

Dear Parents / Guardians,

The Strathpine West State School Instrumental Music Program is a comprehensive tuition program in which students learn orchestral or band instruments. It provides an extra dimension to the school Classroom Music Program ensuring that educational outcomes are maximised for all students taking full account of individual circumstances such as their gender, socioeconomic situation, language and cultural background, and any impairment and special talents they may have. It provides the opportunity for musical development of students through instrumental instruction on a group basis and ensemble experience. Students develop ensemble performance skills as an integral part of their music education.

Each year a selection process involving our year 2 and 3 students is held to identify children who have an interest and an aptitude for learning either a Woodwind, Brass, Percussion or String instrument. Instruction is provided from year 4 for Woodwind instruments (*flute, clarinet, bass clarinet, alto saxophone and tenor saxophone*), Brass instruments (*trumpet, French horn, trombone, baritone, euphonium and tuba*), Percussion instruments (*tuned and un-tuned instruments including drums, xylophone and glockenspiel*) and String instruments (*bass guitar*). Instruction is provided from year 3 for orchestral String instruments (*violin, viola, cello and double bass*). Children are given one lesson per week during school time. The program is based on a broad set of objectives that spring from two fundamental goals: The mastery of technical skills and the development of musical sensitivity.

It is well documented that children who participate in music programs demonstrate a significant improvement in life's endeavours. Music education helps young people feel inspired and motivated and boosts self-esteem and thinking skills. Research tells us children who play music do better in school and in life. Above all, MUSIC IS FUN. There are so many benefits of participating in Music education.

Attached for your perusal is the Strathpine West State School *Instrumental Music Recruitment - Selection Criteria*. A limited number of students meeting these expectations will be offered a position in the school's Instrumental Music Program.

Yours faithfully,



Mrs Leonore Hammond
Instrumental Music Coordinator



Ms Leann Griffith
Principal



STRATHPINE WEST STATE SCHOOL INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC PROGRAM

RECRUITMENT - SELECTION CRITERIA

There are a limited number of places in the Strathpine West State School Instrumental Music Program available each year. This is determined by the allocation of instrumental music time at the school and the current enrolment numbers. This figure is recalculated annually.

It is therefore not possible to offer instrumental music tuition to all students. The following selection process takes place in semester 2 of each year. Students selected for Instrumental Music must meet these outlined expectations.

String Instrumental Music Program - *Students in year 2 are considered for a place commencing tuition in year 3.*

Woodwind, Brass and Percussion (Multi) Instrumental Music Program - *Students in year 3 are considered for a place commencing tuition in year 4.*

Student Expectations

Any student wishing to become a member of the Strathpine West State School Instrumental Music Program must comply with the following expectations to be considered for an audition into either the String Instrumental Music Program or the Multi Instrumental Music Program.

Students wishing to audition for either program must

- *display a high level of academic effort.*
- *display a high level of classroom music effort and achievement.*
- *provide acceptable Selmer Guidance Survey Test results. (Music listening test designed to show aural compatibility.)*
- *consistently follow the school's Responsible Behaviour Plan for Students and follow the expectations to be Safe, be a Team member, be A learner and be Respectful.*
- *achieve a minimum of a C standard in overall behaviour on their semester report card.*
- *show a consistent school attendance. (Goal 90% attendance)*
- *show a strong commitment by being a dedicated member of the recorder band or ukulele group.*
- *display the ability to work independently.*
- *show enthusiasm and interest in the program.*



Selection Procedures

Qualifying students in grade 2 and 3 are surveyed by their class teacher. This confidential report outlines the student's possible potential from the class teacher's perspective.

Permission to Audition letters outlining the instrumental music program including participation expectation and costs are sent home to parents/guardians for signing. Only students with signed permission forms will be auditioned by the instrumental music teacher.

Instruments are allocated after physical testing by the instrumental music teacher. This indicates the child's physical suitability for the various instruments available.

Instrument allocation is finalised taking into consideration personal interests and the need for a balanced program at the school. **The final decision on selection is made by the principal.** Letters of acceptance are then sent home.

Students unsuccessful at this time are placed on a waiting list and may be offered a place if one becomes available.

Switching Programs (e.g. String to Multi)

Students who have previously been in one instrumental music program at Strathpine West State School or at another school, but discontinued for whatever reason, may have the opportunity to join another program (eg. strings to brass) but it will depend on whether there are program vacancies.

In this case the student will be required to supply his/her own instrument so as not to deprive another first-time student of an instrument. Any instance of program switching will be considered on a case by case basis, but the underlying aspect of 'fairness' will be the guiding principle.

Please register your child's interest in either the String or Multi instrumental music program by emailing Mrs Leonore Hammond on lhamm3@eq.edu.au.



