



## Instrumental Music Policy

### INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC LESSONS:

Yarra Hills Secondary College has an exciting Music Program and offers Instrumental Music lessons in two ways:

- **Instrumental lessons**, given by College Music Staff where students pay an annual levy:  
Year 7 - no levy, Year 8 - \$160, Year 9 & 10 - \$180, Year 11 & 12 - \$200

Instruments taught in this category: Flute, Oboe, Clarinet, Saxophone, Trumpet, Trombone, French Horn, Euphonium, Tuba, Drum Kit/Percussion

Students who have instrumental music lessons are required to take part in one of the College Concert Bands.

- **Private instrumental lessons**, where lessons are paid for each term by the student/parent/guardian.

Instruments taught in this category: Singing, Piano Bass Guitar and Guitar

Piano and Singing lessons are only available for students in Years 8-12. Singing students will be required to take part in a Singing Group.

Students who take private lessons are required to pay fees at the start of each term. These fees vary according to lessons being shared or on an individual basis.

All parents/guardians of Year 7 students who wish to learn an instrument are required to attend the Year 7 Music Expo early in Term 1, where Instrumental Lessons and the College Band Program are discussed fully.

### INSTRUMENTS USED IN CONCERT BAND:

Woodwind: Flute, Oboe, Clarinet, Alto Saxophone, Tenor Saxophone  
 Brass: Trumpet, French Horn, Trombone, Tuba  
 Percussion: Drum Kit, Snare Drum, Bass Drum, Xylophone etc  
 Rhythm: Bass Guitar

### BAND REHEARSALS:

Band rehearsals will be held each week as follows: [subject to change each year]

Senior Band: Tuesday 3:30 – 4:30pm at the Mooroolbark Campus

Intermediate Band: Tuesday 3:30 - 4:30pm at the Mooroolbark Campus

Junior Band: Monday 3:30 - 4:30pm at the Mooroolbark Campus

A College mini bus will transport students to rehearsals at Mooroolbark after school where possible.

**Parents/guardians/students are asked to arrange transport home from Mooroolbark Campus AFTER rehearsal.**

**MUSIC LESSONS:**

All instrumental music lessons operate on a rotating timetable, where students are withdrawn from timetabled classes in other subjects for one half-period per week. The students miss a different period each week eg. Week 1 - Period 2, Week 2 - Period 3, Week 3 - Period 4, etc. It is not possible to organise lessons at lunchtimes or before school for students, as this is usually when ensembles will be rehearsing.

Students in Years 11 or 12 often have free periods, and where possible, teachers try to schedule students to have their lessons during these free periods, although this is not always possible.

All students are required to see class teachers to catch up on any work missed.

**REPORTS:**

All students in the Instrumental Music Program will be given a comprehensive report on their work and attendance in instrumental lessons and as well as rehearsals, just as in any other subject.

**CONDITIONS OF PARTICIPATION:**

- Each instrumental music student must undertake a regular and consistent practice schedule to take full benefit of the tuition offered. The Music Staff ask for full parental/guardian support of the practice schedule as recommended by the Instrumental Music Teacher.
- Instrumental Music lessons by College staff will normally be given in small groups. As the student progresses however, groups may become smaller, or in fact students may be offered an individual lesson.
- Students attend one lesson per week during class time, the student being withdrawn from class at a time which rotates through the school day so that the same subject is not missed each week.
- Every student learning an instrument is required to be a member of the appropriate College ensemble, attend weekly rehearsals and participate in the ensemble's performances during the year.
- Students playing in one of the College Bands are required to stay in the program for the full year.
- All students will be given a report at the end of each semester, as with all other school subjects. Interim reports will be issued if any problems arise.
- Students in Year 7 will be expected to purchase their own Music Stand.
- Students in all year levels will be expected to purchase accessories such as reeds, valve oil, slide cream etc and music as necessary.

**PARENT GROUP – 'BRAVO' FRIENDS OF MUSIC:**

The Music Department has been fortunate to have a group of parents/guardians assisting with concerts, as well as fundraising for band uniforms, music, musical instruments and music camps as appropriate. Meetings are held each month.