



XAVIER
COLLEGE

Instrumental Music Program Handbook

2024



Dear Parents/Caregivers and Students

This Instrumental Program Handbook aims to inform parents and students of the structure and organisation of the Instrumental Program at Xavier College.

The processes outlined in this handbook are in place to ensure the efficient running of the program, and to maximise participation for the benefit of students, instrumental tutors and the whole school community.

If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact the Music Coordinator at your campus (see below). The Front Office is also available to direct your enquiry to the appropriate recipient.

Evanston Campus

Ms Megan Isaacson
misaccson@xavier.catholic.edu.au
8526 9600

Gawler Belt Campus

Mr Tom Lindner
tlindner@xavier.catholic.edu.au
8521 4500

Two Wells Campus

Mr Benjamin Paparella
bpaparella@xavier.catholic.edu.au
8520 4100

Mrs Amy Waters
awaters@xavier.catholic.edu.au
8520 4100

Instrumental Music Program

The Instrumental Music Program provides students with the opportunity to learn to play a musical instrument as an individual or group with an experienced tutor.

Lessons

Instrumental and vocal lessons are half an hour in length and take place once a week during school hours: 8:45am to 3:05pm.

Lessons are on a rotating timetable unless negotiated with the tutor and Coordinator of Music. Priority regarding permanent instrumental time slots, such as lunch times or after school, are given to senior students due to their study commitments. Longer lessons can be negotiated with the tutor.

Instrumental Diary

An Instrumental Diary is not required, however, is recommended for information regarding practice, timetabling and accounts.

Group Lessons

Group lessons are available for some instruments and vocals. Group lessons with three students per group can be offered at a discounted rate.

This is an excellent way to encourage students to try an instrument and also gives them the opportunity to work collaboratively with some other students and therefore boost their confidence.

Agreement

All students who undertake instrumental tuition are required to return the Agreement Form, signed by a parent/caregiver. This ensures you have understood the guidelines and expectations prior to commencement of lessons.

Should a student wish to cease instrumental lessons, a written statement to both tutor and the Coordinator of Music is required.

Conclusion of lessons will only occur at the end of a term.

Please note, tuition fees will not be refunded when a student discontinues lessons before the end of any given term.

Tuition Fees

The cost of individual instrumental or vocal lessons is at the discretion of the instrumental tutor but will be in the vicinity of \$300-\$350 per term, consisting of 10 lessons. This is in accordance with the recommended rate of the Music Teachers Association of South Australia.

At the commencement of each term's lessons, the tutor will issue an invoice which is payable via direct bank transfer, cheque or cash directly to the tutor. Tutors may enclose preferred payment options on their invoice.

Xavier College will not be responsible for the collection, holding or distribution of any monies for the payment of instrumental fees.

Payment should be made within the first two weeks of tuition commencing.

Our Teachers

Music Department Staff

Evanston

Megan Isaacson

Gawler Belt

Tom Lindner
Hannah Skeklios

Two Wells

Benjamin Paparella
Amy Waters
Leigh Stretton
Cameron Hall

Instrumental Teachers

Evanston

Chris Isaacson
Saxophone and Clarinet

Carly Cameron
Trumpet and Trombone

Jasmine Kassel
Violin

Cathy Bennett
Piano

Yuri Markov
Drums

Mikala Wood
Voice
(Vocal Hub Kids Program)

Other instruments may be available, please check with Mrs Isaacson.

Gawler Belt

Chris Isaacson
Saxophone and Clarinet

Carly Cameron
Trumpet and Trombone

Karen Clarke
Flute and Piano

Cathy Bennett
Piano

Curtis Worden
Guitar

Steve Gregory
Guitar, Bass, and Ukelele

Julia Halliday
Violin

Millie Curry
Voice

Amy Roberts
Voice

Yuri Markov
Drums

Other instruments may be available, please check with Mr Lindner.

Two Wells

Cathy Bennett
Piano

Thomas Saunders
Piano

Lachlan Corbin
Guitar

Breanne Christie
Voice

Jasmine Kassel
Violin

Huw Roberts
Guitar and Bass Guitar

Other instruments may be available, please check with Mrs Waters.

Guidelines

Lessons and Fees

All instrumental tutors will give their personal contact details to students at the first lesson.

In the case of a student absence from school on the day of an instrumental lesson it is imperative that the instrumental tutor be contacted directly by the family to advise of the student's absence.

Once the instrumental tutor has been notified of an absence before lesson, the instrumental tutor will organise a time to make up the instrumental lesson directly with the family.

Other than long term illness or long term vacation (the latter requires at least two weeks prior notice) absences will be paid for. No lesson will be 'made up' when a student is absent without notice before 9am of the lesson day.

All students are encouraged to be a part of a school band, choir, or other official school ensemble upon reaching the required standard. Please discuss this with your instrumental tutor and/or music staff.

A practice of approximately 20 minutes per day, 4-5 days a week during the first year of tuition is expected.

The greatest assistance you can give your child is continual encouragement.

Instruments

Privately owned or hired instruments may be stored in the instrumental store room.

Instruments should have the student's name and address clearly visible on the case.

Please leave any repairs, including the removal of stuck mouth-pieces in brass instruments, to the instrumental tutor.

A music stand (for home use) is recommended.

A quiet and calm place for home practice is encouraged.

Instruments hired through the College (brass, woodwind, strings) must be treated with respect, carried in its case and stored securely until it is returned to the College.

Parents will be responsible for any damage to the instrument if damaged due to negligence.

When brought to school, instruments are the responsibility of the student. Instruments should be kept in the instrumental store room located in the Music Centre.

Experience Music This Year

There are lots of opportunities to engage with music at Xavier. Whether you would like to perform or just enjoy listening, we love to see students get involved with music and support our musicians.

Performances

Throughout the year, there will be opportunities to perform at events such as:

- Mass
- Assembly
- Fundraising and special event days
- External events such as the Balaklava Esteddod and the Gawler Show
- Xavier In Concert (annual College event)

Music Groups

Each campus also has music groups that practise together regularly. Please contact your campus' Music Coordinator if you're interested in participating, as you may be required to audition.

Evanston

- Liturgical Band
- Choir

Gawler Belt

- Little Big Band
- Jazz Ensemble
- Rock Band
- Vocal Ensemble

Two Wells

- Catholic Schools Music Festival Choir
- Junior Choir
- Middle School Vocal Group
- Guitar Band
- Middle School Rock Band

Instrumental Music Program

Agreement Form



Family Information

Student name: _____

Date: _____ Year level: _____

Oratory code or Classroom Teacher: _____

Parent/Caregiver name: _____

Parent/Caregiver phone number: _____

Any special considerations: _____

Instrumental Details

Name of instrument for which tuition is requested: _____

Years experience playing requested instrument: _____

I have read and understood the guidelines set out in the Instrumental Program Handbook.

I agree to have the information provided passed on to the relevant instrumental tutor.

Signed (student): _____ Date: _____

Signed (parent/caregiver): _____ Date: _____

Please return this form to a Music Department staff member.
Junior School students may also return this form to their classroom teacher.



xavier.catholic.edu.au

A CATHOLIC CO-EDUCATIONAL COLLEGE
Educating in the Salesian Tradition