St. Edmund’s College

Instrumental Music Prospectus

This Booklet is designed to provide information about the opportunities for Instrumental Music Tuition offered at St Edmund’s College. The College offers an integrated Music Education package comprised of classroom lessons, private instrumental tuition and performance groups. St Edmund’s College combines with St Clare’s College in order to offer the widest range of instrumental and vocal tuition possible. Therefore, many of the references to students include sons and daughters.

Academic research has proved that the study of a musical instrument is of enormous benefit to the developing child. Gross and fine motor skills, attention span, left and right brain development are just some of the areas that are enhanced through music education.

St. Edmund’s recognizes this and has gone to great lengths to integrate innovations in this area into its Education program

**Band Program**

St Edmund’s is very proud of the standard of its bands. Three levels of band are provided so as to cater for the need of students at all levels of their development. The Primary School Band caters for the needs of Primary School age students, allowing them to develop in an atmosphere consistent with the style of a Primary School. All boys in Middle School who play a band instrument are expected to participate in this group.

When students progress to High School they move into the Intermediate Band, which caters for the needs of students who are in High School but who are not yet at the standard required for the Senior Band. At this stage of a student’s development the College combines with St Clare’s College to provide co-educational ensembles. Rehearsals are held out of class time.

The combined St Edmund’s/ St Clare’s Colleges’ Senior Band plays music of an extremely high standard and aims to produce a standard commensurate with that of a professional group. Entry into this ensemble is based on audition.

In addition to these core groups the College provides opportunity for students to experience playing in a wide variety of auxiliary ensembles. These auxiliary ensembles include:

- Percussion Ensemble
- Guitar Ensemble
- Clarinet Ensemble
- Stage Band
- Senior Jazz Band
- Flute Ensemble
Saxophone Ensemble  The Singing Blues

Music Staff
Mrs. Margaret Thomas  Class room Choral Director
Mr. Greg Stenning  Performance Music Director
Miss Rose Evans  Music Assistant

Visiting music specialists
Mrs. Lis Hoorweg  Clarinet
Mr. Cameron Smith  Brass
Mr. David Sheville  Drums
Mr. Minh Le Hoang  Guitar
Mr. Stuart King  Guitar
Mr Sam Conway  Guitar
Mr Den Hanrahan  Guitar
Mrs. Jane Ryland  Flute
Ms. Anna Meszaros  Piano
Mrs. Lauren Nihil  Voice
Mr Bryson Hawkins  Strings
Miss Kathryn Alchin  Saxophone
Mr John Burgers  Bass

Sample Weekly Rehearsal Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Activity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>Lunch time</td>
<td>Percussion Ensemble</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>Lunchtime</td>
<td>Saxophone Ensemble</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>Lunchtime</td>
<td>Guitar Ensemble</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>Lunch time</td>
<td>Brass Ensemble</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>8.00 – 8.45</td>
<td>Intermediate Band</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>3.30 5.00 pm</td>
<td>Senior Concert Band</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>8.00 – 8.45 am</td>
<td>Middle School Band</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>Lunch time</td>
<td>Percussion Ensemble</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>3.30- 500 pm</td>
<td>Senior Concert Band</td>
</tr>
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Instrumental/Vocal Music Tuition at St Edmund’s College for 2012

The College Community of St Edmund’s views the study of music as an essential part of each student’s development. The extension of this study through private tuition on an instrument or in voice is a welcome addition to activities of students during their time at the College.

The study of a musical instrument is not something to be undertaken lightly. As the majority of students attend their lessons during class time the College operates its music tuition program within the following guidelines in an effort to maintain fairness and afford students the opportunity to excel in music whilst not prejudicing their academic studies.

The study of Instrumental/Vocal Music requires:
- **An undertaking to practice** and complete weekly tasks set by the teacher. Parents will be notified promptly where a student fails to attend with the necessary music, instrument and/or Music Practice Book.

- **Encouragement and home support** in the maintenance of a practice schedule. Lessons and practice requirements are written in a Music Practice Book, which each parent should read each week as an indication of what is required.

- **A serious commitment.** At St Edmund’s undertaking instrumental/vocal tuition is a commitment for ONE YEAR and should be viewed as a course of study. Whilst a student is expected by the College to learn for a full year, circumstances can arise that make it difficult for a student to continue. At all times the discontinuation of private lessons music must be negotiated with the teacher concerned. Discontinuation of lessons should be advised in writing before the conclusion of the course or fees will be required to be paid in lieu.

**Length of semester and timetabling**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Semester One (February-June)</th>
<th>18 lessons</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Semester Two (July-December)</td>
<td>18 lessons</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This pattern allows for those lessons missed through pupil/teacher illness, excursions, examinations, etc. to be completed. Where the quota of 36 lessons is completed before the end of the school year, addition lessons are available and recommended. Parents will be invoiced separately for these additional lessons.

Lessons are of 30 minutes duration and are held during the school day. The College’s use of a ten-day cycle allows students to have a fixed time and day for lessons. This develops a routine for the student, which does not adversely affect his attendance in any one class. In the rare case that this occurs the student’s music lesson time will be changed.

