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Welcome

Kelvin Grove State College offers many opportunities for students to be involved in music in the Instrumental Music Program.

The Instrumental Music Program at KGSC offers tuition in strings, woodwind, brass and percussion instruments. Students who undertake tuition at KGSC are required to join an ensemble. Currently the College has four Concert Bands, three String Ensembles, three Percussion Ensembles and a Big Band. The proficiency level of the musical groups ranges from beginner through to advanced.

The information contained in this handbook is intended to be a guide to the many aspects of the Kelvin Grove State College Instrumental Music Program. Although all relevant information is included at the time of printing, updates will be given via email, distribution in class and on the College website.

Philosophy and Goals

Education Queensland “ Purpose of the Instrumental Music Program” in Queensland Schools:

*The overarching purpose of the Instrumental Music Program is to provide children with the opportunity to experience the expressive qualities of music through learning to play a band/orchestral instrument and to participate in performance ensembles such as concert bands and orchestras.*

*The program is based on a broad set of objectives that spring from two fundamental goals: the mastery of technical skills and the development of musical sensitivity. Though it is not possible to teach students how to feel about a piece of music, it is possible to improve the quality of perception by fostering the acquisition of musical skills; and with heightened perception comes aesthetic sensibility.*

*The instrumental program requires a balanced and comprehensive approach to the development of musical perception, aesthetic sensitivity and technical mastery. Creative activities are an important component of instrumental music education. In addition, continuity between the class music program and the Instrumental Music Program is needed to ensure compatible and complementary learning experiences. The program provides opportunities for greater participation in music education for the whole school community as well as enrichment experiences for gifted and talented students. Opportunities are also available for fostering interaction between Year levels through participation in school-based ensembles, and also for cross-linking to other areas of the school curriculum.*

*With increased technical mastery, musical perception and aesthetic sensitivity, students are more likely to seek musical experiences after leaving school. They will thus be provided with a wider range of options in vocational choices, leisure pursuits and lifestyle decisions.*

For more information visit
Kelvin Grove State College Philosophy on Instrumental Music

The Kelvin Grove State College Instrumental Music Program offers the students many exciting opportunities to develop as a young musician and as an academic and social person. Learning an instrument in a program such as ours develops in students many qualities that will help them in their everyday school activities and classes. Students will learn self-discipline, problem solving skills and commitment. They will develop advanced social skills, as they will be mixing with students of all ages in achieving a common goal. Studies indicate that students learning a musical instrument achieve higher results in academic areas and are better able to cope with the pressures of everyday life. As well as all of this, students will have the wonderful and uplifting experience of participating in music. This is a very special activity that can be with them for the rest of their lives.

The Kelvin Grove State College Instrumental Music Program and its teachers strive to:

- Nurture an enjoyment and understanding of music
- Develop a lifelong appreciation of music as both participants and consumers
- Develop musical, social and leadership skills through the participation in the KGSC Instrumental Music Program

Contact Information

Information regarding the Instrumental Music Program at Kelvin Grove is emailed home to parents in the form of newsletters. It is important that the music department is kept up to date with families current email information.

The best way to contact the Music Department is by email. All enquiries can be emailed to instrumental.music@kelvingrovesc.eq.edu.au

Phone

The Music Office phone number is 3552 7341. Email is our most efficient course of communication as the music office phone is often unattended. Messages can be left on the answering machine.
General Information

Instrumental Music Staff

Our staff members are experienced teachers and musicians who are dedicated to providing every student with the individual attention and care necessary for their ongoing development and growth as musicians. Many of our teachers continue to enjoy productive careers as professional musicians outside of school hours and are well-respected artists within the wider musical community.

**Mrs Lynette Hitchens-Bird** - Instrumental Music Coordinator, Woodwind teacher. Conductor - Symphonic Wind Ensemble, Year 6 Concert Band and Beginner Band. lhitc4@eq.edu.au

**Mr Phillip Ryan** - Brass teacher. Conductor – Wind Ensemble and Year 6 Concert Band. Director - Big Band. pryan55@eq.edu.au

**Mr Sam Mitchell** - Percussion teacher. Conductor – Year 6 Concert Band. Director – Kelvin GrOOve, Escoveda and Rich Percussion Ensembles. smitc217@eq.edu.au

**Mrs Tenille Barrett** - String teacher, Conductor – Beginner and Piccolo Strings tbarr95@eq.edu.au

**Mr David Galbraith** - String teacher, Conductor – Corelli Strings, Allegri Strings and Year 6 String Ensemble dpgal0@eq.edu.au

Instrumental Music Website

Our website has become very important source for distributing information. Up to date information about the Instrumental Music Program at Kelvin Grove State College can be found on the College website [http://kelvingrovesc.eq.edu.au](http://kelvingrovesc.eq.edu.au)

Go to Curriculum / Subjects and Programs / Performing Arts - Instrumental Music

Details on up coming concerts, rehearsal schedules, yearly events calendar and the latest music news can be found on the school website.

