

Launceston Catholic Schools

Instrumental Music Program



INFORMATION BOOKLET 2023

Be part of it!

PRIMARY SCHOOL EDITION

Introduction from the Instrumental Music Coordinator

The Information Booklet gives both parents and students a brief overview of the instrumental music activities on offer beyond the regular classroom music lessons in Launceston's Catholic Primary Schools.

The primary schools strongly encourage students in grades 3 - 6 to become involved in such activities for their own personal enrichment, and also to maximise their enjoyment of their school years. Students who have chosen to take up these opportunities usually end up getting more out of their primary education than perhaps some others. In making the choice to become involved, they take responsibility for their development and progress in a more holistic way, and will be well rewarded.

Remember though, learning a musical instrument is a big commitment, but one that can shape your life forever and provide you with wonderful opportunities.

I truly hope that your child gets as much enjoyment from music as I do.



Ms Fiona Mowat
Instrumental Music Coordinator

The Benefits of Music

Music is a wonderful skill for any child, but research shows how learning music can help your child in so many more ways:

- Improved reasoning capacity and problem solving skills;
- Improved maths and language performance;
- Better memory;
- Greater social and team skills.

Why should my child learn music?

- We believe music is an excellent accomplishment and part of a well rounded balanced education.
- Learning music from an early age enables neural pathways to grow in ways that can help your child maximise the potential they were born with. Research shows that playing music can make significant differences to children's abilities related to learning, memory and social interactions.

Instrumental Tuition

A wide variety of music tuition is available to all students with the opportunity to learn an instrument through the instrumental music program.

Learning to speak the language of music is a very important part of education, and a large proportion of students take the opportunity of tuition on a chosen instrument.

Music is a very 'social sport' and students are always encouraged to actively participate in the many opportunities available to them. It not only improves their skills, but also provides a sense of satisfaction and achievement. This usually reflects achievement in other areas of their life also.

Annual Fee

Includes:

Instrument Hire

Music

Small group tuition (30 minutes weekly)

Large group rehearsal (30 minutes weekly)

Program runs over the entire year

Lessons held at your primary school*

Lessons held at the same time every week

Fees are charged to your Primary school account

\$589 per year

(this price includes instrument hire)

\$339 per year

(without instrument hire)

**Any arrangements made where students travel to another school,
is not the responsibility of St Patrick's College.*

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

All students that are enrolling in the Foundation Program must make a 1st and 2nd choice of instrument. A no-obligation trial period of 4 weeks is available for 1st year (Foundation) students only from the commencement of lessons. During this time, your child that has enrolled for the Foundation Program, can withdraw from the program with no financial consequence.

Development Program students returning are guaranteed their place on their 2022 instrument. If a returning student decides to change instrument, they then move to the Foundation Program and also must make a 1st and 2nd choice of instrument.

Instrument Hire

The following instruments are available for hire:

BAND	STRINGS
Flute Clarinet Saxophone Trumpet Trombone Percussion	Violin 'Cello

Most instruments are out-sourced from Studio 19 who provides a range of quality instruments. The cost of hire is \$250 per year (included in the annual fee). Hire fees are incurred for the whole year.

All instruments must be returned to the Primary School by the specified date (following the Launceston Catholic Schools Annual Concert). Instruments may be hired for the summer holidays by direct arrangement with Studio 19 on 1300 889 560.

Upon issue of an instrument, the following expectations will apply:

- It is the student's responsibility to keep the instrument secure at all times – at home, school and whilst in transit;
- Students are not permitted under any circumstances to loan their instrument to other students or to make exchanges;
- Printed music books and other bulky materials are not to be placed inside the instrument case, unless there is special provision;
- The cost of repair to an instrument will be the student's responsibility if the damage was a direct result of student neglect;
- Many instruments come with accessories, for example, all violins are issued with shoulder rests and rosin. It is the student's responsibility to ensure the security of these accessories as well as the instrument itself.
- For health and safety reasons, it is the student's responsibility to purchase their own cleaning equipment from Barratts Music, and to regularly clean their instrument. Local music stores also stock reeds, tutor books, manuscripts, music diaries and many other necessary items.

Please seek advice from the Music Staff before purchasing an instrument.

If you would like to hire an instrument please indicate this on the enrolment form.

Performance Opportunities

Soirées and Concerts

SOIREES

Music Soirées (gatherings) are held twice a year. All students, regardless of their standard or experience, can perform at a Soirée if they wish. They must have a piece well prepared and ready for performances – the tutors advise the Program Director of students willing and ready to perform.

WOKSHOP DAYS

Combined schools Workshop Days will be held throughout the year in preparation for the end of year concert.

MAJOR CONCERT

A combined schools' concert will be held for all invited guests, students, staff, parents and friends at the end of the year.

General Information

PRACTICE

For students to gain the most benefit from music tuition it is recommended that they practise for 5-10 minutes each day in their first year. Spasmodic practice is of little or no use, and it is the regular playing and rehearsing which produces results. The 'fun' comes after the hard work, not the other way around! It is beneficial for parents to be involved in listening to practice as students respond in a more positive manner when this occurs. Parents do not need to be able to read or understand music, just listen and encourage.

STUDENT ABSENCES

Students are responsible for attendance at all scheduled lessons. Families who opt to take holidays during term time are still expected to pay for tuition if enrolled.

CESSATION OF TUITION

Students who enrol in music tuition, do so for the whole year and may only opt to cease tuition at the end of that year. To cease a student's tuition, an email must be sent to music@stpatricks.tas.edu.au Refunds will not be given

to students who fail to attend lessons, as the tutor will still need to receive payment for their time and are contracted for the school year.

Notes & Conditions of Tuition

1. Parents and Students are expected to observe the Notes & Conditions of Tuition, in order to maintain a happy and trusting relationship during the student's course of music tuition. It is understood that these Conditions have been fully read, understood and accepted when tuition is confirmed, and the student attends his/her first lesson.
2. Accounts for all tuition expenses will be issued by your Primary School.
3. If payment is not received within the payment period, enrolments may be affected in the future.
4. As the weekly lesson time is reserved in advance especially for each group, it is not possible to re-arrange or make-up lessons when the student is unable to attend. Lessons missed due to the school events are forfeited. Fees will not be refunded or credited.
5. The tutor will decide upon the course of study suitable for the student. In all cases professional decisions based on experience and expertise will be made in the best interests of the student. Students are always expected to perfect all set requirements before proceeding to new material.
6. Involvement in extra activities and attendance at concerts, all arranged to benefit and further develop the student's overall musical development, are a measure of the students' and parents' enthusiasm and should be considered an integral part of the student's tuition.
7. It must be understood that students are enrolled for a full academic year. Should a student wish to withdraw, you will still be liable to pay the full annual fee. Any fee related issues are to be discussed with your primary school.

Promotion to the next level (ie Foundation to Development) is at the discretion of the Program Director. If a student does not reach a suitable standard, they may repeat the program. Also, if a student decides to change instruments, they will once again start at the Foundation level.