St John’s Grammar
Junior School

Music Policy

Revised: 2011

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PHILOSOPHY

Music Education is preparation for life!

There needs to be adequate classroom instruction, instrumental tuition, ensembles and performance opportunities as well as opportunities to experience performances.

- Music instruction has value in its own right and is not merely a value added activity.
- Music enriches the lives of everyone and has intrinsic value.
- Music is part of lifelong learning.
- Everyone has the capacity to participate in and enjoy music.
- Music can be learned and enjoyed by anyone at any age.
- Formal and informal music making occurs through participation in family music making, school music programs, studio teaching, community based activities, youth focused programs, self-directed study and adult and further education.
- Music is accessible to a wide range of people including those with mental and physical disabilities
- Music enhances the understanding of cultural and social elements of the community.
- Music as a language is able to evoke imagery and emotion and stimulate thought and intellect. It provides a means of communication and expression of common cultural, social and historical beliefs and values.
- Music functions as a means to worship, entertainment, celebration, relaxation, merchandising, personal expression and fulfillment.
- Music is a discipline that encourages practice, persistence and excellence.
- Music education brings joy, satisfaction, fosters creative expression, challenges thinking and stimulates imagination.
- Music contributes to the learner’s personal growth.
- Through music experience the learner is involved in describing, making judgments and comparisons, evaluating, analysing and synthesising, creating and reflecting.
- Learners explore, develop and refine understandings of music through the interrelated processes of arranging, composing, improvising, performing, critical listening and reflection.
Year 2 Recorder: Coordinator – Caroline Jacobs) 2 hours/week for 2 terms
Teacher – Emily Bell

Year 3 strings tutors 4@ 2 hours/week
- Violin x2 Adrian Rohozinski & Louise Beaston
- Viola Leith Stutterd
- Cello Catherine Finnis

Year 4 strings tutor (Leith Stutterd) 40 minutes/week

Year 5 Band tutors
- Trombone: Aaron Deanshaw
- Trumpet: Robin Finlay
- Clarinet: Mary Anne Roberts
- Flute Pauline Michelson
- Saxophone: Nathan Royle & Caroline Jacobs

String ensemble tutor (Leith Stutterd)

Flute ensemble (Pauline Michelson)

Concert Choir (Caroline Jacobs & Cinzia Cursaro)

St John’s Grammar values the Arts in education and to support this belief offers a specialist music program.

This program has four major aspects:

- Specialist music instruction
- Instrumental tuition
- Ensembles
- Performances

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PERFORMING OPPORTUNITIES

Choral
- IPSHA-Concert Choir
- Eisteddfods
- Grandparents and Grandfriends Days
- Churches
- Elder Hall
- Assemblies

Instrumental
- Assembly performances to attract more students for tuition.
- Grandparents and Grandfriends Days
- IPSHA ensembles
- Elder Hall Night bands
- Ensembles
SPECIALIST MUSIC INSTRUCTION

St John’s offers a broad interconnected music program, and each class from Reception to Year 2 receive a lesson a week of music. They follow a general program that uses singing, listening, playing instruments, moving and creating music to enhance skills development, the many different styles of music and the understanding of music in society. Year 2 students focus on recorder and receive tuition for one semester.

Primary classes in Years 3 and 4 have two lessons a week with a specialist music teacher. One lesson works on developing the skills of music reading, understanding, playing and creating music as well as examining music genres and music in context. The other lesson provides year level choirs that use singing as a medium for enhancing music development. Each class develops a repertoire that enriches their general music class work and offers an opportunity for performances. Music appreciation are also covered during these lessons.

Year 5 students learn a band instrument for the year and in addition have one lesson of music appreciation or classroom choir every second week.

Year 6 students have one lesson with a music specialist and one lesson of either choir or music appreciation every second week.

Lessons are 40 minutes long and endeavour to provide:

- Structured development of music skills and knowledge
- An interesting and enjoyable learning experience
- Open-ended activities that provide challenges while allowing all students to achieve some degree of success

Music has three areas of study that are covered in the program over the year.

- Arts Practice—essentially teaches and works on skills and knowledge of the forms and conventions of music
- Arts Analysis and Response—examines the different styles and genres in music
- Arts in Context—investigates music practices of different eras and cultures

PRIVATE INSTRUMENTAL TUITION

Private instrumental instruction is available at the school in a broad range of instruments including—voice, guitar, recorder, piano, fife, flute, clarinet, saxophone, trumpet, trombone, drum kit, percussion, violin, viola and ‘cello. Parents are billed directly by the tutors, and lessons are accommodated during class time.

ENSEMBLES

Ensembles are an important adjunct to instrumental and vocal development. They reinforce instrumental skill development, give another purpose to learning an instrument and add the complexity of working with others in a cooperative way. St John’s provides opportunities for success, wisdom, balance.
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students to take part in a variety of different ensembles. Students are encouraged to take part in specific vocal, string, recorder, flute and mixed instrumental ensembles available. These ensembles are all conducted and managed by specialist teachers. St John’s Grammar has a well-established choral tradition that is supported by the depth of choral training provided by year level choirs. Concert Choir is comprised of a group of students, who have a special interest in singing and enjoy the challenge of honing their skills and performing. This choir takes part in many special events within and outside the school including the IPSHA Festival and choral Eisteddfods.

PERFORMANCES

St John’s Grammar School values the development of the whole child and offers students the opportunity to experience professional performances. These performances may be staged at the school or as part of a class excursion. Performances are selected on the basis of the value to the child’s educational development and highlight the enjoyment that live performance offers.

RECORDER PROGRAM

Students at Year 2 level take part in the school’s Recorder program for a semester. This program allows all Year 2 students access to specialist instruction in recorder. These classes are held once a week for half an hour in groups of 6.

STRINGS PROGRAM

Students at Year 3 level take part in the school’s Strings Program. This Program allows all Year 3 students access to specialist instruction in a stringed instrument (violin, viola, cello). These classes are held once a week and are also complemented by a weekly choral session as part of year level choir. In Year 4 students are able to choose to continue with their stringed instrument or class choir, as well as classroom music.

BAND PROGRAM

As from 2006 Students at Year 5 level take part in the school’s Band Program. This Program provides all Year 5 students with specialist instruction in flute, clarinet, trumpet, trombone and percussion. The classes are held once a week and are also complemented by a weekly choral session as part of year level choir. In Year 6 students are encouraged to continue with their instrument and join the Junior School Band.
PROGRAM 2011

Rec & Year 1: 40 minutes classroom music. Intensive Kodaly and Orff training to help
students master musical concepts including notation, beat and instrumentation.

Year 2  2 terms recorder tuition 1 hour/week (1/2hr per group) 2 terms Music Tuition

Year 3  String program 1 hour/week (per class) 40 minute choir

Year 4  40 minute classroom music 40 minute strings or choir/music appreciation

Year 5  Band program 40 minutes/week (per class) 40 minute choir/music appreciation
every 2nd week

Year 6  40 minute classroom music
(Computer work includes: Music Ace and Garage Band where students learn in
depth theory and arrangements of Melodies and The History of Rock Music)
40 minute choir/music appreciation every 2nd week.

The following ensembles run during one 40 minute lesson:
- String Ensemble
- Year 4
- String ensemble
- Year 4 String ensemble,
- Junior School Band,
- Wind ensemble,
- Saxophone ensemble,
- Flute ensemble,
- Concert Choir,
- Recorder ensemble,
- Voice ensembles
- Concert choir 45 minutes per week (before school)

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