Instruments Available for Tuition

Kelvin Grove State College has a large Instrumental Music Program, which provides tuition in woodwind, brass, percussion and string instruments. The string program is open for students in years 3 -12 and the woodwind, brass and percussion program for students in years 4 – 12.

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Instrumental Music Fees and Charges

All students involved in the Instrumental Music Program are required to pay a **yearly fee of $135**. This fee covers the cost of one Instrumental Music performance Polo shirt, and provides resources for the Instrumental Music Program, including band and orchestral music, music folders, school instrument repairs and maintenance and the purchase of new instruments and equipment. The Instrumental Music fee applies for the year. There is no pro-rata adjustment made for late enrolment in the instrumental music program. Please note that no refunds will be given in the event that a student wishes to discontinue their instrumental lessons during the semester. Students whose fees are overdue may be asked to leave the program in order to make way for a student on the official waiting list. The Instrumental Music fee is administered by the school SUB shop and must be paid before students can attend lessons.

Students in Financial Need

Students who are unable to afford the hire fee and/or Instrumental Music Fee due to genuine financial hardship are invited to contact the Music Department to make a confidential application for special consideration. Special consideration may be given to students who have demonstrated good progress in their instrumental music lessons and who are actively involved in the College’s Co-curricular Music program. All applications are treated as strictly confidential and will be considered separately on the basis of individual need.

Instrument Hire

Students participating in the Percussion program will be required to pay a fee of **$50 per year**. Students using a school instrument will be required to pay a hire fee of **$100 per year**. Students learning flute, clarinet, saxophone, trumpet, trombone, violin, viola or cello, should be prepared to purchase their own instrument after the first twelve months of tuition. Larger more expensive instruments such as bass clarinet, bassoon, oboe, baritone saxophone, baritone horn, euphonium, tuba and double bass are available for extended hire subject to availability, at a cost of $100 per year. Hire fees must be paid before students are allowed to take the instrument home.
Instrument and Accessory Information

Students will be required to have equipment and accessories specific to their instrument. New students will be given a list on acceptance into the program. (information is also available from the Instrumental Music Coordinator)

PLEASE ENSURE THAT ALL EQUIPMENT IS VERY CLEARLY MARKED WITH YOUR CHILD’S NAME BEFORE THEY BRING IT TO SCHOOL.

Purchasing An Instrument

After their first year of Instrumental Music tuition most students will be required to purchase their own musical instrument. Please consider the following quality brands of instrument as recommended by our staff.

**Flutes:** Pearl, Jupiter, and Yamaha.
**Clarinets:** Yamaha, Buffet and Jupiter.
**Saxophones:** Yamaha, Selmer.
**Brass:** Bach, Yamaha, Besson, Boosey and Hawkes, Conn and King.
**Strings:** Gliga, Enrico and Arioso.

**Upgrading instruments** If you are planning on upgrading from a student model instrument please do so in consultation with your child’s teacher. *Do not* purchase instruments sight-unseen from the Internet, or buy the first instrument handed to you at a music store. *Do* arrange to try at least 2 or 3 instruments of the same model before making a final decision.

Please contact any of our teachers with your questions on purchasing a new or second hand instrument. It is better to make sure that your purchase will provide your child with an instrument that will be easy to play, plays in tune and will not have mechanical difficulties. Cheap models are often made of inferior materials that do not play in tune and break easily. Many instrument repairers will not even attempt at repairing the instruments, as they are unable to guarantee the workmanship. There are also fake models on the Internet that profess to be well known and respected brands, including Yamaha and Buffet. It is better to be safe than sorry! Please feel free to ask us!

**Local Retailers**

Please find a list of local retailers, many of which offer hire and payment plans.

