



KINROSS WOLAROI
— SCHOOL —

Performing Arts Handbook

Procedures, Policies and Information





Performing Arts at KWS

The Performing Arts are an important element of the Kinross Wolaroi School (KWS) community. Performing Arts education at KWS aims to instill in students a love of music, drama and dance. It encourages each student to experience the joy of performing regardless of age or ability. The Performing Arts can provide a sense of well-being, achievement, team-work, emotional connectedness and spiritual fulfilment.

KWS has an extensive Performing Arts program. It offers students a broad experience by encompassing three pillars for successful engagement with Performing Arts. These pillars provide students with an educational experience that develops skills, knowledge, understanding and values. These pillars are:

- **Classroom Studies:** Classroom Music for Pre-Kindy to Year 8 is part of the core curriculum with classroom Music taken as an elective for Years 9–12. Classroom Music focuses on developing skills in composing, listening, musicology and performance. Drama is experienced in the curriculum through our elective 9-12 classes. Students engage in all areas of study including performing, critically studying, designing and creating.
- **Co-curricular Performing Arts:** Performance groups are conducted before and after school as well as lunchtimes. Students have the opportunity to join instrumental and/or vocal ensembles, musicals and dance groups.
- **Instrumental Program:** One to one, private lessons with a visiting specialist teacher are conducted on a weekly basis to build skills on a particular instrument, including technical fluency, musical literacy and individual expression. Lessons are offered for all orchestral instruments, piano, guitar (both contemporary and classical), drum kit, voice (both contemporary and classical) and speech & drama.

The Performing Arts program at KWS strives to:

- Provide a developmentally appropriate and sequential introduction to the concepts of music and drama with an emphasis on creating and making.
- Provide students with a wide range of quality performing arts experiences and opportunities in the classroom, co-curricular program and school community.
- Nurture individual student diversity and needs.
- Foster opportunities for students to explore Performing Arts as part of their life-long learning.

This handbook contains further information about all aspects of the program.

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Performing Arts Permanent KWS Staff

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Performing Arts Academic Program

Music

In Music, students develop aural, literacy and musicianship skills through performance, composition and musicology. Students are introduced to a variety of traditional and contemporary music styles using the musical concepts. They perform music individually on the instrument of their choice and use voice in class activities. Students create original compositions and arrangements using computer software and audio recording equipment. Students also have the opportunity to explore the social, historical and political context of a variety of musical styles.

Kindergarten – Year 6

The Music program in the Junior School seeks to encourage and develop the skills of every child, and to foster a positive attitude towards and enjoyment of all aspects of music. Students engage in weekly lessons with a specialist classroom music teacher with a strong emphasis on active participation and exploration of music through singing, movement, creating and listening. The principals of Hungarian composer and educator Zoltan Kodály form an integral part of the teaching program, emphasising that every child should have access to quality music education and that music serves to develop a person on all levels – emotionally, spiritually and intellectually. The use of the voice is one of the most defining features of the Kodály approach. Kodály believed that musical instruction should reflect the way that children learn naturally. Through games, improvisation, creating, talking and listening children discover many musical concepts as they are sequentially presented and engage with music through the creative development of listening and performing skills.

There are three choirs that form part of the academic Music program. These choirs each rehearse once a week, as 1/2 Choir, 3/4 Choir and 5/6 Choir. During these sessions, students develop their natural singing voices through games, warm-ups and a variety of choral music. In addition, students are consolidating music reading, improvisation and ensemble skills whilst exploring a rich and diverse variety of musical repertoire from Australia and around the world.

In addition to one Music lesson per week, students in Kindergarten take part in one movement and singing lesson each week.

In Year 1, students participate in our Strings Program, giving them the opportunity to learn the violin. During each term a small group of students receive specialist tuition. This program is part of the overall classroom program and does not attract a participation fee.

In Year 4, students participate in our Year 4 Instrumental Program, which introduces students to various band instruments or percussion techniques. Students enjoy tuition in small groups plus the experience of playing in a concert band setting. This program lays the foundation for students wishing to pursue private instrumental tuition, along with a taste of our co-curricular band program. This program runs as part of the academic program and does not attract a participation fee.

Further information on the Year 1 and Year 4 instrumental programs can be found on pages [24-25](#) of this handbook.

