



St Peter's College

**INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC PROGRAM
HANDBOOK**

2024

MUSIC DEPARTMENT AT ST. PETER'S COLLEGE

OUR VISION

St. Peter's College Performing Arts enriches each student's cultural development through the development of creativity and innovation through music. The creation of performance, understanding and development of creativity is fostered through the discipline and art of music. This process stimulates personal, intellectual and social growth and has a positive, life-long influence.

INTRODUCTION

By offering exceptional and creative musical activities we cultivate the experience of individual and collective accomplishment and search for meaning. We endeavour to expand the musical opportunities available to all students and to enhance the quality of our community's musical life.

Learning a musical instrument and making music with others develops;

- Musical and creative skills
- Commitment, critical assessment, communication and time management
- Enhances intellectual thinking and learning abilities across the curriculum
- Enjoyment and a sense of achievement

Musical education is an intrinsic component of a complete education. It is a part of our culture, past and present, and encourages understanding, tolerance and acceptance of difference. The expression of discipline, self-motivation, perseverance and persistence are all valuable life skills.

Each student receives individual and personalised tuition from a specialist in their field of music. This ensures that every child's progress is tailored to their learning style, speed of comprehension and physical development. The ensemble program at the College enhances the instrumental program by offering opportunities to perform and create music with their peers.

Before enrolling your child, please consider the commitment needed to successfully undertake this study. It requires the establishment and maintenance of a regular home practice routine and considerable parental support. Communication with the department, teachers, and attendance at performances is encouraged.

Mr Andrew Church
Instrumental Music Coordinator
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AVAILABLE TUITION

INDIVIDUAL TUITION

Individual Tuition involves a weekly one-on-one lesson with one of our instrumental music teachers. The lesson time is cycled through the school day to ensure that students are not missing the same class each week. Lessons outside of classroom hours, or a fixed lesson time can be negotiated (preference will be given to senior students).

Students may enrol in either 30-minute or 45-minute lessons, with 45-minute lessons strongly recommended for students studying VCE music or Grade 5 AMEB or higher.

SHARED TUITION (2 or 3 STUDENTS)

Shared tuition involves a weekly shared lesson with one of our instrumental music teachers. The lesson time is cycled through the school day to ensure that students are not missing the same class each week. Lessons outside of classroom hours, or a fixed lesson time can be negotiated.

A shared lesson may not be possible if there is no partner of a similar standard. In the case of a shared lesson having only one participant, students will need to enrol in individual lessons until a partner can be found.

Note: Shared lessons are NOT available for students learning piano, or students working towards external exams. They are only available to percussion students when they are a beginner.

TUITION IS AVAILABLE ON THE FOLLOWING INSTRUMENTS

- Voice
- Piano
- Guitar
- Bass Guitar
- Drum Kit/Percussion

COST OF TUITION

Fees will be charged to your school account each term, and are subject to an annual review. If lessons commence after the beginning of an instalment period, a pro rata adjustment may apply.

FEE STRUCTURE

Each student is expected to receive **eight** lessons per term. This allows for public holidays and other school based interruptions. Missed lessons may be made up, but this depends on teacher availability and timetabling constraints. Extra lessons may be added by contacting the Instrumental Music Coordinator.

Please note that the cost of missed lessons will not be refunded. Requests for variations to fees incurred are at the discretion of the College and the Instrumental Music Coordinator.

It is recommended that all students studying VCE Music Performance enrol in 45 minute individual lessons.

Fee structure for **30 minute** lessons:

Private	Paired	Group of 3
\$38	\$19	\$12.70

Fee structure for **45 minute** lessons

Private	Paired	Group of 3
\$57	\$28.50	\$19

Payment:

1 payment a term for 8 x **30 min** lessons.

Private	Paired	Group of 3
\$304	\$152	\$101.6

1 payment a term for 8 x **45 min** lessons.

Private	Paired	Group of 3
\$456	\$228	\$152

WHAT DOES THIS FEE COVER?

- 8 lessons per term with a specialist instrumental teacher per school year.
- On occasion due to camps, excursions, public holidays, student free days and other interruptions, there may be some weeks when lessons do not occur (please refer to make-up lessons)

WHAT IS NOT COVERED BY THE FEE?

- Specialty items and advanced sheet music (varies considerably depending on instrument)
- Examination entry fees and accompanists
- Instrument hire

HOW TO ENROL

Students may commence instrumental music lessons at the start of each term. A pro rata charge will apply if commencing during a term. To commence tuition, simply complete the Enrolment Form at the end of this handbook.

After the [Enrolment Form](#) is received, parents will be contacted by the allocated instrumental teacher regarding the time of the first lesson. If the teacher/s for the particular instrument requested is/are fully booked, the student will be placed on a waiting list. You will be contacted by the Instrumental Music Coordinator if this is the case.

