



**COORPAROO STATE SCHOOL**

**MUSIC HANDBOOK**

**2024**

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## WELCOME TO MUSIC AT COORPAROO STATE SCHOOL

### OVERVIEW

Coorparoo State School offers a variety of musical experiences. In addition to our Classroom Music Program for every student at our school, we are also fortunate to have an Instrumental Music Program (Strings and Band), choirs and percussion ensembles to cater for different ages and ability levels.

#### Education Queensland Instrumental Music Program :

- Strings Program (Years 3 - 6)
- Band Program (Years 4 - 6)

*(note: see the Instrumental Music Program section of this Handbook for the application process)*

#### Coorparoo State School Choirs:

- Kijini Choir (Years 1 - 2)
- Pop Choir (Years 3 - 6)
- Cantabile Choir (Years 4 - 6)

#### Coorparoo State School Instrumental Ensembles:

- Percussion ensembles (Years 4 - 6).

**Private piano tuition** is available at the parent's cost to all students from Prep to Year 6 during school hours. You can contact Sharyn Cooper, directly via email [sharyncooper23@gmail.com](mailto:sharyncooper23@gmail.com) or phone 0407 654 456.

### REHEARSALS FOR ALL ENSEMBLES

The rehearsal schedule can vary from year to year depending on availability of staff, accompanists and rehearsal space.

Ensembles	Rehearsal Times	Staff contacts
<b>Kijini Choir</b>	Rehearsals are held at lunch time for 30 minutes commencing at 11:10am each week.	Miss Samantha Suen sxsue0@eq.edu.au
<b>Pop Choir</b>	Rehearsals are held at lunch time for 30 minutes commencing at 11:15am each week.	
<b>Coorparoo Cantabile</b>	Rehearsals are held before school one morning per week, for 45 minutes commencing at 8:00am.	Ms Nicole Lane nmlan0@eq.edu.au
<b>Strings</b>	7:30am – 8:45am – Beginner Strings join Orchestra in Term 4 – day to be advised.	Ms Margo Flemming mflem13@eq.edu.au
<b>Junior Band</b>	7:45am – 8:45am (before school) – Tuesdays from Term 2	Ms Alicia Wilson awils246@eq.edu.au
<b>Senior Band</b>	7:45am – 8:45am (before school) – Mondays	
<b>Percussion Ensembles</b>	Rehearsals are currently held before school commencing at 8:00am (although this might vary from year to year).	Mrs Kirsty Muir kmuir1@eq.edu.au  Mr Matt Costigan mcost5@eq.edu.au

## MUSIC SUB-COMMITTEE

The Music Sub-committee (**MSC**) is a sub-committee of the Coorparoo State School Parents and Citizens Association (P&C). It is run by volunteers who are parents of the children at Coorparoo State School. The MSC meetings are usually held prior to any performance event.

The members of the MSC work alongside the school's music teachers providing support in the Music Program. Members of the MSC help with the organizing and running of the school music concerts, including the Winter Music Concert, A Touch of Christmas Concert and other music activities held during the school year.

Raffles may be run at school concerts. Any funds raised are used to promote and strengthen the Music Program at Coorparoo State School.

## INSTRUMENTAL PROGRAM: STRINGS AND BAND PROGRAM

Education Queensland provides teachers to instruct children in the Strings Program and the Band Program. These teachers work part-time at Coorparoo State School and are shared with other schools.

The Strings and Band Programs are centrally funded by Education Queensland, so there are limitations to the number of students who can be invited to join these Programs.

Children start the Strings Program in Year 3 and the Band Program in Year 4. New enrolments are also welcome to express an interest in the Program, subject to availability of places.

The Strings Program includes tuition in violin, viola, cello and double bass.

The Band Program includes tuition in woodwind (flute, clarinet, bass clarinet and alto/tenor/baritone saxophone), brass (trumpet, trombone, French horn, euphonium, baritone and tuba) and percussion instruments (tuned and untuned percussion).

If students are accepted into either the Strings or Band programs, it is expected they will remain committed for the duration of their time at Coorparoo State School (through to the end of Year 6). Loss of students from ensembles has a detrimental effect on the success of the band or orchestra and the program overall. Education Queensland policy states that if a student accepts an offer to start a stringed instrument in Year 3 and subsequently decides not to continue, they will not be offered a place in the Year 4 Band Program.

