

BANKSIA BEACH STATE SCHOOL

INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC HANDBOOK 2026



WELCOME

Music is a unique and integral part of life. It has the capacity to inspire students' creativity, provide them with opportunities beyond the classroom, and excite them about life and learning. Learning to play an instrument positively affects and improves brain function, problem solving, attention span, memory, and social responsibility. The skills, concepts and attitudes that students acquire as a result of music education benefit them not only during their schooling but also in the years beyond, whatever their chosen career path.

Instrumental Music comes under the Performing Arts Excellence Program

Creating Individual Musicians



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Instrumental Music (IM) Program Overview

Our Instrumental Music Program at Banksia Beach State School provides students with the opportunity to become musicians and experience the expressive qualities of music through learning to play an orchestral or band instrument. Students attend small group lessons and participate in band rehearsals with the aim of performing as members of our large ensembles.

Student home practice is an integral part of learning to play an instrument, supporting and consolidating school music lessons. Students are requested to make a commitment to the program for a minimum of one year, with the over-riding aim of continuing through to the end of their schooling. The content and structure of lessons, rehearsals, and performances follow the Queensland Instrumental Music Curriculum Guidelines. At Banksia Beach State School we are honoured to support each child's growth in their musical journey keeping with the school's PURE values (PRIDE, UNITY, RESPECT, EXCELLENCE).

- 🎵 **LESSONS:** Students are required to attend small group lessons of 30 minutes, twice each week, during school time on a rotating timetable, as posted on the Performing Arts Noticeboard.
- 🎵 **BAND REHEARSALS:** Students are required to attend at least one weekly band rehearsal before or after school, as per the times displayed on the Performing Arts Noticeboard.
- 🎵 **PERFORMANCES and WORKSHOPS:** Students are required to attend all performances and workshops during school time, and out of school hours.
- 🎵 **METHOD BOOKS:** All students will require a Standard of Excellence Red Book for their instrument.
- 🎵 **HOME PRACTICE:** Students are expected to practise playing their instrument for 15 minutes three times each week. A suitable place to practise at home is encouraged.
- 🎵 **COMMITMENT:** Supporting your child to learn an instrument requires commitment from the whole family. This includes supporting them in attending lessons, rehearsals and performances.

ATTENDANCE

A high level of attendance at lessons, rehearsals, and performances is essential to our progress and ongoing success. Regular, timely attendance by each and every student contributes to the team spirit essential in our program.

LESSONS

- 🎵 Lessons follow the Queensland Instrumental Music Curriculum.
- 🎵 All students will be required to sit regular practical assessments and will receive a report at the end of each semester. These assessments will be recorded as part of the curriculum requirements.
- 🎵 Repeated unexplained absences may affect the student being allowed to perform in ensembles and also affect their assessment results. Continued low attendance may result in their exclusion from the program.
- 🎵 Lesson timetables are displayed on the Performing Arts noticeboard and in their regular classroom.
- 🎵 Timetabling and grouping is at the discretion of the IM teacher and Performing Arts Manager.
- 🎵 It is the students' responsibility to catch up on any class work they may miss.
- 🎵 Lessons may be rescheduled at the discretion of the Instrumental Music (IM) teacher. Students need to inform their IM Teacher as early as possible.
- 🎵 Students will be taught in small groups, and cannot be taught individually.
- 🎵 Parents/Guardians will be contacted when students are regularly missing lessons without notification. Parents can advise teachers of absence via Seesaw.

Resources and Equipment

All students will require additional resources and equipment for their lessons and home practice. For beginner students there is a detailed list at the back of this handbook outlining equipment. Some of this equipment will need to be replaced over time.

ENSEMBLES

Concert Bands

- 🎵 It is required that students are members of their assigned Concert Band. If you are uncertain which ensemble your child is in, please refer to the IM timetable or contact your child's IM teacher.
- 🎵 These rehearsals occur outside of school hours as displayed on the Performing Arts Noticeboard.
- 🎵 Students must be having lessons on their instrument to participate in an ensemble.
- 🎵 Students' successful participation in their ensemble forms part of their assessment.
- 🎵 Unexplained absences will affect the students' performance, results, and can ultimately lead to exclusion from the program.
- 🎵 Parents/Guardians will be contacted when students miss a rehearsal without notification.
- 🎵 It is important for student safety that parents inform the IM teacher as soon as possible if their child is going to be absent from a rehearsal.

