

16th October 2023

RE: Instrumental Music Application for the WHSC BAND PROGRAM IN 2024

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

We are now inviting children to apply to learn band instruments in the Education Queensland WHSC Instrumental Music Program from the start of the 2024 school year. You will need to read the information fact sheet carefully and discuss the requirements of the program factsheet with your child.

If your family desires to commit to the Whites Hill State College music program complete the expression of interest form and return it to the school office by Friday 24th November 2023.

It is important to note that not all students are offered a place in the instrumental program. There are a variety of assessments considered as well as the rank order of your application form.



Kind regards,

Mrs Gerri Courtney
HOD Arts PE and Languages

EDUCATION QUEENSLAND WHSC INSTRUMENTAL PROGRAM FACT SHEET

What are the benefit of the program?

- Evidence shows that music has a positive impact on learning particularly in the areas of reading and mathematics
- Students develop improved listening skills, communication skills and an ability to work collaboratively
- Friendship groups beyond the classroom build strong connections to the school community

When can I apply to the Band program?

- Children year 4 and above, including secondary students, in 2024 are invited to apply to learn brass, woodwind and percussion instruments.
- Students may apply at any time throughout the year. If the program is full they will be placed in a waiting list for the following year.

How does the program work?

- Instrumental Music lessons take place during school hours with ensemble or orchestra rehearsals taking place before school.
- Children learning an instrument must agree to attend scheduled lessons, rehearsals, and scheduled concerts, which involve their ensemble.
- Children are not able to withdraw from the program within the first year of lessons. This is a requirement of starting in the program and is something that must be agreed to on the program's enrolment form.
- Children are not permitted to drop out of one instrument and change to another. This policy is in place as your enrolment takes the place of a student who wishes to study the instrument.

What does the Program Cost?

- Each year we ask parents/caregivers to pay a **\$20 participation fee** to support the running of the instrumental music program and photocopying expenses.
- Your child will need an instrument. During the first year of lessons instruments are available for loan from the school. Children who are allocated a school instrument pay an **\$80 hire fee** annually.
- Children in their 2nd year of lessons will need to purchase their own instrument. Cellos and double basses are available for extended loan.
- Children in the string program require the **'Essential Elements' music textbook**, which costs **\$15-\$20**. You will be given more information about this if you are accepted into the program.

How are the students selected?

- **There is an extensive selection process** that enables us to best match student requests and aptitudes with the instrument placements available. Data from the classroom teachers and music teachers is considered, along with an instrument physical aptitude test. All applications are rank ordered according to when they are received.

APPLICATION FORM

WHITES HILL STATE COLLEGE BAND PROGRAM

Please return to the school office by Friday 24th November 2023

My child wants to learn a band instrument in 2024.

Parent/Carer Signature: _____ Date: _____

Name of child: _____ Current class: _____

Email: _____ Mobile phone: _____

Band Application – For children in Year 4 and above including secondary school in 2024.

Please indicate three of the band instruments that your child is interested in learning. Place numbers 1, 2 and 3 in the boxes to indicate your preferences.

Trumpet Trombone Euphonium French Horn

Flute Clarinet Saxophone Bass Clarinet

Percussion (including drums, xylophone and other percussion instruments)

- Please list any instruments you **do not** want your child to study.

- Please note if your child already learns an instrument or participates in any other musical activity outside of school.

- Do you currently own an instrument that you want your child to study and use in lessons?

- Do you currently play an instrument? (If yes, which instrument?) _____

- Have you studied an instrument in the past? (If yes, which instrument?) _____