## String/Band Lessons

Weekly lessons are 30 minutes in duration, in small groups, during school time, same time each week. Students will need to pay a levy and instrumental hire (if hiring from school) fees as below. You will be invoiced by the school for these amounts:

Instruments	General Levy	Instrumental hire (if applicable)
Strings	\$40	\$55
Band	\$40	\$70

## String/Band Participation

As well as attending their weekly instrument lessons, children learning string/band instruments must become members of the Orchestra or the Band (as advised by their Instrumental Teacher) and attend the relevant weekly rehearsal.

## Selection of Strings and Band Students

### At the end of Year 2:

- All Year 2 students are tested
- They are invited to join the **Strings Program** based on results from an auditory discrimination test.

Children are given a test to assess their ability to discriminate between differences in pitch and rhythm. The ability to feel the beat and to keep the beat during musical activities is also considered. The classroom music teacher then collates the results.

### At the end of Year 3:

- All Year 3 students are tested
- They are given an Expression of Interest form to indicate whether they are interested in joining the **Band Program** commencing in Year 4.
- Students who are already in the Strings Program are not eligible for the Band Program.
- The Band Teacher sees the Year 3 students in small groups and tests them on each group of instruments taking note of mouth structure, height, arm length and tonal potential in the instruments. All these things influence what instrument the student is able to play.

Details of both these Programs appear later in the Handbook.

Selection of students involves collation of relevant data from the following staff:

- |                           |                                   |
|---------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| • Classroom Music Teacher | • Year 2 and 3 Class teachers     |
| • Strings Teacher         | • Principal and Deputy Principals |
| • Band Teacher            |                                   |

All of this data, as well as staffing levels and the availability of each instrument, is taken into consideration when final offers are made by the Instrumental Teacher/s, Classroom Music Teacher and Leadership Team.

### ***Offer of Places - Process***

- In Term 4, **letters of offer** are sent to selected students in Year 2 (for the Strings Program) and in Year 3 (for the Band Program) for joining the Program in the following year.
- Families are asked to accept that offer by completing and returning an **acceptance form**.
- Families will then be advised of **instrument availability and allocation** – please note that some instruments are available for short-term hire from the school, some can be hired longer term and others must be purchased outright (*see below for more information*).
- A **commencement letter** will then be sent outlining the requirements for tuition on that particular instrument.

### ***Instrument Availability***

Students who are selected for the Band or Strings Program may be able to hire instruments from the school.

If you are offered a school instrument to hire, you will be asked to complete a Loan Agreement and pay a hire levy. Instrument numbers are limited.

**Beginning Strings students** learning violin, viola and cello will be offered the use of a school instrument for the first 12 months (with a small hire fee payable), after which time it is expected they will purchase their own instrument. Double bass students, however, may hire a school instrument for four years (Years 3-6).

**Beginning Band students** may be offered a short term loan of a school instrument for the first 12 months (subject to availability). Instruments could include:

- Flute
- Clarinet
- Alto or tenor saxophone
- Trombone
- Glockenspiel
- Trumpet

**Long term band** instrument loan from the school (Years 4 – 6) - depends on student commitment and instrument availability) is for:

- Alto clarinet *(if available)*
- Bass clarinet
- Baritone saxophone *(if available)*
- French horn
- Baritone
- Euphonium
- Tuba

If purchasing your own instrument, be aware that instrument quality ranges greatly. Consult with the Instrumental Teacher on your planned purchase or deal through a reputable music store to avoid purchasing an unsuitable instrument. Second-hand instruments are often available through music stores or online, however seeking advice prior to purchase is again recommended.

### ***Costs to Parents/Caregivers***

The cost of the tuition is covered by Education Queensland.

Parents/Caregivers will be responsible for providing:

- a suitable instrument (hired or purchased)
- a music stand for home practice (encouraging appropriate posture) and to take to music camps, etc.
- a music tutor book
- instrument incidentals (some costs for specific instruments, eg rosin for strings, reeds for woodwind, valve oil for brass, etc.)

Details of these items are provided later in this Handbook.