Big Band

The Big Band at Banksia Beach State School is an extension ensemble. Students in the Big Band must first be a member of the Advanced Concert Band. Students will be offered a place based on their level of achievement on their instrument, and commitment to the program. The Big Band only has positions for students who play saxophone, trumpet, trombone, percussion, keyboard or bass guitar. For students who play other instruments, they may be offered the option to teach themselves a second related instrument to participate in the Big Band. Being offered a place in this ensemble is at the discretion of the IM teachers.

PERFORMANCES

- 🎵 Ensembles aim to perform at least once per term. This may occur outside of school hours. A performance calendar has been provided at the back of this booklet with current scheduled dates. Please note these are subject to change. Monitor emails, Seesaw, Facebook and permission notes for updates regarding performances.
- 🎵 Attendance at all performances is compulsory as part of the commitment to the program.

Performance Uniform

- 🎵 Junior Concert Band and Foundation Concert Band
Students are required to wear their formal school uniform.
Girls Uniform: Checked dress or checked shirt and skorts, grey socks and fully black shoes.
Boys Uniform: Checked shirt, grey shorts, grey socks and fully black shoes.

- 🎵 Intermediate Concert Band
Intermediate shirt, black pants, black socks and fully black shoes;
Girls: hair in high ponytail with provided bow.

**Parents/Caregivers need only provide black socks and fully black shoes. The remainder of the Intermediate Concert Band uniform will be provided by the school.*

Some performances will require students to wear their formal uniform only.

- 🎵 Advanced Concert Band
Advanced shirt, black pants, black socks and fully black shoes;
Girls: hair in high ponytail with provided bow.

**Parents/Caregivers need only provide black socks and fully black shoes. The remainder of the Advanced Concert Band uniform will be provided by the school.*

Some performances will require students to wear their formal uniform only.

EXPECTATIONS AND PROCEDURES

- 🎵 Students are required to attend lessons and ensemble rehearsals. Punctuality is vital.
- 🎵 Unavoidable absences must be notified as soon as possible. This can be done via Seesaw.
- 🎵 Students must take their instrument home to practice each week.
- 🎵 Students must commit to the full school calendar year.
- 🎵 Parents/Guardians will be contacted if a student is regularly missing lessons without notification.
- 🎵 Students with regular unexplained absences may jeopardise their place in the program. Please note that if a student is removed from the program due to a break in their Participation & Commitment Contract, no refund will be given.
- 🎵 Parents/Guardians are expected to purchase required equipment as outlined in the "Equipment List" document. Students are to bring all required equipment to every lesson and rehearsal.

Teacher Absence

When an IM teacher is absent, a notice will be posted on the door of the relevant teacher's room. If this impacts outside of school hours rehearsals, parents will be notified via Seesaw.

Student Withdrawal

A Commitment and Participation Contract is signed by all parties at the commencement of the program. The expectation is that all students will aim to commit in the IM program for a minimum of one school year with the intention of continuing through to the end of their schooling. Enrolment may be discontinued by the Performing Arts Manager if attendance, practice, progress or aptitude are of concern.

In the event that a student wishes to leave the program, the parent or caregiver will need to communicate directly with the school. It is encouraged that parents/caregivers set up a meeting with their child's IM teacher to discuss their child not continuing, and if possible, consider ways of re-engaging their child with the program. If this is unsuccessful, the parent may notify the school that they do not wish for their child to continue in the program. Fees for the year will not be refunded.

COSTS OF PARTICIPATION

Costs per year

- 🎵 All Students - \$120.00 Instrumental Music Program fee

Plus:

- 🎵 \$100.00 school instrument fee for all students using a school instrument

The school will invoice each student in Term 1, once all the required paperwork has been signed and received. If you need to discuss payment options, please contact Accounts Receivable at the front office. Kindly note that if you choose to purchase an instrument within the school year, it's important to remember the school instrument fee (2) is non-refundable.

COMMUNICATION

Seesaw

Your child's Seesaw account will be added to a group for their IM ensemble. Seesaw will be used to post announcements and updates regarding rehearsals, staff absence, performances and other important information. Messages can be sent to IM teachers regarding absence. Please note it may take a few work days to respond to messages. Please note this is our main form of communication for the IM program.

Newsletter

Updates regarding lesson and band rehearsal times, performances and other important information may be communicated in the school newsletter.

Notice Board

All lesson timetables, notices and other information will be posted on the Performing Arts notice board.

Facebook

Updates regarding performances may be posted on the school Facebook page.