In Years 5 and 6, the use of iPads is integrated into the Music classroom. In particular, students become familiar with using GarageBand finding the vast array of composition, rhythmic and melodic possibilities that this app offers incredibly stimulating for creative expression. Students can also access and engage with a variety of learning tools for music through the school's learning portal.

Years 7 - 10

Secondary music provides students with a wide range of musical experiences.

Students in Years 7 and 8 explore the concepts of music by singing, playing keyboard and guitar, composing and using music technologies.



Students in Years 9 and 10 may elect to study Music and gain a much greater depth and understanding of performance, aural, composition and musicology.

Years 11 - 12

Music 2 and Music Extension - This course is designed for students who are experienced performers and or wish to pursue the study of music at a tertiary level. Students undertake the 2 Unit Music course in Year 11 and 12, and have the option of specialising in Performance, Composition or Musicology. Students may elect to undertake a 1 Unit extension course specialising in Performance, Composition or Musicology in Year 12. This may be negotiated with the Head of Performing Arts.

Music 1 - This course is designed for students of all abilities and covers a wide variety of musical genres. The course offers students the opportunity to follow their individual interests in Performance, Composition or Musicology. The course aims to foster values that will encourage active participation in music, leading to a continuing interest in later life.

Drama

Years 9 - 10 Drama

Drama is offered as an elective course beginning in Year 9. Students undertaking the Elective Drama course in Years 9 and 10 will experience a range of units including Scripted Drama, Commedia, Film Studies, Verbatim Theatre, and many more. They will also develop skills in improvisation and group devised performance. Students learn about the elements of Drama through experiential learning and performance workshops.

Years 11 - 12 Drama

The Preliminary Drama course is designed to build upon the skills and knowledge of the elements of Drama explored throughout the Stage 5 course, although there is no expectation that students enrolled in the Year 11 course have studied Drama in Years 9 and 10. Students undertake units including Theatrical Styles and Traditions, Elements of Production, and Improvisation. They also complete a director's folio which includes samples of costume, set and promotion design, directorial vision and reflections. The Year 11 course prepares students for their HSC studies including Individual and Group Performances, and critical study of set texts.



Accompanists

The school engages a number of accompanists to support our academic and co-curricular programs. The following accompanists are also happy to be privately engaged by students for needs such as Year 11 and 12 Music performance programs, Camerata competition, AMEB exams and eisteddfod performances. Please be aware that accompanists will invoice families directly for these services so please speak to them personally about fees and rehearsal schedules.

Please speak with your child's classroom music teacher or instrumental tutor should you need advice on which accompanist to approach for your particular event or assessment.



Performing Arts Private Tuition

Instrumental, vocal and speech & drama specialists provide weekly lessons for students from Kindergarten to Year 12, which are held in the Music Centre during school hours.

Lessons are available as follows:

Strings:	Violin, Viola, Double Bass	Speech and Drama
Brass:	French horn, Trumpet, Cornet, Trombone, Baritone, Euphonium and Tuba	
Woodwind:	Flute, Oboe, Clarinet, Bass Clarinet, Bassoon and Saxophone (alto, tenor, baritone)	
Piano		
Guitar:	Classical and Contemporary	
Bass Guitar		
Vocal:	Classical and Contemporary	
Drum Kit		

Enrolment/lesson Information

- Parents are encouraged to communicate regularly with instrumental tutors in all matters relating to specific lesson times, fees and invoicing, student attendance/absence, expectations and general progress.
- Lessons are based on a calendar year. A tuition enrolment form must be completed prior to commencing lessons. **All continuing students also need to re-apply at the end of each year.**
- The majority of lessons for all students take place during class time on a weekly basis.
- Students from Kindergarten to Year 6 (Junior School) are timetabled at the same time each week after 11am (or at times that avoid teaching of core subjects).
- Students in Years 11 and 12 are given priority for lessons before & after school, during lunchtime, tutor and free periods.
- Before and after each music lesson, all secondary students must sign out of and then back in to class on the iPad in the Music Centre. Tracking student's whereabouts during the school day is a legal obligation.
- Students having individual instrumental or vocal lessons at the school are strongly encouraged to participate in at least one relevant co-curricular music group. If there is no relevant group for example, piano students, we encourage students to join a choir or look for pitched percussion opportunities within our band and orchestra program.



