

Carrum Downs Secondary College



Music Program Handbook 2019

Dear Parents/Guardians/Carers,

Over the past 11 years our music program has experienced significant changes and development. We have been particularly focused on further developing the program over the past four years, passionately advocating a structured music programs, due to the benefits it has on student learning. We are proud of what we have achieved in these recent years, as a result of the revision of the program.

The year 2019 will mark an important milestone in the college's music program as it has now started its consolidation phase. CDSC and the region are investing increased resources into the program via instruments, staffing and subsidised student costs. Our goal is to provide students with the skill and joy of learning a instrument, while building teamwork, organisation, confidence and positive relationships with other students and staff. We have started small and are continuing to build each year. We want the program to be highly successful and for all students involved to be proud of their achievements, as well as experiencing the full benefits of engaging in music learning.

Our 2019 aims are to further develop in the areas listed below:

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Concert Band• Stage Band• Ensembles• Strings Orchestra• Singing (solo and groups)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Students who are happy, engaged, being challenged and experiencing success• Further certify music, including AMEB levels/AusVELS and VCE music• Increase the number of students selecting to study classroom music electives, including VCE.
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Why is CDSC investing in a music program?

There is now abundant research showing that music brings a great range of benefits to young people. Music-making has unique effects on brain development, integrating the activity of many different areas of the brain.

Research demonstrates that effective music education commonly lifts the self-confidence of students and increases student performance in general, with some research indicating accelerated learning in other subjects. Music education can also lead to greater creativity, which is highly prized in our society and culture. Furthermore, young people develop better social and emotional skills.

In a two-year Swiss study that involved 1200 children in 50 schools students were taken from regular classes and instead placed in music classes three times per week. At the end of the two-year experiment these students were "better at language, learned to read more effectively, experienced increased social relations, demonstrated more enjoyment in school and had lower stress levels than those who remained in regular classes".

The purpose of this handbook is to provide potential and current music students with a clear understanding of the program's structure, expectations and desired outcomes.

We look forward to working and learning with you in 2019 and beyond.

Kind Regards,

CDSC Music Team

Instrumental Music Program

The conditions of Instrumental Music lessons are as follows:

1. A minimum of eight 30 min individual or small group lessons during school time will be provided for each child, each term.

2. Ensemble and band rehearsal are:

- **Training Band:** Year 7 equivalent, beginner instrumental level students.
 - o Instrumental group lessons, 30 minutes (1 half period) commencing Term One.
 - o Full band rehearsal and theory lessons, TBA
- **Junior Band:** Year 8 equivalent, 1 year playing experience.
 - o Instrumental group lessons, 30 minutes (1 half period) commencing Term One.
 - o Full band rehearsal and theory lessons, TBA
- **Concert Band:** Year 9 equivalent or higher, 2-3 years playing experience.
 - o Lunchtime rehearsals in Semester One.
 - o Semester Two one period per week.
- **Stage Band:**
 - o After school rehearsal, Thursdays (approximately 3.20-4.30)
- **Combined Band:**
 - o Rehearsals scheduled as required leading up to performances.
- **String Orchestra/Ensemble:**
 - o Will rehearse a small ensemble and combined with other instruments during 2019, TBA
- **Choral/Voice Group:**
 - o Will rehearse a small vocal ensemble, and voice students will be invited to sing with the ensembles for select repertoire.

4. Tuition is for a **full academic year**.

5. Attendance Rolls are maintained weekly as a teacher copy and on Compass.

6. A comprehensive written report on student progress will be provided at the conclusion of each semester.

7. All regular and extraordinary lessons, rehearsals and performances are expected to be attended.

8. Depending upon choice of instrument, students will be required to buy instrument specific accessories, a music stand and a tutor book.

Instruments Available

Brass Trumpet Trombone Tuba French Horn Euphonium	Guitar Classical Modern Bass Double Bass	Vocal Contemporary Classical Choral Group (all years)
Piano/ Keyboard Classical Modern Group (Years 2-5)	Percussion Drums Percussion	Woodwind Flute Clarinet Alto Saxophone Tenor Saxophone Bass Clarinet
	Strings Violin Viola Cello	

NOTE: If a student already studies an instrument not listed above, or is interested in learning an instrument not listed above, please contact the college.