STAFF DETAILS

Mrs Michelle Denning: Instrumental Music Coordinator

Teaching Days: Monday – Friday

Junior Concert Band:	Tuesday 8:00am – 8:45pm
Advanced Concert Band:	Monday 8:00am – 8:45am
	Tuesday 3:00pm – 4pm
Big Band:	Wednesday 3:00pm – 4:00pm

Mrs Kathleen Knopke: Instrumental Music Teacher

Teaching Days: Monday – Friday

Foundation Concert Band:	Thursday 8:00am – 8:45am
	Friday 8:00am – 8:45am
Intermediate Concert Band:	Monday 3:00pm – 4:00pm
	Wednesday 8:00am – 8:45am

Mr Brett Somerville: Performing Arts Manager

INSTRUMENTS

Beginning students will be assigned a school instrument by the IM Teachers with regard to the student's previous music experience, aptitude, the program needs, availability of instruments and teacher time. Please see Selection of Students section of this booklet on how students are selected into the program.

- 🎵 A loan agreement must be signed by the parents and returned to the school office before the instrument is issued to the student.
- 🎵 Students who borrow a school instrument are required to pay an Instrument Loan Fee of \$100 per year to cover maintenance costs.
- 🎵 Having your own instrument does not guarantee your child a position in the program. Please see Selection of Students for details.

Instrument Loan Conditions

- 🎵 The instrument is to be used ONLY by the student to whom it is loaned.
- 🎵 Every care and attention will be given to the instrument during the period of the loan.
- 🎵 The instrument is returnable if requested at any time for inspection, repair and adjustment or for any other reason.
- 🎵 In the event of accidental loss or damage the circumstances will be immediately reported to the school. A School Instrument Damage Report is located at the back of this booklet.
- 🎵 If, in the opinion of the instrumental music teacher, a student is not carrying out due responsibility, is not practicing or committing to the programs requirements, the period of the loan will be terminated and the instrument promptly returned. No refund will be available.

- ♪ The parent/guardian will be financially responsible for any wilful or negligent damage to the instrument. The school will cover the costs of the general servicing of the instrument.
- ♪ It is recommended that school and personal instruments be covered by personal contents insurance.

Purchasing Your Own Instrument

Instruments are available for loan to students, allowing them to experience the instruments before parents invest in their own. Once your child has made a commitment to an instrument and engaged in the program, it is recommended that parents/guardians purchase an instrument. When purchasing an instrument, please consider the following:

- ♪ Consult with your child's IM teacher before making any decisions regarding purchasing.
- ♪ Seek advice around brand, model and sizing.
- ♪ It is highly recommended to purchase a new instrument from a reputable music shop as they will have warranties attached to them, and ensures you are buying a genuine brand instrument.
- ♪ Always have your child play the instrument before purchasing, to check it is easy to play, plays in tune and does not have mechanical difficulties.
- ♪ If purchasing a second hand instrument, consult with your child's teacher. Do not purchase any instrument without seeing it in person and playing it.
- ♪ Higher quality instruments also have a good resale value if your child needs to upgrade in the future.

Where a student has their own instrument that needs repair or servicing, the student will be allowed to access a school instrument, if a suitable instrument is available, for up to two weeks. This instrument will remain in the school music room and not be taken home. If a replacement is required for a longer period, a loan fee may be charged.

Standing Offer Arrangement (SOA)

Education Qld has a supplier arrangement with selected music stores that allows you to access the Retail Customer pricing for Musical Instruments and Stands under DETSOA-62455. When you consult with your child's IM teacher regarding purchasing, the school will be able to provide you with a retail customer identification letter to allow you to access pricing under this scheme. This process ensures that you are purchasing a good quality instrument.

SELECTION OF STUDENTS

Student in Years 3 – 6 are eligible to be considered for enrolment into the Instrumental Music (IM) program. Students are selected for entry into the program through the recruitment process in the preceding year. All year 3 students have equal opportunity during the recruitment process.

This may include:

- 🎵 Selection process with instrumental teachers including musical aptitude, ability to follow and respond to instructions.
- 🎵 Responsibility, organisation, academic and behaviour ability as assessed by class and music teacher
- 🎵 Physical suitability for particular instruments.
- 🎵 A knowledge and acceptance of the expectations of the program and home support.
- 🎵 Instrument availability.
- 🎵 The need to recruit a balanced group of instruments.
- 🎵 Teacher time allocation.

Students may nominate instrument preferences based on:

- 🎵 Seeing and hearing the instruments played.
- 🎵 Knowing the type of music the instrument plays.
- 🎵 Information provided around the challenges of each instrument including getting the instrument to and from school.