**Examinations**

Assessment of Instrumental/Vocal Music at St Edmund’s takes place within each studio. Students must satisfy the assessment requirements set by each studio concerned. Such assessment may include performances in studio concerts. A report from the student’s teacher will go home at the end of each Semester.

In addition to a studio assessment, students may undertake AMEB/Trinity College examinations **where the teacher deems this appropriate**. Parents will be notified in writing of the teacher’s advice in this regard.

**Fees for instrumental/vocal lessons**

The College has determined the rate per lesson. In 2012 these rates will be $35. This rate is well below the standard rate as set by the Music Teachers Association.
Fees are to be paid directly to the music teacher who will issue a tax invoice in the second week of the Semester. Terms are strictly 14 days and lessons will be suspended in the event of non-payment of tuition fees.

**Attendance at Lessons**

It is the responsibility of the student to find out the time and place of a lesson and to be there. Lesson times are posted on the music department notice board. Permission to leave another subject to attend a music lesson will be granted when the class teacher signs the Out of Class Authority, which can be found in the back of the Students Homework Diary.

**Please note:**
Instrumental music teachers often travel long distances for these lessons. Abortive trips are frustrating and costly; therefore the Instrumental teachers require sufficient notification of a student’s inability to attend a timetabled lesson. In the event of student/teacher absence or excursion and examination commitments the following guidelines will apply:

- **Student absence:** failure to notify an inability to attend will result in the student losing that lesson. No arrangement for rescheduling the lesson will be made. If a student falls ill the parent should phone the teacher concerned as far in advance of the scheduled lesson time as possible to negotiate an alternative time.

- **Teacher absence:** Where possible students will be notified in advance of a teacher’s prospective absence. A new lesson will be negotiated in the case of unforeseen illness, which cannot be notified in advance. If it is not possible to reschedule the lesson then the cost of the lesson will be credited to the student.

- **Excursions/Examinations/Class Tests:** **ONE FULL WEEKS NOTICE** is required to allow time for alteration of the schedule. Failure to notify will incur the cost of the cancelled lesson.

**Hire of instruments**
The College has a small stock of band instruments, which can be rented from the College to be used in lessons. The use of these instruments is conditional on those students using them being active members of the College’s Band Program.

1. **The rental fee is $60 per Semester.**

2. **Insurance is required on these instruments.** The cost of lost or damaged instruments must be borne by the parents. Many boys travel on public transport and in the event that your son leaves his instrument on the bus it is recommended that you have some form of insurance for the instrument.

3. **Repairs and Maintenance.** From the outset the instrument that your child hires from the College should be in full working order. The cost of any necessary repairs to a hired instrument is the responsibility of the hirer. In the first instance, please seek the advice of your child’s instrumental teacher who may be able to fix the problem. Parents are asked not to try to fix the instrument.
Please fill out and return the Musical Instrument Hire Form to Mr. Stenning if you wish your son or daughter to hire an instrument. Hiring fees will be charged after the instrument is issued during the first lesson.

Musical Instrument Hire from St Edmund’s College, Canberra.

I, __________________________ have read the policy regarding the hire of Musical Instruments at St Edmund’s College and I understand that by hiring a school instrument I accept the following conditions:

1. My child is able to hire an instrument from the College for one year, and after this time my child will have to find another instrument either to hire or buy. The hire period may be extended if another student does not need the instrument.

2. I understand that it is a requirement that insurance of the school instrument be undertaken and I have insured my child’s school instrument for the full period that he will be hiring the instrument from St Edmund’s College.

3. I understand that if my child loses or damages the school instrument then the full replacement value of the instrument must be paid to St Edmund’s College, Canberra. I must pay for repairs to the instrument.

4. My child must take proper care of the school instrument and he will do the following:
   * Label the outside of the instrument clearly with his name
   * At school he must keep the instrument in the music department.
   * He/she must at all times clean and maintain the instrument after use.

STUDENT’S NAME _____________________________ YEAR ________

SIGNED (PARENT) ____________________________

DATE _________________ COST __________________________

INSTRUMENT TO BE HIRED _______________________

SERIAL NUMBER ________________________________
PARENTS ARE ADVISED TO READ THE POLICY STATEMENT CAREFULLY BEFORE SIGNING THE ACKNOWLEDGEMENT / AGREEMENT AND RETURNING IT TO THE MUSIC DEPARTMENT AT ST EDMUND’S COLLEGE

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT / AGREEMENT
INSTRUMENTAL / VOCAL TUITION AT ST EDMUND’S COLLEGE, CANBERRA.

I have read the policy for Instrumental / Vocal tuition at St Edmund’s College and accept the requirements and commitment of time necessary for my son / daughter to study

____________________________________
(Please write instrument)

Child’s name …………………………………………………

Class (2012) ………………………

Date of birth ………………………

Parent / Guardian’s name …………………………………..

Parent / Guardian signature ……………………………….. Date ………………..

Address: …………………………………………………………………

………………………………………………………………

Home Phone No. ………………………

Work Phone No. ………………………

Mobile. ………………………………..

Please return this sheet to:

Mr. Stenning, Director of Performance Music
C/- St. Edmund’s College Canberra,
Music Department.
Canberra Ave,
Manuka 2603.