



St Joseph's
Primary School

Kangaroo Point



MUSIC HANDBOOK
for
Parents and Students



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WELCOME AND WORDS FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Welcome to the Instrumental Music Program!

Here at St Joseph's, we offer the opportunity for your child to learn and create music via our vibrant Instrumental Music Program. Through a combination of ensemble, small group and individual lessons, students will receive a quality music education that caters to their specific learning needs and interests. In equipping students with the fundamentals of instrumental music making, they develop a deeper understanding and appreciation for the arts.

Music is a gift for life: an intangible medium enjoyed by children and adults of all ages.

I invite you to join with us in giving the gift of music to your children, as offered by the St Joseph's Instrumental Music Program.

Wishing your child every success in the Instrumental Music Program.

Nicole Cole

Principal

WELCOME AND WORDS FROM THE DIRECTOR OF MUSIC

I cannot begin to tell you how excited I am to be joining the team at St Joseph's. Educating children in the world of music is a privilege, and I am truly one of the lucky few who have devoted my life to doing just that.

Learning an instrument in Australian schools is a big deal and research has shown us just how good it is for the brain. Learning an instrument "promotes strong skills in social understanding and communication, and it super charges executive function skills that serve musically trained students in their future adult lives as leaders, innovators and team members." Learning an instrument helps students in all subjects of their schooling and serves to improve their personal well-being. In short learning an instrument contributes significantly to the holistic development of our children.

To you, the families on this journey with the music team at St Joseph's...WELCOME! What fun we are going to have in 2021. Congratulations on making the decision to join us and invest in the holistic development of your child. We look forward to meeting and working with all of you in the not too distant future.

Samantha Sleep
Director of Music

MEET THE TEAM

Music Educators are:

Samantha Sleep -	Flute, Clarinet, Saxophone, Trumpet, Trombone, Baritone
Richard Daniell -	Percussion/Drum Kit
Janette Kircher -	Piano/Keyboard
Christina Mairs -	Choir/Voice
Alex Predekij -	Guitar

Samantha Sleep Director of Music

BAMus QCGU., GradDipEd ACU., GradCertRe ACU., MEdLead MONASH., MMS (current) QCGU.

Samantha is a music educator with 23 years' experience across state, private, primary, and secondary music programs. Most recently she has worked at Villanova College as the Junior School Instrumental Music Coordinator.

Samantha started her musical journey in primary school on the guitar and piano in Northern NSW. She went on to study piano and flute graduating from the Queensland Conservatorium, Griffith University with a Bachelor of Arts in Music specialising on the flute. The Australian Catholic University was the next step on the way to reaching her ambition of educating our young people through music, where she received her Graduate Diploma of Education and a Graduate Certificate in Religious Education.

She continues to be a strong education professional recently completing a Master in Educational Leadership at Monash University. Following her passion for wind band conducting Samantha has returned to Queensland Conservatorium, Griffith University to study a Master of Music Studies – Conducting, under the guidance of Associate Professor Peter Morris.

Samantha is passionate about music pedagogy teaching Multi Instrumental Music in schools throughout Southeast Queensland. She is focused on excellence in music, giving our youth additional ways to express themselves, and bringing joy to those in her care through music.

Richard Daniell

BAMus QCGU

Richard Daniell has been professionally playing and teaching drums for over a decade. After finishing his Bachelor of Arts in Music at the Queensland Conservatorium his touring has seen him travel nationally and internationally and perform alongside some world-famous artists on a range of large festival and concert stages. Richard has been teaching Drums at St. Joseph's since 2016 and leading the Percussion ensemble for the last 2 years.

Janette Kircher

BAMus QCGU

Mrs Janette Kircher graduated from the Queensland Conservatorium of Music in 1992 with a Bachelor of Arts majoring in Classical Voice and Piano. Janette also undertook advanced

studies in Music Theory, Vocal Pedagogy and Performance with a sprinkling of Choral Conducting under the amazing leadership of the late Dr John Nickson. She grew up in Townsville in a musical family and a childhood full of music and performing.