EQUIPMENT LIST

Banksia Beach State School packs will be available through the School Locker. These will include all requirements for each instrument except the band (display) folder and spit rags for brass. In addition to this, it is strongly recommended that you purchase a music stand (collapsible is fine) for your child to use for home practice.

FLUTE

- 🎵 Standard of Excellence Book 1 for Flute
- 🎵 Plastic band (display) folder
- 🎵 Cleaning rod
- 🎵 Cleaning cloth

CLARINET

- 🎵 Standard of Excellence Book 1 for Clarinet
- 🎵 Three size 1.5 Clarinet reeds
- 🎵 Plastic band (display) folder
- 🎵 Thumb rest
- 🎵 Cork grease
- 🎵 Pull-through cloth

BASS CLARINET

- 🎵 Standard of Excellence Book 1 for Bass Clarinet
- 🎵 Three size 1.5 Bass Clarinet reeds
- 🎵 Plastic band (display) folder
- 🎵 Cork grease
- 🎵 Pull-through cloth

ALTO SAXOPHONE

- 🎵 Standard of Excellence Book 1 for Alto Saxophone
- 🎵 Three size 1.5 Alto Saxophone reeds
- 🎵 Plastic band (display) folder
- 🎵 Cork grease
- 🎵 Pull-through cloth

TENOR SAXOPHONE

- 🎵 Standard of Excellence Book 1 for Tenor Saxophone
- 🎵 Three size 1.5 Tenor Saxophone reeds
- 🎵 Plastic band (display) folder
- 🎵 Cork grease
- 🎵 Pull-through cloth

TRUMPET

- 🎵 Standard of Excellence Book 1 for Trumpet
- 🎵 Plastic band (display) folder
- 🎵 Valve Oil
- 🎵 Tuning slide grease
- 🎵 Mouthpiece brush
- 🎵 Spit rag – small square old cloth / washer

TROMBONE

- 🎵 Standard of Excellence Book 1 for Trombone
- 🎵 Plastic band (display) folder
- 🎵 Trombone slide cream
- 🎵 Tuning slide grease
- 🎵 Mouthpiece brush
- 🎵 Spit rag – small square old cloth / washer

EUPHONIUM / BARITONE

- 🎵 Standard of Excellence Book 1 for Baritone B.C.
- 🎵 Plastic band (display) folder
- 🎵 Valve Oil
- 🎵 Tuning slide grease
- 🎵 Mouthpiece brush
- 🎵 Spit rag – small square old cloth / washer

TUBA

- 🎵 Standard of Excellence Book 1 for BBb Tuba
- 🎵 Plastic band (display) folder
- 🎵 Valve Oil
- 🎵 Tuning slide grease
- 🎵 Mouthpiece brush
- 🎵 Spit rag – small square old cloth / washer

PERCUSSION

- 🎵 Standard of Excellence Book 1 for Drums and Mallet Percussion
- 🎵 Plastic display folder (black)
- 🎵 Drum sticks – size 5A (preferred brand – Vic Firth)
- 🎵 *Recommended: Carry bag for books and sticks*

SCHOOL INSTRUMENT DAMAGE REPORT

Parent/Guardian's Name: _____

Name of Child in Program: _____

Year Level and Class of Child: _____

Type of instrument damaged: _____

Identifying (EQ) number of instrument (if known): _____

Description of Event that caused damage to instrument:
(including date and time of event and any persons involved)

Description of damage that occurred to instrument:

Name of person at (the school) notified: _____

Date & Time Notified: _____

Signed: _____

Contact email & Phone: _____

This form is to be completed if any damage occurs to the instrument on loan from the school. Please attached any other supporting documents, more information and photos if possible.

COMMITMENT AND PARTICIPATION CONTRACT

PARENT/GUARDIAN RESPONSIBILITIES

- (a) Parents/Guardians are to assist the student in caring for their instrument.
- (b) Parents/Guardians are strongly encouraged to assist their child with a home practice routine.
- (d) Parents/Guardians are strongly encouraged to communicate directly with the Instrumental Teacher if their child is experiencing difficulties or there is a problem with the instrument.
- (e) Parents/Guardians must provide additional equipment as required.

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES

- (a) Student must attend their Instrumental Music lessons each week at a predetermined time. They will exit their normal class in order to do this. It is the student's responsibility to catch up on any class work missed during this time.
- (b) Student must bring all equipment (instrument, music etc.) to each lesson and rehearsal.
- (c) Students must make every effort to care for their instrument.
- (d) Students must commit to regular home practice.

I agree to the above

Parent/Guardian Signature _____ Date _____

Student Signature _____ Date _____