

Pittsworth State High School Instrumental Music Program



2017

General Information for Students

Pittsworth State High School has a proud tradition of excellence in our Instrumental Music Program. This brochure is designed to provide parents with an overview of the Program's operations and requirements.

The Instrumental Music Program provides courses of study in a variety of instrumental subjects and includes ensembles and band training. Many of the Instrumental Music Program activities take place outside normal school hours, for example, lunchtime or before school rehearsals, performances at outside venues or school events at night or during the weekend.

Membership of the Instrumental Music Program demands extra time, effort and commitment to ensure that schoolwork does not suffer. Teamwork is essential.

The range of instruments taught at Pittsworth State High includes the following: -

flute
trumpet
oboe
violin

french horn
euphonium
viola
tuba

cello
clarinet
oboe
bass clarinet

percussion
double bass
saxophone
trombone

bassoon
bass guitar

ENROLMENT

Students enrolled in the Instrumental Music program are considered to be enrolled for a minimum of one school year.

TUITION

Classes take place in small groups and are held on a rotating timetable basis, on one or more days per week. **Students must ensure that they attend all scheduled lessons, barring official school functions or exams.** Students missing lessons must notify the music co-ordinator. If receiving private tuition negotiations may be made with the Music Instructor not to attend all scheduled lessons.

INSTRUMENTS

A limited number of school-owned instruments are available for student use. The maximum period of instrument loan is one school year, or the remaining portion of the school year for mid-year enrolments. Students will be expected to provide their own instrument after completion of a loan period if they wish to continue their instrumental music studies. Instrumental Music tutors available to advise on purchase – type, quality, source etc.

Larger instruments have a longer loan period.

- Short-term loans – 1 year – flute, clarinet, trumpet, trombone, viola, bass guitar
- Mid-term loan – 2 years – Alto saxophone, cello, oboe
- Long-term loan – unspecified duration – all other instruments

Any instrument loan is subject to review at any time, and may be terminated if the student is not making satisfactory progress through lack of commitment, poor conduct, or mistreatment of the school instrument.

REPAIRS TO SCHOOL INSTRUMENTS

Should repairs be necessary during the loan period, the instrumental music instructor should first be notified (or the music co-ordinator, in their absence). If repairs can be carried out locally, it is expected that the student's family will be responsible for transport of the instrument to and from the repairer.

PRACTICE

Students are expected to undertake regular daily practice.

DISCIPLINE

Instrumental Music is one of the most disciplined of all art forms. Self-discipline, courtesy and considerate behaviour will be expected from music students at all times. Music students are subject to all normal school rules of conduct, and should circumstances warrant, students may be withdrawn from the Instrumental Music program.

EXCLUSION FROM PROGRAM

Students not meeting expectations of program will receive a warning and a letter will be sent home informing parents prior to steps being undertaken to exclude the student from the program.

WITHDRAWAL

Premature withdrawal of students from the program is strongly discouraged. Any request for withdrawal should be made by parents, in writing, to the Principal, stating reasons for such withdrawal. Students are not permitted to simply 'opt out' of the program.

SCHOOL PERFORMING GROUPS

Pittsworth State High School regards the development of Bands and other performance groups as a vital adjunct to the learning experiences of its student musicians and an essential element of the overall music and cultural program. Students of band instruments will be required to participate in these groups at regular rehearsals and performances. Rehearsals and performances for performance groups are conducted outside normal school hours (before or after school or during lunch breaks). All students involved are required to be present for all rehearsals, performances and meetings of these groups at scheduled times. Performance may include school events, Awards Night, Anzac Day Ceremony, Community events & competitions.

ENSEMBLES

Students of an acceptable standard are required to be a member of one or a number of school ensembles (Concert Band, Stage Band, String Ensemble, or various small ensembles). Students are required to be on time for rehearsals and provide a written explanation for any absences.

SCREENING OF STUDENT ENTRY

Entry to the Instrumental Music Program is conditional upon -

- Satisfactory level of interest and enthusiasm
- Satisfactory record of scholastic progress and personal conduct
- Completed application form, signed by parent and student, returned to school office
- Possession of appropriate instrument, or availability of instrument for loan
- Attendance and participation in school ensembles

STUDENT REQUIREMENTS

Whether students own their own instrument or use a school-owned instrument, students are expected to provide for their own use the following items, as applicable to their specific instrument (consult with the instrumental teacher before purchasing equipment):