Fee Information

- Parents are advised that the Performing Arts Department acts only as an intermediary; there is a legal obligation associated with any 'Tuition Contract' entered into with the child's instrumental tutor.
- Students are required to give **30 days' notice in writing to their instrumental tutor** if they wish to discontinue lessons, including either term time, school holidays or both. Fees remain payable until the end of the notice period and the final lesson as agreed upon with the tutor.
- During Term 4, if you decide not to continue with lessons for the following calendar year, you must advise the instrumental tutor **prior to the beginning of Term 1**.
- Students/parents are responsible for notifying the instrumental tutor if the student is unable to make their lesson **at least 24 hours in advance**, otherwise the fee for that lesson may be forfeited. Make-up lessons are solely at the discretion of the instrumental tutor.
- Students are not permitted to leave class for a music lesson when they have scheduled assessable tasks, exams or excursions. Because these are scheduled in advance with a minimum of 2 weeks' notice given for secondary assessment tasks, students/parents are responsible for notifying their instrumental tutor **at least 24 hours in advance** of their lesson.

Reporting

- Instrumental tutors are encouraged to make use of **music diaries** as a way of recording relevant information from lessons, setting homework tasks and communicating with parents. These incur a charge \$5 on your school account. Parents are encouraged to read music diaries weekly and sign off on all practice sessions as a way of noting student's progress with their music lessons. Parents are also invited to submit questions and comments in the spaces provided in the music diary.

Practice Facilities at school

There are a number of practice rooms available for use by music students. All day and boarding students must obtain express permission and a key from music staff to access and use the music practice rooms before, during and after school hours.

Male boarders are able to access practice rooms out of hours in negotiation with their Head of House or MOD, who will be able to provide them with a key.

Female boarders may access practice rooms on the PLC site before or after school hours. They will not require a key to access rooms but are required to seek permission from the MOD or Head of House.

Students undertake the responsibility of using these facilities under strict guidelines. Failure to adhere to these guidelines will result in immediate ejection from the rooms, and a meeting will be established with the Head of Performing Arts to decide appropriate consequences.

- Under no circumstances are there to be more than one student in a practice room together.
- Students may practise during prep time at the discretion of the staff member in charge of prep duty.



- Students are to leave practice rooms in the state in which they were found, including; piano lids closed, chairs and furniture left in an orderly manner and put away, lights and heaters switched off, no rubbish left anywhere, windows and doors left locked at the end of use.
- Food or drinks are not to be consumed in practice rooms.

Musicianship

Musicianship is the study of music theory. KWS offers group musicianship lessons up to Grade 5, which are run before school from 8.00am- 8.45am, or at lunchtime. Students are placed in groups commensurate to their level of ability. These lessons are designed to prepare students for the AMEB musicianship examinations held in term four of every year.

Students sitting practical AMEB examinations for third grade and above are strongly encouraged to pursue the study of Musicianship. Musicianship is a requirement for the awarding of AMEB instrumental certificates at sixth grade level and above.

Musicianship Fee Information

- Musicianship fees are set at \$160.00 per semester and will be charged to your school account at the beginning of Term 1 and Term 3.
- Students will be charged for the cost of the workbook used in lessons (approx. \$20) at the beginning of Term 1.
- The school will purchase an on-line musicianship examination for each student in Term 2 or 3 and this will be charged to your school account (approx. \$70-90 depending on the grade). Depending on the student's readiness, on-line examinations will be taken during musicianship lesson time in Term 4, otherwise the students can complete the exam at home. Students have 12 months to complete an exam from the time of purchase.

All correspondence from the AMEB on-line examinations centre goes directly to the school and so the Performing Arts Department will pass all relevant information on to families via email.

Musicianship enquiries can be directed to:

- Sharon Martin - Performing Arts Administrator (performingarts@kws.nsw.edu.au)

Information can also be found at <https://www.amebexams.edu.au>



AMEB Practical Exams

A number of our instrumental tutors encourage their students to work through the AMEB syllabus and undertake practical examinations as a way of motivating and engaging students throughout the year in both technical work and varied music repertoire. Here is some further information to help assess whether a child's participation in this process will be beneficial.