Students are required to re-enrol each year to cater for any possible changes to pricing.

INSTRUMENTS

Students are expected to have their own instruments for practice at home. Companies such as [Musicorp Australia](#) or [Yamaha Rentals](#) hire out instruments on a monthly basis. Additionally, we can put you in contact with a sales representative Coleman's Music or Future Music who can help you source a suitable instrument to buy.

Students are expected to purchase or print their own music, as well as provide a display folder (for their music) and an exercise book (for notes about their lessons from their teacher).

CHANGE OF INSTRUMENT/TEACHER

If requesting a change from one instrument or one teacher to another, fill out another [Enrolment Form](#).

TIMETABLING OF LESSONS

Instrumental music lessons are taught on a rotating timetable throughout the school day. Each student will miss a portion of class to attend their lesson, but it will be at a different time each week. This is designed to minimise disruption to the same class or subject. Students cannot expect a time out of school hours, recess or lunch, as these limited number of out of lesson times must first be allocated to Year 12 students and so on, in descending order of seniority.

Timetables are posted on the Instrumental Music Page on SPACE. It is the student's responsibility to check their lesson time each week.

Occasionally a change of time is necessary and unavoidable, usually due to the busy nature of school activities. A change of time will be notified by the music teacher via email.

If students cannot attend their lesson, please ensure they advise their music teacher giving as much notice as possible. Altering lesson times on the day of the lesson may not be possible.

Students are expected to make their own way to their music lessons. Teachers will not collect students from their classrooms.

MAKE-UP LESSONS

Whilst every attempt will be made to make up missed lessons, it may not be possible to do so during the same week or term depending on school programs and staff availability. Teacher time spent at student rehearsals with an accompanist (e.g. before examinations, VET in the VCE or solo performances) is considered lesson time. At least 24 hours' notice of **any** absence is required in order for a make-up lesson to be granted. Lesson changes or swaps on the day are not permitted, and will be rendered as missed lessons.

It is the student's responsibility to inform their teacher when an excursion, incursion, SAC, exam or assessment task clashes with a timetabled lesson, and to arrange for an alternate time **at least a week prior** to the affected lesson.

Lessons will be made up if:

- The teacher is absent on the day of the lesson
- If there is an excursion, incursion, SAC, exam or assessment task, and a week's notice has been given
- The student is absent due to long term illness or injury, and notification has been received from the parent directly to the Instrumental Music Coordinator

Lessons will not be made up if a student:

- Misses a lesson due to forgetfulness
- Misses a lesson due to an incursion, excursion, SAC, exam or assessment task (and a week's notice has not been given)
- Misses a lesson due to illness/absence or an appointment (and 24 hours' notice has not been given)
- Misses a lesson due to involvement in another co-curricular activity (and 24 hours' notice has not been given)
- Misses a lesson due to family/private holidays taken during term time

Term fees will be altered to take public holidays and student free days into account.

DISCONTINUATION OF MUSIC LESSONS

To discontinue music lessons, a [Cancellation Form](#) needs to be completed and submitted two weeks prior to the end of the term. This form must be sent directly to the Instrumental Music Coordinator and will be dated from receipt. This form can be found at the end of this handbook, and is also available on SPACE.

EXAMINATIONS

External examinations supervised by the Australian Music Examinations Board (AMEB), ANZCA (Practical Sessions) and Trinity College London Examinations are all supported by the School. Entry for an examination is at the discretion of the teacher in consultation with the student and parent.

A form authorising examination entry is required to be signed and entrance fees are payable at time of entry. If the form is not signed, returned and payment received no entry can take place until the next session. 50% of fees will be refunded in the case of illness, only if supported by a medical certificate. If a student withdraws from the examination for any other reason no part of the fee is refundable.

There is also a fee for accompaniment provided by College staff. This is payable at the time of entry. The cost varies depending on the grade entered. It may be preferable to engage an external accompanist. Please contact the Instrumental Music Coordinator for advice.

OTHER INFORMATION

COMMUNICATION

The day-to-day running of the department is under the supervision of the Instrumental Music Coordinator. Instrumental Teachers will generally make contact via email or the Instrumental Music SPACE page.

If you would like to discuss your child's progress with the instrumental teacher, please contact them via their St Peter's email address. It is not appropriate for teachers to be contacted at home or after school hours. If it is a matter of urgency, the Instrumental Music Coordinator is best placed to facilitate contact in a timely manner.

PARENT INVOLVEMENT

Please support your child/children in their musical education. You can do this by encouraging them to establish a daily practice routine, making sure that they have the equipment needed for their lessons, attending their performances and keeping in contact with their teacher.

FORMS

[Enrolment Form](#)

[Cancellation Form](#)

Please email these completed forms to the Instrumental Music Coordinator:
Andrew Church achurch@stpeters.vic.edu.au