Janette has been performing and teaching privately in her studios and in schools for over 30 years and is also highly sought after as an accompanist playing for Eisteddfods, concerts and music exams. She has been busy conducting Community Choirs and Vocal Ensembles during all her teaching years. Janette is the Co-Founder of the Brisbane Musical Theatre Company which ran for over a decade, fostering local talent & introducing future stars like Kate Miller-Heidke and Megan Washington. She is currently in a professional acapella vocal Quartet called 'Sing 'N Tonic' and is also part of a musical theatrical troupe 'Incognito' who perform in and around Brisbane.

In her spare time, Janette sings and plays in her family Bush Band "K3 Plus" and is a regular Singer/Pianist at weddings, festivals and corporate events. She enjoys writing musicals and arranging music for her ensembles and creating harmonies and writing songs is one of her favourite hobbies. Janette also dabbles as a musical director at community theatres around Brisbane as and enjoys treading the floorboards, playing roles ON Stage too. She has recently undertaken a course on managing musicians and artists and looks forward to new musical adventures in the near future, fostering local talent and highlighting their careers! She has recently become tour manager and liaison and bookings manager for her daughter Felicity, who is an emerging young 16-year old country music artist. Janette and Felicity regularly attend the Tamworth Festival and Gympie Music Muster and other festivals and events throughout Australia.

Christina Mairs

When not playing the role of 'mum', Christina embraces the musical world eagerly! She has been teaching piano and singing for many years, through school and at her home studio. Christina sings with The Australian Voices as well as newly formed vocal sextet "Formant". She views music as an opportunity for all children to express themselves in a positive, enriching way and teaches with this idea in mind.

Alex Predekij

BMJazz JMI

Mr Alex Predeckij is a dedicated and professional guitarist with a Bachelor of Music in Jazz Performance from the Jazz Music Institute, where he learnt under guitarist Benjamin Hauptmann. Alex draws on a number of different styles as he is a career multi-instrumentalist, performer and teacher of guitar, bass, ukulele and piano and has played acoustic and electric guitar in a large variety of jazz, contemporary and classical groups. The groups that Alex plays in has allowed him to support a number of Australian and international acts as well as play an array of festivals throughout Australia. As well as having contemporary guitar experience and qualifications, Alex is a very accomplished classical guitarist having performed many concerts in the UK and attended workshops with Carlos Bonell at the Royal College of Music in London.

Sally Waterhouse

BMHon QCGU

Sally Waterhouse is a graduate of the Queensland Conservatorium of Music, where she studied a Bachelor of Music with Honours majoring in Violin Performance. Throughout her degree she studied under renowned pedagogue Elizabeth Morgan, the founding president of the Australian String Teaching Association. Sally is passionate about music education, having several years' experience teaching both individual and group lessons. For the last 3 years she has been the Strings Program Director at St Catherine's Catholic Primary School, with her ensembles consistently achieving high results in the QCMF competition each year. Sally has also recently commenced as the string's teacher at St Bernard's Primary School Mt Gravatt this year. In her private studio she has extensive experience guiding students successfully through AMEB exams. As a performer, Sally's experience includes playing as guest member of Camerata-Queensland's Chamber Orchestra, as a Winter school participant at the Australian Festival of Chamber Music, and with the QYS Chamber Orchestra as a part of their performance and education tour of regional Queensland.

RATIONALE & AIMS

Music is one part of the total education of a child. The Instrumental Music Program is an extension of the Classroom Music Program and provides children with the opportunity to experience the expressive qualities of music through learning to play an instrument. Through Music Education, the students are led to an awareness of music and an appreciation of the part music plays in their own lives and in the lives of others.

