

12th October 2023

RE: INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC APPLICATION TO ENTER THE **STRINGS** PROGRAM IN 2024

*Please complete the expression of
interest form and return it to the
school office ASAP.*

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

We are now inviting children to apply to learn string instruments in the Education Queensland Instrumental Music Program from the start of the 2024 school year. Instrumental music is an opportunity to extend your child's education. Music lessons are proven to develop numeracy, literacy, listening, creative thinking and collaborative communication skills.

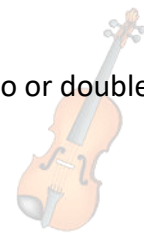
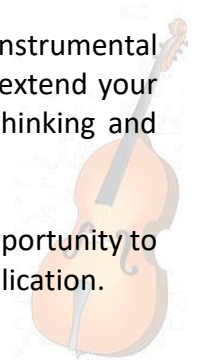
Students who study music learn to be organised and self-directed learners. It is also a wonderful opportunity to build new friendships and do exciting and challenging things. We look forward to receiving your application.

String Program - String applications

- Children starting year 3 and above in 2024 are invited to apply to learn violin, cello or double bass.

How does the program work?

- Instrumental Music lessons take place during school hours, with band or orchestra rehearsals taking place before school.
- It is important that you discuss the commitment to music together.
- Children learning an instrument must attend their 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. It is encouraged that students continue their chosen instrument until the end of year 6.



- Children are also not permitted to drop out of one instrument and change to another. This policy is in place to ensure balance within the ensembles.

What does the Program Cost?

- **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 on loan pay an \$80 hire fee annually for the hire of the instrument.**
- 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 between \$15-\$20.** You will be given more information about this if you are accepted in to the Program.
- Each year we ask parents/caregivers to pay a **\$20 participation fee** to support the running of the instrumental music program. This annual participation fee is required **for each child enrolled in the instrumental music program.** The participation fee supports the running costs of the instrumental music program and the purchase of materials for the use of the children in 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 music teachers is considered, along with a physical aptitude test (with instruments).

All music results are rank ordered. If there are large numbers of applications, this rank ordered list of student results will be used as a tool for selection of students for placement in the program.

String ensembles must have an appropriate balance of instruments. The children's instrument preferences are looked at to best match preferences with the requirements of a balanced ensemble. For this reason, we ask you to select two instruments that your child would like to learn. We try to accommodate at least one of your preferences. Subsequent to this process, offers of placements in the program will be made.

If you would like to apply for a position for your child to commence lessons in the instrumental music program in 2024, please complete the expression of interest form and return it to the school office by Friday 1st December. If your child is already in the program, you need to submit a re- enrolment form.

Yours Sincerely

Mrs Gerri Courtney
HOD PE Languages and ARTS

APPLICATION FORM

WHITES HILL STATE COLLEGE STRING PROGRAM

Please return to the school office by Friday 1st December. Students new to the college may apply at any time for the following years intake.

My child wants to learn a string instrument. I would like them to be considered for inclusion in the Instrumental Music Program (STRINGS) for 2024.

Parent/Carer Signature: _____ Date: _____

Name of child: _____ Class: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

String Application – For children currently in Years 2, 3 or 4

Please indicate two of the string instruments that your child is interested in learning. Place numbers 1 and 2 in the boxes to indicate your preferences.

Violin Viola Cello Double Bass



- 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?) _____