### MORRIS BROTHERS
Cnr Billabong Street & Webster Road
Stafford
Phone: 3356 3299

### SIMPLY FOR STRINGS
78 Enoggera Terrace
Red Hill
Phone: 1300 739 293

### ELLAWAYS FAMILY MUSIC STORE
315 & 337 Gympie Road
Kedron
Phone: 3359 8266

### MAU MUSIC
10 Dallas Parade
Keperra
Phone: 3355 3955

### ANIMATO
101-109 Musgrave Road
Red Hill
Phone: 1300 739 777

### DRUMWORX
188 Barry Parade
Fortitude Valley
Phone: 3252 4629

### Just Percussion
13 Creswell Street
Newstead
Phone: 3216 0801

### AUDREY’S
Shop 10 Jane St,
West End, Brisbane, Q, 4101
Phone: 1300801390
Ensemble Information

**Piccolo Strings**

Piccolo String Ensemble is for string students in the Junior School in their second or third year of learning their instrument. The Piccolo Strings rehearse in the Junior School Music Room Monday mornings from 7:20am – 8:30am.

**Beginner Band**

Beginner Band is for students who are in their first year of learning a woodwind, brass or percussion instrument and is open to students in year 4 or 5. The Beginner Band rehearse in the Junior School Music room every Tuesday morning from 7:20am – 8:30am. Rehearsals start in Term 2.

**Year 6 Ensemble**

Year 6 Ensemble caters for woodwind, brass, percussion and string students continuing on from Beginner Band and Piccolo Strings in their second or third year of learning. Year 6 Ensembles rehearse during class time in the College Auditorium each Thursday.

**Allegri String Ensemble**

Allegri String Ensemble caters for students in Middle and Senior school who have reached an appropriate level of performance but are not yet capable of playing the repertoire of the more advanced Corelli Strings. Allegri Strings rehearse on the Senior School in the College Hall on Thursday morning from 7:20am – 8:30am.

**Wind Ensemble**

Wind Ensemble caters for woodwind, brass and percussion students who have reached an appropriate level of performance to play level 2 – 3 repertoire. The Wind Ensemble rehearse every Thursday morning in the College Auditorium from 7:20am – 8:30am.

**Corelli String Ensemble**

Corelli String Ensemble is for the most advanced string students in the College and is based on Auditions carried out at the end of each year. Corelli Strings rehearse every Monday morning from 7:20am – 8:30am in the Music Resource Centre located on the Junior School Campus.

**Symphonic Wind Ensemble**

Woodwind, brass and percussion students must audition to become members of this senior concert band group. Selection is based on performance and commitment. The Symphonic Wind Ensemble rehearse every Wednesday morning from 7:20am – 8:45am.

**Big Band**

Big Band is comprised of students selected by audition who play saxophone, trumpet, trombone, piano, bass guitar, electric guitar or drum kit interested in playing jazz and rock styles. The Big Band rehearse every Friday morning from 7:20am – 8:30am in the College Auditorium.

**Percussion Ensemble**

The College has three Percussion Ensembles. Students are invited to participate according to performance level.

**Escoveda Percussion Ensemble** rehearses every Thursday afternoon from 3:00pm – 4:30pm in the College Auditorium.

**Kelvin GrOOve Percussion Ensemble** rehearses every Tuesday morning 7:20am – 8:30am in the College Auditorium.

**Rich Percussion** rehearsal time is to be advised.
Commitment and Participation

Students are required to:

• Participate in at least one ensemble and attend a weekly group lesson.
• Have the required equipment for lessons and ensembles.
• Be committed to the program for a **minimum of one school year**.
• Wear the set uniform for all performances.
• Practice for the required amount of time. Their instrumental teacher and/or ensemble director will establish time.
• Attend **all rehearsals, lessons and performances/concerts**.
• Be punctual to all instrumental music activities and bring all of the necessary equipment.
• Inform their classroom teacher of up coming lessons, excursions or performances that may impact on their lessons, in a timely manner.

Parents are required to

• Provide a suitable instrument (where necessary) and keep it in good working order.
• Provide students with the necessary equipment and resources.
• Promote care of their instrument.
• Encourage your child to be on time for lessons, rehearsals and performances.
• Make arrangements so that your child can **attend all concerts**, rehearsals and lessons.
• Arrange a regular time for practice.
• Provide a quiet place for the student to practice without interruption.
• Listen to and help with practice.
• Encourage your child to play for others whenever possible.
• Pay the nominated instrumental music fees.