If your child is interested in undertaking instrumental lessons but is limited due to financial considerations, please feel free to discuss this with us as a number of lesson structures and payment options are available.

Fee Structure

The cost of tuition for 2019 is **\$300 for the year for all instruments. This fee covers the purchase, maintenance, and repair of instruments and instrumental accessories in the music program. It also covers the cost of sheet music and if applicable the hire loan costs.**

These fees cover a minimum of eight individual or small group lessons per term. Families will be invoiced for their child/children's involvement.

Where applicable this fee will be added to the term invoice.

Instruments

The college's music department does provide brass, woodwind, strings, drum practice pads and sticks for students. You are welcome to discuss the most suitable instrument with your instrumental teacher prior to purchase/rental.

The hire of school owned instruments is fully inclusive in the tuition fee and inclusive of servicing and accessory costs such as, reeds and valve oil. Instruments **must** be returned should your child cease to continue lessons. There is an option when a student can purchase their rental instrument at a later stage, please speak to the college if you would like to inquire about this.

Alternatively, you may consider purchasing a good second hand or new instrument. Please direct any queries to the Instrumental Music Team if you are not sure which option would suit you best.

Enrolment of Students

Students in Years 7 – 12 are eligible to enrol in the program.

During Week Two 2019, students are requested to attend an afterschool session to choose their instruments. Students will then fill out an Expression of Interest Form and the Instrumental Music Team will review all applications for inclusion in the 2019 Instrumental Program.

To ensure the success of the program and for the students to gain enjoyment, fulfilment and personal growth from the program, the following requires careful consideration:

- ♫ Selecting the right instrument for the student
- ♫ Selecting the right student for the instrument
- ♫ Continuity of instruction
- ♫ Instrument selection to ensure a balanced ensemble

There are many aspects that need to be considered during the instrument selection process. The physical characteristics of each student must be considered, for example. This may

include hand size, lip shape, arm length, and each student's ability to make the required sound on his/her instrument of choice. Wherever possible we attempt to match each student to his/her preferred instrument, however, sometimes this is not possible if the selection criteria is not met.

The success of any instrumental program is dependent upon instrumental and sectional balance, as well as the quality of sound produced by individuals and sections.

Instrumental music staff will give careful consideration to how they match students to instruments and the make-up and balance of each ensemble, and provide recommendations to students and parents for instrument selection.

When accepted into the program, it is expected that students will remain committed for the duration of their time at Carrum Downs Secondary College.

Please fill out the Expression of Interest Form in the back of this booklet. Forms will also be available at the college.

Conditions of Enrolment

Student Responsibilities

1. Students participate in a weekly small group lesson during school time. Senior students may negotiate a lesson time before/after school, or at lunch if they would prefer not to have lessons during class time. Lessons are timetabled on Compass in a regular fashion and consistent, prompt attendance is expected.
2. It is **essential** that students undertake regular and diligent practice to enable their productive participation in weekly lessons and rehearsals, and to develop their personal musicianship. We recommend first and second year students practice for 10 minutes daily, with third and fourth year students practising four times a week for 20 minutes each.
4. Acceptance into the Instrumental Program includes membership of an ensemble.
5. Attendance at **ensemble rehearsals is obligatory**. Where attendance is not possible, an apology is expected. This could be in the form of a short note or email from a parent, a phone call or a visit to the appropriate High Leader Pastoral Care Teacher from the student.
6. Prepare and learn music outside of scheduled rehearsals. **The rehearsals are to prepare for performances, not to learn notes.**
7. **Attendance at every ensemble performance is expected**. When in extreme cases where this is not possible, a phone call or signed note from a parent/guardian is required at least two weeks in advance.
8. Students are to check with their general/specialist teachers regarding any work that they may miss due to attendance at a music lesson. Students are responsible for catching up on missed work and negotiating a lesson time change when needed.

