

# Cheltenham Secondary College -Instrumental Music Policy

## Rationale:

Cheltenham Secondary College's Instrumental Music Program (IMP) is a central part of the College's vibrant co-curricular program and encompasses instrumental music lessons, membership of concert bands, ensembles and choirs and participation in music excursions, camps and special programs. The Instrumental Music Program links strongly with the classroom music curriculum, particularly from Year 9 upwards.

## Aims

The Instrumental Music Program seeks to develop in students:

- A love and appreciation of music
- Skills and abilities commencing from the individual's starting point
- An appreciation of musical works that have proven to be of enduring worth, and the socio-cultural and historical contexts in which they were created
- An enjoyment of the social aspects of music making
- An appreciation of the College values of Personal Best, Respect, Responsibility and Sense of Community and their relation to music-making

## Guidelines

1. Enrolments applications are accepted on an annual basis as follows:
  - a. In Term Four of each year, current instrumental music students will receive a letter inviting them to re-enroll for the upcoming school year. These students' places in the program are guaranteed, subject to the clauses of this policy, as long as they return payment and forms by the indicated due date.
  - b. The following student groups will be allocated places next:
    - Those enrolled in VCE Music Performance
    - Those enrolled in Year 10 and 9 Music Performance
    - Any student who made a significant contribution to the music program in the previous year
  - c. All remaining places in the program will be declared open. Students who wish to apply for one of these places must attend the Music Information Night, held early in Term One each year, and submit an application and deposit at or shortly after this event. Every student who submits an application and deposit is guaranteed a place on one of their three nominated instruments. Please note that if you nominate only one or two instruments, we may not accept your application and cannot guarantee you a place in the program.
2. Students may not change instruments once the academic year has started, except on exceptional grounds as approved by the Manager of Instrumental Music in consultation with the Principals.
3. An Instrumental Music Levy is charged for each student enrolled in the program. Levies differ from instrument to instrument and are paid prior to the commencement of the school year.

Failure to pay the Instrumental Music Levy by the due date may restrict your child's access to the program.

4. Refunds of the Instrumental Music Levy are only available on exceptional grounds at the discretion of the Instrumental Music Coordinator.
5. Limited instruments are available to hire for an annual fee for the first year of tuition; after this, families must make their own arrangements to purchase an instrument or hire one externally.
6. Lessons are one period in length and are scheduled on a rotating basis (subject to teacher availability). Every attempt is made to schedule the lessons of VCE students during their study periods and as such it is the responsibility of the individual student to provide their instrumental teacher with a copy of their current timetable.
7. It is the responsibility of the student to catch up on any work missed from regular classes.
8. Once they have reached a suitable standard, every student in the Instrumental Music Program is allocated to a College ensemble by the Manager of Instrumental Music and Performances. Membership of ensembles includes attendance at all rehearsals, performances and excursions. Failure to maintain an adequate attendance record will result in the immediate review of the student's place in the Instrumental Music Program.
9. Students are the ambassadors of the Instrumental Music Program, and as such participation is a commitment by both the student and the family to support the program. These commitments include:
  - Attendance at weekly lessons with all necessary books and equipment
  - Regular practice as set by the instrumental music teacher
  - Notifying instrumental music teachers in advance of student absences (due to excursion, school event etc)
  - Catching up on work missed from other subjects
  - Purchasing necessary music books, sheet music, reeds, straps, drumsticks and other accessories
  - Adhering to special uniform requirements for ensembles where appropriate
  - Acting in the spirit of the College values of Respect, Responsibility, Personal Best and Sense of Community at all times