The national body, Australian Music Examinations Board, offers graded exams for students who have completed the basics on their instrument and are ready to perform for and be assessed by an AMEB examiner. AMEB exams suit students who are willing to accept an appropriate challenge, and are willing to commit to regular practice on their instrument.

Students play through their relevant program in front of one examiner and will receive a written report and grade within a few weeks. Passing grades are A+, A, B+, B, C+ and C and are awarded based on what the student demonstrated on the day of the exam, not the examiner's sense of potential of the student. Exams start with preliminary level, progressing through grades 1 to 8, with Diploma level studies following grade 8. There is no prerequisite to pass a grade to be able to progress to the next. It is also possible to skip grades where appropriate.

Students are required to learn scales, technical exercises and music pieces from a set list which are included in books published by AMEB. The pieces are chosen for being stylistically varied, good examples of various periods of composition, and offer broad genres ranging from classical, jazz, rock and popular, musical theatre and contemporary. It is the responsibility of parents to purchase the correct AMEB music book (as directed by the tutor).

Exams for students who have lessons at KWS are held in the KWS music centre and are within the same time period every year (end July – end August). Exam registration typically closes around May with notification of exact date and time arriving about a month prior. Please note that there are strict guidelines around cancellation and change of exam schedule. Instrumental tutors will contact parents with their recommendation to register a student and parents will be asked to complete the AMEB Practical Examination Consent Form prior to registration. The school will register students on behalf of parents/tutors and the cost will be charged to your school account. All correspondence from AMEB regarding exam schedules and results is sent to the music department, not individual families. The school will publish such information to families and tutors as it comes to hand.

With AMEB being a national body, grades are recognised throughout Australia and the recognition of instrumental proficiency and personal achievement does have value when a student seeks future employment or entry into a course or tertiary institution. Students can be most rewarded and motivated by their participation in this process, however it is not compulsory and private instrumental tuition is not conditional upon working through AMEB grades.

For further information about AMEB syllabus and examinations, please contact the child's instrumental tutor in the first instance.

Other enquiries can be directed towards:

- Sharon Martin - Performing Arts Administrator (performingarts@kws.nsw.edu.au)

Information can also be found at <http://www.ameb.nsw.edu.au>.



Instrument Hire

KWS has a wide variety of instruments for hire (subject to availability) including:

French horn, trumpet, trombone, baritone, euphonium, tuba, flute, oboe, clarinet, bassoon, saxophone (alto, tenor & baritone), violin, viola, cello, double bass. N.B. Guitars, pianos and drum kits are NOT available for hire.

All hiring of instruments is done through the office of the Performing Arts Administrator. A Tuition and Instrument Hire Agreement Form must be completed before the instrument is taken home.

All students using an instrument owned by the school are responsible for the care of the instrument and should make sure it is stored correctly either in prep classrooms or in an Instrument locker in the music centre when they bring it to school.

Hire Fee Information

- Families hiring an instrument are responsible for any damage and/or loss of the instrument both at home and at school and are therefore encouraged to insure it. A simple addition to most Home and Contents Policies is normally sufficient. In some cases, more specialised insurance is recommended. Letters of valuation can be provided if required.
- The same responsibility is assumed for students participating in the Year 1 Strings Program and Year 4 Instrumental Program.
- The fee for instrument hire is currently set at \$160.00 per semester plus a one-off instrumental bond of \$160.00 (which is refunded upon return of the instrument in good working order). Hire fees will be charged to the school account in Term 1 and Term 3, with the bond being charged when the instrument is first hired and refunded upon instrument return.
- The school understands and expects general wear and tear of instruments and will undertake regular cleaning and repairs of a general nature. However, any costs incurred from damage to an instrument that is directly related to the use by a student (accident or otherwise) will be charged to parents on the school account. All repairs on school instruments will be managed through the Performing Arts Administrator's office.
- The replacement of instrument accessories on hired instruments are the responsibility of the students (e.g. clarinet and oboe reeds, broken strings on violins, violas and cellos, cleaning cloths etc). The Performing Arts Administrator has a small supply of these which can be issued to students in an emergency and charged to your school account.
- Music lockers for secondary students can be hired from the Performing Arts Administrator. Parents/Boarding masters must first complete and sign an Instrument Locker Hire Form and upon receipt of this, a locker key will be issued to the student. A bond of \$20 will be charged to the school account and refunded upon return of the key.