The aims of the Instrumental Music Program at St Joseph's Primary School are:

- To have fun learning music in an enjoyable environment.
- To provide an opportunity for the musical development of students through instrumental instruction on a group and individual basis.
- To provide ensemble experience for these students so that they develop ensemble performance skills as an integral part of their Music Education.
- To encourage further development of teamwork, co-operation, organisation, responsibility and commitment, as well as positive peer relationships in a fun and enjoyable environment; and
- To foster an appreciation of a variety of music styles and genres

INSTRUMENTS TAUGHT AT ST JOSEPH'S

These instruments include:

BAND: Flute, Clarinet, Saxophone, Trumpet, Trombone, Baritone, Orchestral Percussion

STRINGS: Violin, Viola, Cello, Double Bass

GUITAR: Electric/Acoustic Guitar, Bass Guitar

PERCUSSION: Drumkit

PIANO

VOICE

LESSONS AND ENSEMBLES

Each student receives one individual and/or group lesson weekly. Once a student reaches a particular playing standard, they will be invited to join the appropriate ensemble. This ensures that all students have the opportunity to play in an ensemble appropriate to their playing standard and we as a school have the privilege of working with complete bands, i.e. where all the required instruments taught at the school are played by students in each ensemble.

To assist us in teaching a variety of different instruments in a group setting, we use a method book to facilitate effective teaching of the curriculum. Your child's teacher will let you know which method books and materials to get for the lessons.

It is compulsory for students to purchase their method books before commencing Instrumental Music Lessons at the school. Students requiring extension or who undertake individual lessons will also be given the opportunity to learn and sit examinations for Australian Music Examinations Board (A.M.E.B.) syllabus.

An individual report card for each student currently studying an instrument is issued to parents/carers each semester.

In addition, students are informally assessed at the end of each lesson regarding their progress, attendance, and behaviour. If any problems or concerns arise, the school will contact the parents/carers. Likewise, we also encourage parents/carers and students to contact the Director of Music or Instrumental Music Tutor with any problems or concerns they may have in relation to a student learning their instrument, and home practice.

EXPECTATIONS & COMMITMENT FROM STUDENTS & PARENTS/CARERS

Once a student has been selected and has joined the program there will be new responsibilities and expectations placed upon them and the family.

Responsibilities include:

- Knowing lessons times each week (*check music timetables*).
- Bringing all equipment to each lesson (*instrument, book, etc*).
- Caring for the instrument and keeping it safe (*respect property*), and
- Notifying the instrumental teacher if a loan instrument needs repairs immediately (*Please do not attempt ANY repairs yourself*).

Expectations include:

- Punctually attending all lessons unless absent from school.
- Punctually attending all rehearsals.

- Punctually attending all performances, and
- Committing to the program for the minimum of a full school term (on average 9 lessons)
- Regular home practice. Minimum 3-4 times per week.

Parent/Carer expectations include:

- Providing the student with his/her own instrument.
- Providing a suitable practice area and time for the student.
- Providing encouragement and positive reinforcement of the student's progress.
- Assisting the student to meet his/her responsibilities.

Absences from Lessons and Rehearsals:

- **Parents are required to email the Director of Music, Samantha Sleep ([email address to be advised](#)) and Instrumental Music Educator prior to 8 am on the morning of the lesson, otherwise no make-up lesson will be given.**
- **Make-up lessons will NOT be made for students who are absent during the term for family holidays. Make up lessons are NOT provided for students who miss their group lessons.**
- In-person visits from parents during their children's lessons are encouraged. Phone calls and emails are also welcomed to discuss your child's progress. You can contact your child's teacher via the school phone number (3391 5397)

Leaving the Instrumental Music Program:

- A student must have an exceptional reason for breaking his/her commitment to the program.
- Parents/Carers need to personally contact the Instrumental Music Educator and Finance Secretary on PKANFinance@bne.catholic.edu.au in order to resolve ALL issues.
- **If a student leaves the program mid-term, no refunds will be given.**
- **Three weeks prior notice to the end of term is required for the cessation of lessons.**

Exceptions to these conditions can be changed at the discretion of the School Principal.