Parental Responsibilities

Students in the Instrumental Program need to have the full support of their families. Please help them reach their musical potential by:

1. Providing your child with the following:
 - i. A suitable instrument
 - ii. 1 x clear leaf band folder
 - iii. 1 x music stand
2. Show an interest in the music study of your child.
3. Find a quiet place for your child to practice without interruption.

4. Arrange a regular time to practice.
5. Help your child with practice as much as possible, providing positive feedback.
6. Help your child maintain a practice record using a Music Diary.
7. Provide a safe place for your child to keep their instrument.
8. Keep instrument in good condition with spare reeds, valve oil, etc.
9. Ensure your child is on time for school rehearsals and performances.
10. Value playing music as a worthwhile and valuable activity, taking time to listen to them play, as well as willingly hosting occasional family recitals.
11. Encourage your child to play for others whenever possible.

Student Practice Guidelines

Practice is the **most important component** of your child's weekly routine for development as a musician. It is **essential** that students undertake regular and diligent practice to enable their productive participation in weekly lessons and rehearsals, in order to develop their personal musicianship. The fundamentals presented in their lessons are made real and substantiated in well-constructed practice.

There are a number of areas that must be considered when assisting your child in both practicing and planning their practice. Essentially, you need to ensure that the child has:

- ♫ A reasonable physical environment
 - The area needs to be ventilated and have sufficient light.
 - Give consideration to neighbours, siblings and shift-working parents!
 - A suitable chair and music stand should be available.
 - A secure/safe means of storing the instrument (especially if there are little fingers around!). You might like to consider purchasing an instrument stand (they are available for most instruments). This would allow the instrument to be stored safely on display between practice sessions, and may encourage your child to pick it up as they walk by and slip in an extra 5 minutes of practice!
- ♫ An established time and procedure for practice
 - It is important to realise that the amount of practice is not as important as the consistency of it. 10 minutes each day is far superior to 45 minutes every third day.
 - Planning the days practice is vital in ensuring there is satisfaction through achievement and no waste of time and energy.
 - A plan for practice may include:
 - Warm-up
 - Technical studies – revising scales and class lessons
 - Pieces for performance
 - Ensemble music
 - Fun! – perhaps have them teach you how to play!
 - Performance
 - Established time and procedures allow for 'smart' practice.
 - **Less is more!** – don't expect them to achieve mountains of practice or master difficult techniques all in one session, especially in the early years.
 - Let them make errors and self-correct.
- ♫ A chance to 'perform'
 - Have them play for you!
 - Allow them to 'perform' a piece for you in their practice session.

- Involve other friends who have music in their lives as either performers or listeners.
 - Invite your child's band friends over to play.
- ♫ Constructive and positive responses from you
- Understand that sometimes it is not important to fix every mistake
 - "That's getting better" is more effective than saying "that still has a long way to go"

Attendance at Lessons/ Punctuality

Lessons are scheduled on a rotating timetable so that students do **not** miss the same subject every week. It is preferred that senior students have a set time for their lessons that does not impact of their timetabled classes.

Students have a responsibility to attend lessons punctually. Teachers are **not** obliged to find secondary students who fail to attend their lessons.

If, when the teacher collects them from their lesson, students should decide that they do not wish to attend their lesson at a scheduled time, the teacher **will not** be obliged to make up this lesson time. The teacher will inform the parents via the phone.

Teachers are **not** obliged to make up lessons to students when they have **not** been notified of a student's inability to attend such lesson. Teachers will endeavour to make up lessons missed due to illness, either of the teacher or the student, but students who fail to attend their lessons due to forgetfulness will forfeit their lesson and payment will still be due for the lesson time.

When students forget their instrument on a day that an instrumental lesson is scheduled, it is anticipated that the instrumental teacher will teach music theory, aural and other appropriate exercises during the scheduled lesson time. A teacher is **not** obliged to reschedule a lesson because students have not brought their instrument.

Practice Journal

Students participating in the Instrumental Music Program will keep a Practice Journal. This will facilitate communication between the student and the teacher by providing a week-by-week record of your child's progress in practice and provide homework direction. Which will be completed at home between lessons.