Co-curricular Program

All ensembles at KWS rehearse weekly under the direction of specialist conductors. Throughout the year, groups participate in eisteddfods, music festivals, school concerts and music camps. Groups also regularly provide musical support for community events, school functions and ceremonies.

Participation in Co-curricular Program - Requirements

- Where auditions are indicated, these are only for students wishing to join an ensemble for the first time (not continuing students). The only exception is for junior and secondary string quartets for which an audition will be held every year.
- Students having individual instrument or voice lessons at the school are required to participate in at least one relevant co-curricular music group commensurate with their level of ability (where appropriate).
- All students in Year 7-12 who are having piano lessons are expected to be a member of a band as a member of the percussion section, or a choir to help them in their ensemble and aural development.
- All students enrolled in a co-curricular music group are expected to have lessons from an Instrumental Tutor either privately, or at school. As well as assisting with skill development, lessons also support ensemble work and therefore benefit overall group performance. The only exception to this is involvement in school choirs – anyone is welcome to join a choir.
- There is no cost for participation in the Performing Arts co-curricular program. However, students are required to cover costs including reeds, drumsticks, strings, resin etc. associated with their particular instrument.

Participation in Co-curricular Program – Expectations of commitment

It is expected that all members of co-curricular music groups meet the following:

- Attend Term 1 Music Camp (Orchestra, Concert Band, Stage Band, Chamber Strings).
- Attend all rehearsals, performances and workshops as scheduled.
- Arrive 5 minutes before the start of each rehearsal.
- Bring music and instrument to each rehearsal.
- Practise their instrument regularly at home.
- Consult with the relevant director should there be a clash with other co-curricular or family obligations.
- Provide written notice when absent from a rehearsal or performance via email.
- Commit to the chosen group for the duration of the whole academic year.
- Consult with and provide notice in writing to the Head of Performing Arts before discontinuing group membership.

Once groups have been established at the beginning of Term 1, parents should expect an email from ensemble directors confirming the child's inclusion in that group, rehearsal commitments, contact details for the ensemble director, how to inform directors of a student's absence, and key performance dates.



Concert Bands

Junior School Beginner Band

- Age: Students in Years 2-6
- Level: Beginner (basic note reading and able to play the first six notes on their instrument)
- Audition: None required - students may ask to join at any time during the year when they are capable of achieving above requirements.

Students have the opportunity to move into the JS Concert Band in consultation with their music tutor, the Ensemble director and JS Performing Arts Coordinator. A short audition may be required before moving.

Junior School Concert Band

- Age: Students in Years 4-6
- Level: AMEB Grade 1 or equivalent (confident reading music and able to sight-read)
- Audition: Week 2, Term 1 and Term 3 for ready Junior Band students (required to play a short prepared piece and sight-read a line of music)

TryBand

- Director: Various tutors
- Rehearsal: Term 1 Only
- Age: Year 7 Students
- Level: Beginner
- Audition: Students will have the opportunity to try an instrument in Week 1, Term 1 and will begin lessons in Week 3, Term 1.

Senior Concert Band

- Age: Students in Years 7-12
- Level: AMEB Grade 3 or equivalent
- Audition: Week 2, Term 1 (required to play a prepared piece and sight-read a short passage of music)

Stage Band

- Age: Students in Years 7-12
- Level: AMEB Grade 4 or equivalent
- Audition: Week 2, Term 1 (required to play a prepared piece and sight-read a short passage of music)



String Orchestras

Junior School Beginner Strings

- Age: Students in Years 1 upwards. Students must have private tuition on their instruments
- Level: Able to read music at a beginner level and should be able to use all three fingers in 1st position.
- Audition: Students will have the opportunity to move to the JS String Orchestra in consultation with their music tutor, the Ensemble director and the JS Performing Arts Coordinator. A short audition may be required before moving.

Junior School String Orchestra

- Age: Students in who are approximately AMEB Grade 1-2 standard. Students must have private tuition on their instruments
- Level: Students should be confident reading music and able to sight-read.
- Audition: Required to play a short prepared piece and sight-read a line of music.