Please Note:

• The replacement of any lost or damaged instruments, music or equipment will be the responsibility of the parents and student concerned
• Lack of commitment to lessons and/or ensemble/s may have an impact upon the student’s further involvement with the music program including ensemble membership and continuation of instrumental music lessons.
Attendance Policy

• Students must attend all lessons and rehearsals
• Punctuality is vital and all lateness will be noted
• Students missing lessons will have to explain their absence to the Instrumental Music Coordinator. Names will be published in the College Student Notices
• If students miss 4 consecutive lessons with no reason, they will be asked to show cause.

Students who are late to lessons or rehearsals need to provide a note of explanation as a matter of courtesy and enter the lesson or rehearsal without causing any disruption to the other band members or to the conductor.

Absentee Protocol

Students are not to miss lessons except in approved circumstances. Such circumstances include:

• Absent sick from school (in which case the parent is to ensure the Music Office is contacted prior to the commencement of the school day; email instrumental.music@kelvingrovesc.eq.edu.au or phone 3552 7341)
• Becoming sick at school (in which case the student is to notify student services and inform the staff attendant of their music lesson so that the Music Office can be contacted)
• Prior notification of absence from school (e.g. extended family vacation; school excursion or exam as documented in the College calendar in this case an email may be sent to instrumental.music@kelvingrovesc.eq.edu.au as a courtesy)

Students should not miss music lessons due to their classroom studies/other activities, we ask them to consult with their instrumental music teacher to make alternate arrangements.

Lesson Timetabling

Lessons are conducted during school hours, and are usually scheduled on a fixed day. Students in the junior school will have a fixed time each week to attend lessons and middle and senior school students will have a rotating timetable to ensure that they do not consistently miss the same classroom or other College activity.

Lesson timetables are displayed on the notice boards in the Senior School Music Block. Junior School timetables will be distributed for display in classrooms and on the Junior School Music Room Window.
Practice Expectations

Instrumental music is a performing art that is part of the school curriculum. Like all curricular subjects, it will require extra work outside of the classroom. This work could be performances, practicing individually, participating in solo and ensemble contest, or an after school dress rehearsal to prepare for a concert or competition.

Regular, thoughtful and constructive practice is the foundation for all musical development. Practice time varies enormously from age to age and from instrument to instrument. The instrumental teacher is the best person to advise on this.

All instrumental staff will give instructions to students on what to practice. Parents and Carers should make a point of asking their children what they are aiming to do in the practice session. If you do not understand what is required, please contact your child’s instrumental teacher. Appointments can be arranged and teachers will be only too pleased to see that you are taking an interest.

Strategies for Parents to Encourage Practice

• Provide a quiet area for the student to practice with no distractions.
• Arrange a practice routine. This is very important if your household has many after school activities.
• Praise their efforts and sounds (especially the good ones).
• Comment on their progress.
• Comment on the pieces you hear them playing and notice difficult sections and ask them how they are played.
• Ask them to play for guests and family members if they feel comfortable doing so.

Hints For Successful Practice

• Always practice with your music on a stand.
• Practice in an area where you will not be easily distracted.
• Try to practice for 15 – 20 minutes at a time, four to five times a week for beginners. More advanced students should aim for 30 minutes a day.
• Difficult pieces or passages should be played through slowly at first and then gradually increase the speed. A metronome can be a useful tool in achieving this. Don’t play them fast until you can play them easily.
• Start and finish your practice sessions with a piece you can play well and enjoy.
• Keep a record of your practice efforts.

Music and Music Folders

All music issued by the College, including photocopied items, remains the property of the College and is on loan to the student for the duration of the year. Students should ensure that this music and the Folder remain in good condition whilst on loan. Music will be collected and sorted at the end of each year. Fines will be imposed for loss or damage to music or folders.
Student Progress Assessment and Evaluation

Evaluation and assessment are essential elements of the educational process. The assessment process is not tied to particular periods of time or to comparison of one student's work with that of another, but with both adequate and accurate mastery of a skill, whether technical or musical. Education Queensland have identified eleven areas of learning skill and development to be identified within the Instrumental Music Program and objectives divided into the following categories: content objectives; process/skill objectives; and affective objectives.

