play the whole piece through at the proper speed.

4. Now work on a piece you know quite well but would like to know better. Listen critically to the sound you are making and try to play as beautifully as possible.
5. Reward yourself for your good work by ending with your favourite piece.

IF YOU ARE HAVING TROUBLE:

1. Are you sure you know the notes?
2. Do you understand the timing?
3. Have you looked up the meanings of terms and symbols in your tutor book?

(Take time to work these things out and, if you still can't manage, ask for help at the next lesson)

Then fill in the practice record for the day! Students may* be issued with a sheet for this purpose – see Appendix 3.

*eg. Year 3 and 4 beginners in the Strings Program.

DAILY PRACTICE RECORD

PLEASE BRING THIS SHEET TO YOUR LESSON EVERY WEEK (IT SHOULD BE PASTED TO YOUR EXERCISE BOOK)

Student's Name:

To make good progress on your instrument, **20 minutes** of daily practice is **essential**.

Parents: Please enter the number of minutes your child has practised and initial daily. If no practice has been done, enter 'N' and state the reason. If two practice sessions occur on one day, please enter both.

Homework										Teacher Comment

Shaded areas are for parents to initial
 *area to indicate number of minutes per day

Appendices 4 and **5**: Contract (for all students) and Loan Form (for students using school instruments only). **PLEASE NOTE THAT THE LOAN FORM MAY BE A SEPARATE ATTACHMENT.**

ASPLEY EAST STATE SCHOOL INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC PROGRAM ENROLMENT CONTRACT

Student Details

Name: _____ Year Level (2019): _____

Instrument: _____

Instrumental Teacher: _____

Student Commitment

I agree to:

1. Attend all lessons, rehearsals and performances on time.
2. Practise regularly, a minimum of 20 minutes daily or 30 minutes, five times a week.
3. Care for and maintain the instrument and replace accessories.
4. Bring the appropriate book, pencil, folder and instrument to all lessons, rehearsals and performances.
5. Assist with the setting up and packing up of ensemble equipment.

Parent Commitment

I agree to:

1. Support my child in his/her home practice.
2. Support my child in honouring this agreement.
3. Advise the school of my child's absences prior to lessons, rehearsals and performances.

I agree to follow all of the guidelines listed above. I understand enrolment is **for a minimum of one year** and that a levy is payable to the school office at the commencement of each year's enrolment in the instrumental music program.

Parent

Student

Date

Parent's Email Address (please print)