Intermediate Strings (iStrings)

- Age: Students in Years 7-10
- Level: From beginner to AMEB Grade 3 or equivalent
- Audition: None required

Chamber Strings

- Age: Students in Years 7-12
- Level: AMEB Grade 4 or equivalent
- Audition: Week 2, Term 1 (required to play a prepared piece and sight-read a short passage of music)



Orchestra

- Age: Students in Years 7-12
- Level: AMEB Grade 4 or equivalent (Brass and Woodwind players – Grade 6 +)
- Audition: Week 2, Term 1 (required to play a prepared piece and sight-read a short passage of music)

Choirs

Chamber Choir

- Age: Students in Years 9-12
- Level: Students must be confident to hold a harmony part within a choir setting. There is no expectation that students are undertaking private vocal tuition.
- Audition: Week 2, Term 1 (asked to sing Advance Australia Fair and given some short aural tests).

Koristers

- Age: Students in Years 5-8
- Maximum: 24 students
- Level: Students must be confident to hold a harmony part within a choir setting. There is no expectation that students are undertaking private vocal tuition, however students should be able to read music.
- Audition: Week 2, Term 1 (asked to sing Advance Australia Fair and given some short aural tests).

Vox Ensemble (Contemporary vocal group)

- Age: Years 7-12
- Level: Open to any student who loves to sing! Contemporary repertoire
- Audition: None required



Secondary Chamber Ensembles

Thompson String Quartet

- Age: Students in Years 7-12
- Level: AMEB Grade 5 or equivalent
- Audition: **All** students must audition to be selected for one of the quartets. A prepared piece of music and a short passage of sight reading will be required.

Senior Woodwind Quintet

- Age: Students in Years 7-12
- Level: Advanced flute, oboe, clarinet, French horn and bassoon players

Intermediate Woodwind Ensemble

- Age: Students in Years 7-12
- Level: Open to any student who learns flute, saxophone, oboe, bassoon or clarinet

Senior Brass Ensemble

- Age: Students in Years 7-12
- Level: Advanced Brass players
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Guitar Ensemble

- Age: Students in Years 7-12
- Level: Intermediate level guitarists



Communication

Incoming information from Students/Parents/Guardians to the school

For all general inquiries regarding instrumental studies, co-curricular music, music excursions and other school music events, please contact the Performing Arts Administrator, Mrs Sharon Martin (6392 0347).

Specific inquiries can be made as follows:

- Classroom Music: The first point of contact is the specific class teacher (via email or reception 6392 0300) alternatively, the Head of Performing Arts, Mrs. Jacqueline Shields (6392 0341).
- Classroom Drama: The first point of contact is the specific class teacher (via email or reception 6392 0300) alternatively, the Head of Performing Arts, Mrs. Jacqueline Shields (6392 0341).
- Co-Curricular Music: The first point of contact is the director of the ensemble alternatively, the Head of Performing Arts, Mrs. Jacqueline Shields (6392 0341).
- Instrumental Studies: The first point of contact is the specific instrumental teacher alternatively, the Performing Arts Administrator (smartin@kws.nsw.edu.au) or (6392 0347)
- Secondary Musical: The first point of contact is the director of the musical.



Term 1 Secondary Music Camp

When?

Music camp is held in Term 1. The timing of this camp is scheduled outside camps week to cater for our music students who are also committed to cadets and other camp activities in 'camps week'.

Who attends?

Every student from Orchestra, Concert Band, Stage Band and Chamber Strings are expected to attend music camp in term 1. Families will need to seek approved leave from Head of Senior School if students are unable to attend.



Year 1 Strings Program

Every KWS student in Year 1 is given the opportunity to learn a string instrument (violin) for one term. This program allows students to experience the joy of playing a string instrument whilst learning some fundamental skills. Students will receive specialist tuition from our strings tutors. Lessons take place during school hours, generally during 1/2 Choir rehearsal. Students will be assigned into groups and will be issued with an instrument for the duration of the program. There is no additional cost to families for this program.