Ensembles and Performances

Students are obliged to participate in a College Ensembles, provided that a suitable ensemble is scheduled. Students are expected to attend musical events, either to perform themselves or to support their peers.

Students participating in an ensemble become an integral member of the team, and it is essential that no student be withdrawn from an ensemble without prior discussion with the Instrumental Music Team.

Frequently Asked Questions:

If my child does not take vocal lessons may he/she participate in the College Vocal groups?

Yes, we welcome participation from all interested students. Students are encouraged to join a vocal group with an attitude to commit, attend rehearsals and to support their fellow choristers.

What if my child wants to be part of the college production, but not part of a choir?

Your child may audition for a part in the production, but preference is given to those who participate in the choir program as they are coached in the skills necessary for chorus performance. There is sometimes student opportunities to play in the production band.

How will we know when music events are scheduled?

The music team will issue a calendar at the beginning of each term, which will detail all upcoming music events. Permission and information slips for all excursions and concerts will be sent home with music students wherever necessary.

If my child learns music privately can he/she participate in the college ensembles, exams, etc?

Students who learn music outside of the college are still welcome to join college ensembles. Please talk to one of the music team staff.

Does the school provide sheet music for the students?

Students are responsible for the acquisition of all music that they need for individual lessons, in consultation with their instrumental teacher. At times, instrumental teachers are able to provide copies of music for student(s) in the short term. The college does provide resources for ensemble students.

Copyright Regulations

Parents should note that the copyright regulations governing the copying of music is extensive and complicated, differing from ensemble to ensemble, and between institutionally and privately owned resources. Further information may be gained by logging onto www.copyright.org.au

Parents are urged therefore, where possible, to purchase original music to support students in their development as musicians.

Can my child learn more than one instrument?

Yes, your child is welcome to study as many instruments as preferred, **provided it does not negatively impact academic progress.**

Selecting an Instrument

In conjunction with the year 7 house meet and greets on **Tuesday 5th & Wednesday 6th February 2019 from 5.00 – 6.30 pm** the music department will be holding **Instrumental Music Information Sessions**. At these events interested parents and students are encouraged to come along to meet current music students and the teachers. Instruments will be available for trial and information regarding participating in the music program will be provided to students and parents. Students will also be able to sign up to learn an instrument at this event. These information sessions are **open to all parents and students from year 7 – 12**.

Additionally all year 7 classes will have a trial and information session in a single period on Friday the 8th of February during the school day, where current music students will demonstrate the instruments and all year 7 students will try 3 instruments and submit a preference sheet. If your child does sign up to play an instrument these preference sheets are used for lesson allocations.

Expression of Interest Forms are due to the office by **Friday 15th of February**. If a student would like to join the program after the date of inclusion, it will be subject to teacher and instrument availability.

MUSIC PROGRAM Expression of Interest 2019



On **Tuesday 5th & Wednesday 6th February 2019** the music team will be holding Music meet & greet in conjunction with the year 7 nights. Select a Musical Instrument Sessions are from 5 pm to 6.30 pm in the college theatre foyer. Interested students in year 7 - 12 and parents are encouraged to attend.

All Expression of Interest Forms are due by **Friday 15th February, 4.00pm**. Please submit to the front office or Mr. Douglas.

Student Name:- _____ **Class:-** _____

INSTRUMENT:	Preferences 1, 2, 3, 4	List any previous experiences.
Trumpet		
Trombone		
Tuba		
French Horn		
Euphonium		
Piano/Keyboard		
Guitar Classical/Modern		
Guitar Bass		
Double Bass		
Drums and Percussion		
Flute		
Clarinet		
Alto Saxophone		
Tenor Saxophone		
Bass Clarinet		
Violin		
Viola		
Cello		
Vocal/Voice		

Yes, I would like my son/daughter _____ form: _____ to learn _____ instrument/singing.

Parent Signature:- _____ Date:- _____

NOTE: Due to a limited number of instruments your son/daughter may not receive their first instrument preference. Timely submissions are given priority over late applications. Expressions of interest received after the due date will be considered and instrument space availability will be provided to the student.