Suspension and Exclusion from the Instrumental Music Program:

- It is a privilege for a student to be involved in the Instrumental Music Program, as it is an extra-curricular activity beyond the classroom.
- The school holds the right to exclude any student from participation when circumstances effect the learning of themselves or their peers in either Instrumental Music lessons or the normal class situation.
- **The school holds the right to suspend or exclude students from participation in the program if their school fees and/or music fees are not up to date.** A break-down of costs for hire instruments can be sourced from the Finance Secretary PKANFinance@bne.catholic.edu.au

- Exclusion only occurs in consultation with the Principal and when all other avenues to resolve the circumstances have been unsuccessful.

SUPPLYING YOUR CHILD WITH AN INSTRUMENT

The First Year

St Joseph's has a small collection of larger instruments that are loaned to selected students at various stages in the program. The Music Specialist Educator will select students accordingly to take up a loan instrument, which will often be to complement that part of their major study. For example, if your child plays the violin, they may also have the opportunity to play the double bass. At the time of your acceptance into the program, the school will advise you if your son/daughter has been selected to play a loan instrument. Other offers will be made at any time as instruments become available.

Students accepted into the program but not offered a school instrument due to the limited availability need to supply their own instrument before they commence tuition.

There are no loan instruments available for students learning the piano, guitar and drum kit. Parents will need to make sure that their child has a suitable instrument to practise at home to participate in instrumental music lessons.

These can be bought or hired from music stores (refer to the list of Recommended Music Stores on Page 15). All students are required to purchase all other necessary items. It is advisable to check with the Instrumental Music Educator before purchasing an instrument via private sale.

The Following Years

As mentioned above, students are presented with the opportunity to take up a second instrument (when they reach an advanced level of playing on their first), which is designed to complement their playing ability on the first instrument. To facilitate the development of our ensembles, offers will be made at appropriate times for these instruments as they become available.

Tips for Locating a Suitable Instrument

- Consult the Instrumental Music Educator for advice and information on which brands to look for and average prices.
- Consider all options before deciding on the one that is best for you: rental, purchase plans, buying a pre-loved instrument, borrowing an instrument from someone you know.
- Keep the Instrumental Music Educator informed: bring them the instrument, ask them to look at it with you, play it for you, etc.
- Shop Around! Ask all shops why you should go to them and what deals and extras can they offer you others cannot!



TYPES OF INSTRUCTION

Here at St Joseph's, we offer two types of music instruction to students:

Group Lessons

Students participating in group lessons receive one half-hour weekly lesson in school time with a small group of students who play similar instruments. Group lessons are capped at three (3) students per group lessons.

Please be aware that students who miss a lesson will not have this lesson made up and the cost of the lesson will not be refunded.

Individual Lessons

For students looking to accelerate their learning on their chosen instrument individual half hour weekly lessons are recommended. Individual learning plans are designed to cater specifically meet the needs of individual students on their chosen instrument.

A.M.E.B. instruction is available for students wishing to complete examinations.

Missed private lessons are only offered make up lessons if notice has been given to the Instrumental Music Tutor by 8 am on the day of the lesson.



ENSEMBLES

Rehearsals

All ensemble and choir rehearsals are held before school. It is an expectation that students who are part of the ensembles/choir commit to attending rehearsals regularly and perform at events as required.

Sr Mary Justine Choir

The choir is open to students from Years 3 to 6. Rehearsals are held before school. The choirs perform at the Queensland Catholic School Music Festival, community events, nursing home visits and the school open day.

String Ensembles

Students who play the violin/viola/cello/double bass will be nominated by their Instrumental Music Educator to join the ensemble appropriate for their level.

Sr Ursula Quartet is a specialised advanced ensemble comprised of four students nominated by their Instrumental Music Educator. The Sr Ursula Quartet performs both inside and outside the school across the year.

Percussion Ensembles

This is an auditioned group comprised of percussion students enrolled in lessons who have the opportunity to perform across the year.