## **What is expected of the students in the Strings and Band Programs?**

### ***Parents/Caregivers Commitment***

- Show an interest in your child's music learning journey.
- Encourage your child – even when strange sounds are made. This is a part of their learning journey.
- Provide your student with a suitable instrument, if a school one is not available, or after the loan agreement with the school concludes.
- Purchase the music tuition book and instrument accessories as requested by the Teacher.
- Provide a quiet place and regular time for home practice without interruption.
- Provide a safe area to keep the instrument.
- Assist your child with practice as much as possible.
- Help them to maintain a practice record.
- Ensure any instrument damage or concerns are reported to the teacher as soon as they are noticed. Repairs should never be attempted yourself. Your teacher will provide advice on how to proceed.
- Ensure your child is on time for before-school ensemble rehearsals and provide reminders for lessons.
- Advise the teacher of absences, in advance if possible (email is best).
- Encourage your child to play for others whenever possible. This builds self-esteem and confidence.
- Support your child by attending school performances whenever possible.
- Provide the correct uniform for performances.

### ***Student Commitment***

- Practise regularly - your teacher will tell you their expectations.
- Attend all lessons and ensemble rehearsals in a timely manner.
- Participate in all performances. Your team needs you.
- Keep instrument in good repair – clean it regularly and look after it as your teacher has taught you to. Any problems, let your teacher know as soon as possible.
- Bring everything you need to each lesson.

### ***Performances***

As members of the Instrumental Music Program, students are required to be available for all scheduled performances. The school will always provide advance notice to families so that social diaries can be adjusted accordingly.

Performances are held towards the end of each semester, on a week night (the Winter Music Concert in June and the Touch of Christmas Concert in November/December).

Other performances, such as at the School Carnival, on Parade or at various competitions, may occur. You will be notified in advance of these.

### **APPROXIMATE COSTS FOR INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC PROGRAM 2024**

<b>Instrument Hire</b> (goes toward the cost of annual maintenance—instruments loaned by the school only)	\$70 Band Instrument \$55 Strings
<b>General Levy</b> (goes towards the cost of purchase of new instruments, sheet music, classroom music stands, folders and transport to some external performances if required. also supplements maintenance of school instruments)	\$40 for Band or Strings Program
<b>Music Camps</b>	Cost varies for each camp (participation optional but strongly recommended)
<b>Band Incidentals</b>	
Standard of Excellence Book I	Approx. \$28 - \$30
Music Stand	Approx. \$40
Reeds/Slide Oil/Grease/Cloths	Approx. \$15 - \$45 (depends on the instrument)
<b>Strings Incidentals</b>	
Strictly Strings Book I	Approx. \$25
Music Stand	Approx. \$40
Rosin	Approx. \$10
Spare Strings (as needed)	Approx. \$50 – \$80
+ Cello stop (cello and bass only)	Approx. \$15
+ Shoulder rest (violin / viola only)	Approx. \$30 - \$40

## ***Music Camps***

Strings Program camps are held annually:

- Junior Stings Workshop (second year learners) week 9 of Term 2
- Senior Music Workshop Strings (Year 6) Week 9 Term 3

Band Program workshops are also held annually:

- Beginner Band Workshop (1 day) Week 10 of Term 2
- Senior music workshop (3 days) in week 9 of Term 3

Parent assistance with transport to and from camps, etc. may be required.

## **CHOIRS**

**Kijini Choir** is available to any interested Year 1 and 2 students. Students are asked to join at the beginning of each school year.

**Pop Choir** is available to any interested Year 3, 4, 5 and 6 students. Students are asked to join at the beginning of each school year. This Choir will be non-competitive and sing popular songs.

Performances for Kijini and Pop choir members are at two weeknight school concerts each year (the *Winter Music Concert* in June and *A Touch of Christmas* in November/December) and at other school events, such as end of term performance parades.

**Coorparoo Cantabile** is available to any interested Year 4, 5 and 6 students who pass an audition. Students are invited to audition at the beginning of each school year.

Performances for Coorparoo Cantabile Choir members are also at two weeknight school concerts each year (the *Winter Music Concert* in June and *A Touch of Christmas* in November/December) and at other school events such as:

- School ANZAC Day Service
- SingFest (weekday in August)
- Parades

Some of the external performances may require parent transport.

## **PERCUSSION ENSEMBLES**

As part of the Coorparoo Music Program, students in Year 4, 5 and 6 are given the opportunity to take part in a percussion ensemble.

Students are exposed to and taught a range of percussion instruments – including melodic (e.g. xylophone and marimbas) and non-melodic (e.g. triangle and wood blocks).

## **UNIFORM FOR ALL ENSEMBLES**

During 2024, students will wear their formal Coorparoo State School uniform for all performances and events.