During this time your child will be introduced to the following foundational skills:

- Learning the parts of the violin
- Establishing good playing position
- Getting to know the string names
- Reinforcing rhythms and how to read music
- Plucking the strings - pizzicato
- Parts of the bow
- Playing with the bow

The program has proved to be a valuable experience for our Year 1 students and has led to many students taking up tuition on a string instrument for the longer term.

There are only some basic requirements for this program including:

- Completing an **Instrument Hire Agreement**.
- The responsibility of students and parents to take good care of the instrument during the program.
- Establishing a good practice routine at home of about 5 mins per day.
- Performing as a group (during school time) at the completion of the program.

If any student demonstrates particular aptitude or interest during this program, they may be encouraged to continue private lessons with one of our string tutors. This will be communicated to parents via email.

Further information is sent home to parents at the beginning of the term in which their child will participate in the program.



Year 4 Instrumental Program

Every KWS student in Year 4 participates in an instrumental program introducing students to band instruments, percussion skills and ensemble playing during terms 1 and 2. The program forms part of the classroom music syllabus and therefore runs within school hours during normal music class time. There is no additional cost to families for this program. The instrumental program is broken up into three offerings according to the skills and interests of each student and whether the student already learns a band instrument privately.

a) Band Program

This is predominantly for students who are not already learning an instrument. Students have the opportunity to learn a brass or woodwind instrument. These may include clarinet, flute, trumpet, baritone, trombone or French horn.

In order to best select an instrument for each student, specialist music teachers trial students on all the instruments during class time. In consultation with parents, students are also asked to nominate their preferred instruments on a form. Instruments are then allocated based on both student preference **and** their trial of the instruments.

Students are divided into small groups and receive tuition from our specialist instrumental tutors for ½ hour and then take part in a full band rehearsal for the remaining part of the session.

At the conclusion of the program, we recommend students who have demonstrated capacity for their instruments to continue with private tuition. Students who continue with their instrument and who undertake private instrumental lessons are also encouraged to join Junior Band the following year, as this is an ideal way to practise their playing and ensemble skills.

b) Band rehearsal only

Year 4 students who already learn a band instrument through private tuition will either be involved in the Percussion instrumental program outlined below OR simply join the Year 4 band rehearsal in the second session of the program so that they can experience the fun of playing with their peers. This will occur even if they are already a part of Junior Band after school.

c) Ukulele Program

Students who currently receive private tuition on a band or non-band instrument will be involved in a program with Mrs. Sinclair where they will be introduced to the ukulele. Students will learn the basics of the instrument as well as enhancing skills in reading music notation, providing composition opportunities and developing students' abilities to play in an ensemble.

This program is a fantastic way of introducing students to learning an instrument or playing in an ensemble and the skills each student learns in just two terms is always very impressive!

Further information is sent home to parents prior to the commencement of this program.



Year 7 TryBand

Students in Year 7 are being offered the opportunity to learn a Band instrument as they begin Year 7. The TryBand program will run in Term 1.

During Term 1, students will have the opportunity to try different band instruments and select their preference. Students will be able to choose from a range of concert band instruments.

Students will be issued with an instrument and will participate in group lessons which will be run by expert instrumental tutors. Group lessons with tutors will run for 30 minutes followed by a full band rehearsal for the remaining part of the session.

There is no cost associated with this program. Students will be issued with an instrument and will undertake group lessons for the 6-week program.

At the conclusion of the TryBand program, students will be encouraged to enrol in private instrumental tuition and participate in Concert Band when they are ready.

TryBand is a wonderful opportunity for Year 7 students who have not had an opportunity to learn an instrument previously or have learnt an instrument in the past but would like the opportunity to try something new. It also allows students to be a part of a music ensemble which enhances teamwork, motivation, and positive social interactions.

NB: This program is not for students who are currently learning a string or band instrument. Students who already learn a string or band instrument are invited to join one of our many co-curricular music ensembles.

School Musicals

Each year KWS staff work with our talented body of student performers to produce a number of highly regarded, award-winning musical productions across the K-11 cohort. Students from Year 7 onwards enjoy the thrill of performing in an industry standard venue at Orange Civic Theatre in front of large audiences, giving them an invaluable insight into the many components of theatre production starting from the audition process and rehearsals right through to choreography, costuming, make-up, lighting, staging and performing.