Brass	valve oil or rotary valve oil, Slide grease/cream, bore and mouthpiece brushes, sundry cleaning and maintenance equipment and accessories
woodwind	Reeds and cork grease, bore swab, sundry cleaning and maintenance accessories
percussion	drumsticks, mallets/brushes (advanced students), 'Practice Pad', electronic chromatic keyboard or chromatic glockenspiel (inexpensive type)
stringed instruments	strings, resin, bridges, maintenance equipment and accessories as required
All Students	Method books, sundry other items of study music (as specified by instructor), strong folder for music, music stand (for home practice) Uniform – as per School Prospectus - required for all public performances

INVOLVEMENT OF 'NON-ENROLLED' INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC STUDENTS

Students not formally enrolled in courses of study within the Instrumental Music Program and who possess their own instrument/s, may be accepted upon application to the Band/Orchestra Musical Director/s or the school Principal for inclusion in performing groups such as the Concert Band, String Orchestra, or ensembles. Such students should have attained a proficient level of instrumental playing and music reading ability.

COSTS

Costs which may be incurred include those associated with the provision and maintenance of the instrument and provision of reeds or required equipment and incidental costs such as provision of correct uniform. Parents and students should be fully aware that Instrumental music is a financially intensive area with ongoing costs. Further costs may be those associated with annual music camps and bus trips. The following costs for 2015 are:

Instrumental Music Program Levy	\$ 40
Loan of School Instrument	\$ 70 (except percussion group - \$35 only)

COMMITMENT

Membership of the Instrumental Music Program demands extra effort in that students must not allow school academic work to suffer as a result of their involvement in the program. A thoroughly responsible attitude is necessary to ensure that a student's scholastic standing does not slip or falter.

ASSESSMENT AND REPORTING

Assessment of progress, involvement and conduct of student musicians will be undertaken at the end of the year and a report made to parents.

FORMS

- ◆ An Application for Membership form included in enrolment packs.
- ◆ An Instrument Loan agreement form completed before instrument is given (available from music teacher).

INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC PARENTS' SUPPORT GROUP

Parents are strongly urged to participate in this group, which ensures that all the necessary support is given for the program to function.

The IMPSG generally deals with the ongoing need for fundraising, making decisions on the purchase of instruments and other equipment and most importantly, making arrangements for performances. Some parents assist the music teachers with general administrative and organisational tasks. A significant amount of fundraising is planned for the year, without which the provision of a range of music, purchase of instruments and continued development of the program would not be possible. Parents are requested to make every effort with each of our fundraising initiatives. If we all contribute, the task is made easier for everyone, so please consider this most seriously.

Remember, all our efforts are for the benefit of your son/daughter. We look forward to seeing you at the many music events in our calendar. Meeting dates are advertised in the school newsletter and are usually held once a month in the Resource Centre.

Further information: Contact the school on 4619 8111.



PITTSWORTH STATE HIGH SCHOOL INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC PROGRAM

PO Box 18 Pittsworth Old 4356 Ph 07 46 198 111

ENROLMENT FORM

Name: _____ Year: _____ Instrument: _____

I will provide the instrument listed above for my child. **Yes/No**

Students who wish to gain a place in the Instrumental Music Program must read the terms of enrolment (listed below) and agree to abide by them.

Parents' Commitments:

It is requested that parents give their full support to the Instrumental Music Program. Where possible, please assist by:-

- Overseeing student attendance and punctuality
- Facilitating travel to and from performances and camps
- Establishing and encouraging regular practice routines
- Keeping instrument and equipment in good repair and playing condition
- Reminding students of the need to bring instruments and music to all instrumental activities
- Reading the School Newsletter monthly to be informed of Instrumental Music news
- Paying the levies, Camp and other costs involved with your student's instrumental music education. (A more detailed description of costs and levies can be found in the Instrumental Music Booklet.)

Student's Commitments:

Every student must agree to the following terms:

1. I agree to practice daily – minimum 30 minutes daily.
2. I agree to attend all lessons, rehearsals and activities as required.
3. I agree to take part in all performances and concerts as required, and camps where possible.
4. I agree to become a committed member of the School Ensembles and other groups as designated by the Instrumental teacher.
5. I agree to arrive promptly with all equipment required.
6. I agree to supply a note of explanation from my parent/guardian should I be unable to attend any instrumental music lesson or commitment.
7. I agree to remember to promptly pass on notes and letters (when they are issued) to my parent/guardian.
8. I agree to catch up on any regular classwork missed due to instrumental lessons.

Termination of Lessons

This will occur in two ways:

1. Voluntary Exclusion: you may remove your child at your discretion, by completing and returning the Voluntary Exclusion Form.
2. Compulsory Exclusion: The Instrumental Music teacher (in consultation with the Principal) may exclude a student if progress, practice, attendance or behaviour standards are not met.

I have read the terms of enrolment and agree to abide by them.

.....
Parent/Guardian signature

.....
Date

.....
Student signature