Content Objectives
Content objectives refer to the acquisition of knowledge about things; for example, music students should acquire a knowledge of:
- elements of music (pitch, tonality, rhythm, harmony, timbre, dynamics);
- elements of structure (motif, phrase, sequence, form etc.);
- stylistic characteristics, including standard forms (binary, rondo etc.), types of composition (waltz, march etc.), textures (monophonic, polyphonic, homophonic and antiphonal), instrumentation, tonality and modality, as encountered in examples of Western and non-Western music;
- a repertoire of musical works, encompassing a range of musical styles and genres;
- terminology as encountered in repertoire;
- performance techniques;
- the cultural context of the music studied.

Process/Skill Objectives
The process/skill objectives require that students demonstrate an understanding of the knowledge acquired in the content objectives by applying them to the task at hand. They are assessed through demonstration, such as playing and performing. Students should be able to:
- perform music in a variety of styles;
- participate in a range of instrumental activities;
- play at sight;
- improvise;
- observe the conventions associated with being a performer and being part of an audience.

Affective Objectives
These objectives refer to the attitudes, responsiveness and sensitivity of the student towards music. Students should:
- respond positively and with understanding to a wide variety of music;
- value music as an important human activity;
- develop a respect for their own and others' performances;
- show sensitivity in playing, singing, conducting, listening to music, improvising and composing;
- participate with responsibility in class activities and rehearsals;
- enjoy creating, developing and performing music.

Levels of Achievement
The student must meet all of the specific objectives in one level before progressing to the next level. How well the student meets these objectives is referred to as the 'level of achievement' reached. The following terms are used to describe a student's level of achievement across all objectives:
- Very High Achievement
- High Achievement
- Sound Achievement
- Limited Achievement
- Very Limited Achievement.

All Instrumental teachers maintain a regular record of each student's progress. Written reports are sent home as part of the school report card at the end of each reporting period (Term Two and Four).
Instrumental Music Uniforms

The College performance uniform worn by all ensembles consists of:

- Instrumental Music Polo Shirt
- Black dress pants
- Black socks
- Black school shoes

Instrumental Music Parent Support Group (MSG)

The Music Supporters Group (MSG) is a sub committee of the P & C. The MSG is made up of parents who wish to support the development of their children through music and instrumental music studies. The primary purpose of the MSG is to provide support to the College music program. The MSG assists the Instrumental Music Department in staging performances, by catering for events and raising money to purchase musical equipment. In recent years the MSG has purchased music stands, performer’s seating, stage curtains and various instruments. New parents are encouraged to join in and assistance is always warmly welcomed at any level. MSG meeting times and dates are published in the College Calendar on the school website.

Some ways you can become involved include:

- Attendance at meetings
- Receive minutes from the meetings
- Assistance at concerts (setting up chairs & stands, selling admission and raffle tickets, cleaning up)
- Assistance with catering and serving at concerts and events
- Assistance with fundraising
- Donations for raffles
- Suggesting new ideas for fundraising

If you would like to show your support as a parent helper for the Instrumental Music Department, please contact the Instrumental Music Coordinator.
Recruitment Procedures

PROCEDURE FOR SELECTION OF STUDENTS

During Term 3 and 4, all students from year 2 and year 3 are tested for possible selection into the Instrumental Music Program for the following year. String Instruction commences in year three and woodwind, brass and percussion tuition commences in year four. Students undertake an aural test with focus on the areas of beat, rhythm, pitch recognition and melody. Students are also assessed in relation to behaviour, perseverance, attitude, punctuality, commitment and parental support.

The overall assessment involves such people as the Instrumental Music Teachers, Classroom Teachers, Classroom Music Teacher and sometimes School Administration.

Once students have been selected as suitable for the program, invitations to apply are sent out. Please note that students accepting a position on a string instrument in the year 3 Instrumental Music Program will not be eligible for the band program in year 4.

Parents have the opportunity to nominate three preferences for instruments or may opt to allow the program co-ordinator to select an instrument for their child. Students will undergo a practical test on instruments that they are interested in playing to assess their suitability. Arm length, hand size, height, fine motor skills, coordination and facial muscles and features must be taken into consideration when assessing suitability for some instruments.

Please note that due to individual physical differences and capabilities there will be certain types of instruments best suited to each person. After testing, students and parents will be advised as to which instrument will best suit their child. It may not always be an instrument on the preference list, however those instruments will be considered first (depending on availability of instruments and places in the program).

When selecting instruments for students, it must be remembered that there has to be a balanced number of each instrument to form bands and orchestras.