EXPENSES

In addition to lesson and group costs, there are some additional costs which occur throughout the year. For example:

- Rosin, strings and ongoing requirements for respective instruments
- \$110 **per term** hire fee for school instruments (to cover the cost of end-of-year services)
- Regular servicing of own instrument as required
- Compulsory music books
- Entrance fees for spectators at competitions for Parents/Carers

Basic Costs

Type of Instruction	Cost
Private Lessons (individual) 37 weeks	\$30 for 20 minute per weekly lesson (<i>Prep & Year 1 students on drums & guitar only</i>) \$40 for 30 minutes per weekly lesson \$55 for 45 minute per weekly lesson \$75 for 60 minutes per weekly lesson
Group Lessons 3 Students	\$35 per weekly group lesson

The above fees are invoiced based on a term rate. Please keep in mind that some terms may be shorter or longer than 10 weeks. There are no scheduled lessons in the last week of term. This is the week that private lessons are made up, if notification was originally given. If a term is 10 weeks long, families are charged for 9 lessons.

DAMAGE TO MUSIC EQUIPMENT

The following is relevant if any musical instruments are damaged:

- Parents/Guardians are financially liable for damage caused to St Joseph’s Primary School resources and/or equipment
- Any damage to music instruments provided by St Joseph’s Primary School, either wilful, through neglect or accidental, will be subject to an ‘insurance excess’ payment. This can only be claimed once per student per instrument.
- The damage to any musical equipment and whether the instrument is repairable or needs to be replaced, will be governed solely by Instrumental Music Educators and St Joseph’s Primary School.
- It is recommended families list school instruments on their home and contents policy.

SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS FOR INSTRUMENTS

Following is a helpful list of required accessories students need to learn music. Just as a car needs petrol, oil, water, and regular servicing, so do musical instruments. This ensures the instrument is in good working order and helps relieve frustration from young players. Purchasing the items specific to the instrument your child is learning will assist them in achieving their full potential as an instrumentalist.

General Requirements for All Instruments

Instrument (School loan instrument or own instrument)	Stationery: Pencil, Eraser, And 1 Exercise Book for Homework
Method Book(s): As advised by the Instrumental Music Tutor	Music Stand (For home practice)
Specific Accessories for your instrument (See below)	Band/Ensemble Music Folder (Supplied by the school)

Band <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To be advised 	Violin <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Good Quality Rosin • Spare set of Strings • Shoulder Rest (Violin/Viola) • Rock stop (Cello/Double Bass)
Percussion <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 pair of Drumsticks size 5A • 1 Remo Practice Pad 	Electric & Bass Guitar <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Guitar Lead (Good quality) • Practice Amplifier (suited to Guitar type) • Practice Tuner • Picks 3x Hard Plastic (Electric only)
Piano & Keyboard <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keyboard or Piano at Home • Keyboard or piano bench to sit on 	

STRATEGIES FOR PARENTS TO ENCOURAGE STUDENTS

Encourage children not to just practise but also encourage them to play. This relates not just to children beginning to play an instrument but also to students continuing to play through to Year 6 and beyond.

Playing an instrument in a room behind closed doors can be a very lonely experience. A little encouragement can go a long way to helping them to enjoy and achieve well with their instrument. Here is a couple of ideas that may help at home:

- Have your child play near you so you can hear and enjoy their practice, maybe not every day but every so often.
- Actively listen to your child practice.
- Praise their sounds (especially the good ones) often.
- Make a comment about the progress you notice.
- Show pride in their achievements and let them overhear you talking about them.
- Ask them to play for guests at home (they may not want to but sometimes just being asked means a lot to them).
- Notice difficult sections and ask how they are played.
- Comment on the piece of music – interesting melody, rhythm, changed sections.
- Set a practise routine. This is particularly important if your child or the household are involved in other activities outside of school.
- Don't nag or push your child to practise – it can become very stressful for both of you. If you are finding it difficult to get your child to practise, please come and talk to your Instrumental Music Educator.

HINTS FOR SUCCESSFUL MUSIC PRACTICE

- Always practice with your music on a music stand.
- Try to practice at least 15-20 minutes four to five times per week.
- Aim to gradually increase your practice time to 30 minutes each day over the first year.
- Start and finish your practice with a piece you can play well and enjoy.

Your child's Instrumental Music Educator will be able to help with practice strategies and tips.

PERFORMANCE UNIFORM

The St Joseph's **Formal** Uniform is to be worn to all concerts, competitions and public performances by our school bands and other groups.

GIRL'S UNIFORM	BOY'S UNIFORM
Tartan Dress	Boys Formal Green Shirt
Black leather school shoes	Black school shorts
Green socks	Black leather shoes
Bottle green hair accessories	Green socks

MUSIC SHOPS RECOMMENDED BY THE SCHOOL

The following Music Shops are recommended and endorsed by St Joseph's. Please support them as they provide quality service and instruments at great student prices.

Unless mentioned in the title, all of the following stores supply instruments and accessories for Woodwind, Brass, Percussion, and Guitars/Strings:

<p>John Simmers Violin 20 Argyle Street Red Hill Phone: 3368 3866</p>	<p>Other Music – ONLINE www.othermusic.com.au email: info@othermusic.com.au Phone: 0488 668 742</p>
<p>Animato 789 Kingsfordsmith Drive Cnr Links Avenue Eagle Farm Phone: 1300 739 777</p>	<p>Music Express 2048 Logan Rd Upper Mt Gravatt (Opposite Garden City) Phone: 3849 7088</p>
<p>Simply for Strings 78 Enoggera Terrace Red Hill Phone: 1300 739 293</p>	<p>Morris Brothers Shop1, 17 Billabong Street & Webster Road Stafford Phone: 3356-3299</p>
<p>The Guitar Centre 915 Stanley St East East Brisbane Phone: 3392 3821</p>	<p>Drummers Warehouse 14 Brookes Street Bowen Hills Phone: 3252 1232</p>
<p>Masson's Music Centre 1513 Logan Road Mount Gravatt Phone: 3349 2006</p>	<p>Better Sounds 661 Ipswich Road Annerley Phone: 3392 9100</p>



St Joseph's Primary School Music Program 2021 Enrolment and Cancellation Form For Prep to Year 6 Private and Group Lessons

Personal and Family Information:

- New Enrolment
- Continuing Enrolment
- Change of Enrolment
- Cancellation of Enrolment

All current students must re-enrol each year

Student's Name: _____ Year Level (2021): _____
Parent's Name: _____ Home Phone: _____
Mobile Phone: _____ Work Phone: _____
Parent Email: _____

Enrolment Information

*Terms and Conditions outlined in the Music Handbook for Parents and Students

Lessons on: _____
Please write Instrument Name (eg. Violin) or Voice

LESSON TYPE:

- Private Lesson (20 minutes) *Prep & Year 1 on drums and guitar only*
- Small Group (30 minutes)
- Private Lesson (30 minutes)
- Private Lesson (45 minutes)
- Private Lesson (60 minutes)

- Do you need an instrument? **Yes or No**

- Instrument Hire \$110 per term**

Do you wish your child to follow the structured A.M.E.B? Yes No

To take effect at the **beginning** of Term: 1 2 3 4

PLEASE NOTE:

- **Students must remain in private/group lessons for each full term and are not permitted to cancel mid-term. 3 weeks TEACHER notice prior to the end of term is required for students withdrawing from lessons, otherwise pro-rata fees may be charged**
- **If fees are not paid by the due date, the child's place in this program may be offered to another student on the waiting list**
- **If Music and School Fees are in arrears, music lessons will be suspended**
- **Parents are required to email the Director of Music, Samantha Sleep and the Instrumental Music Educator prior to 8.00am on the morning of the lesson, otherwise no make-up lesson will be given. No make-up lessons will be made for students who are absent during the term for family holidays**

Parent's Signature: _____ Date: _____

Date Processed:	
Take effect as of:	

