



# TRINITY GRAMMAR SCHOOL PREPARATORY SCHOOL

## MUSIC TUITION

### GENERAL INFORMATION AND CONDITIONS FOR LESSONS

#### PLEASE READ CAREFULLY

A large contingent of music teachers conduct individual, private lessons at the Preparatory School. At Trinity Grammar School we pride ourselves on a world-class music programme that integrates individual instrumental studies, classroom lessons and ensemble programme. We ask that each student taking instrumental lessons also participate in a co-curricular ensemble where possible in order to ensure the holistic development of your son's music skills.

Under the direction of Mrs Campbell, the Preparatory music staff will be working to get the very best from your son in his musical endeavours. As parents, you are asked to keep a close liaison with the music staff and, where possible come to some of your son's lessons during the term. You, as parents, are a vital contributor to the success of your son's instrument studies. Open and regular communication with your instrumental teacher is the best way to ensure ongoing engagement and progress.

#### STARTING AGES

Students will participate in basic instrumental programmes during the music classroom time. This is a perfect opportunity to establish basic skills and extend through individual lessons:

Year 2	Cello, violin, viola
Year 3	Strings as above + Double Bass
Year 4	Brass & woodwind

A boy's physical stature, as well as his level of self-regulation and motivation, has a lot to do with when he can begin an instrument. This is particularly pertinent for the larger instruments (e.g. cello & double bass) and the instruments that require internal breathing support.

It is very common for boys to start learning an instrument from **Year 1 and earlier**. If you would like to start instrumental studies for your son in Kindergarten or Pre-K please book an interview with Mrs Campbell to discuss possible learning pathways.

gcampbell@trinity.nsw.edu.au.

#### TIMETABLE

At the beginning of the year, Mrs Campbell, the music staff and class teachers establish a suitable time for each boy's lesson. From time to time clashes arise with other activities. Please advise your individual teacher with as much warning as possible so that an alternative time can be arranged.

## CHANGING INSTRUMENTS OR BEGINNING LESSONS MID-YEAR

**Beginning lessons mid-year:** This can be arranged during any term, however there may be a period of delay depending on timetable or teacher availability.

**Changing instruments:** Generally we like to encourage the boys to persevere with their instrument until the end of the year. Learning an instrument fosters commitment, discipline and diligence, which are all attributes that take time to develop. However we understand that circumstances arise that require a change of instrument part-way through the year.

4 WEEKS NOTICE is required if a student is changing from one instrumental teacher to another OR is changing from one instrument to another. Please contact Mrs Campbell to arrange this. Each request is considered individually.

## PAYMENT OF FEES

Music fees will appear on your School account. These fees are for the previous Term's tuition.

## ABSENCES

### STUDENT

Lessons missed by the student are **non-refundable**. If students are away through illness, may we ask you to please phone your instrumental teacher directly. If contact with your teacher cannot be made please phone the **School Office 8732 4600** or email [gcampbell@trinity.nsw.edu.au](mailto:gcampbell@trinity.nsw.edu.au) In such cases your teacher will advise you as to whether or not a make-up lesson is possible. **EVERY EFFORT** will be made to cater for this situation, however as previously stated, all lessons for which the teacher is present will be charged. In the event of school organized activities which result in your son missing a lesson, it will either be made up or not charged.

### STAFF

Should staff be away a notice to that effect will be placed on the appropriate Music Studio door. Lessons will be made up as soon as possible. If time does not allow for this there will be no charge made on the music account. Should the account already be paid, a credit will appear on the next account.

## TERMINATION OF LESSONS

Difficulties and obstacles to learning are an inevitable part of the experience when learning an instrument. It is important that an open and constructive dialogue between teacher, student and parent is established from the beginning of the journey in order to prevent, address or minimize these obstacles as much as possible. In the event that a decision to discontinue lessons is ultimately the best choice for your son, **half a term's notice must be given, in writing, to Mrs Campbell, otherwise a Term's fees will be charged.**

## HIRING OF SCHOOL INSTRUMENTS

All students taking music tuition at Trinity Grammar School have the opportunity to hire a school instrument, subject to availability (except for Percussion students). The fee of **\$25.00** (*current at this time, but subject to change*) is charged to your Term Account. Parents are responsible for any loss or breakages should they occur. If either does occur, please contact Mrs Campbell immediately, so that repairs can be organized with the appropriate tradesman.

Clarinets and flutes **MUST** be put into the cases and carried in the boys' school bags if they travel to and from School by public transport. Boys should be encouraged to take particular care not to leave instruments on buses or trains. **If an instrument does get left on public transport please contact Mrs Campbell immediately (8732 4617) : early action usually means we can get the instrument returned!**

We encourage the purchase of a personal instrument for your son at an appropriate time in their instrumental studies. Our expertise and experience is at your disposal, to please feel free to ask for advice if desired.

## STUDENT CONCERTS

Each Semester, students will perform in a studio concert to which parents and friends are invited. These concerts are a celebration of the boys' learning and are an important part of 'learning through action'. In these concerts all boys play a piece at whatever level of performance they happen to be. These concerts provide a 'safe' and encouraging environment to which the boys can strive and celebrate their progress to date. It is also an opportunity to hear other members of the studio perform with more advanced students becoming role models and encouraging their peers. The benefits for the performers have proved extremely valuable and have a very positive effect on the boys' self-confidence and self-esteem.

## REPORTS

A report is written at the end of each Semester and sent home to parents as part of the Class report. These are milestone reports only and, as previously mentioned, can not replace the benefits of ongoing dialogue with the instrumental teacher.

## ENSEMBLE PROGRAMS (INSTRUMENTAL & CHORAL)

### CLASS MUSIC

From Kindergarten to Year 6, each class attends Music lessons. These provide the basis upon which all other musical activities are built. Forming part of the IB Primary Years Programme, the music class encourages students to explore concepts and develop skills in performance, composition and listening. Integrated through all learning experiences is the development of literacy and aural analysis. Each year group has an hour of music studies each week, through which is rotated a program of singing, instrumental group class and classroom activities.

### CHOIR – TRINITY SINGERS

This ensemble is open for boys from Year 4 to 6. Since its formation in 1980, the Trinity Singers have gained a national reputation for excellence and as a group of highly skilled performers. They regularly participate in public functions of all kinds and are very much ambassadors for the school. The Trinity Singers perform at all major musical events of the Preparatory School and also combine twice a year with the Senior School: **Gala Concert** at Angel Place Recital Hall and the **Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols** at St Andrew's Cathedral.

Trinity Singers practice on Wednesday mornings 7:45 – 8:30, Thursday mornings (Treble I) 8:00 – 8:30, & Friday mornings (Treble II) 8:00 – 8:30.

Enrolments for Trinity Singers are filled in Term 4 of the year previous, however there are some positions that open at the beginning of Term 1 – apply to Mrs Campbell.

### INSTRUMENTAL ENSEMBLES

There are several groups in which boys can develop and extend their ensemble skills. The only prerequisite for joining an ensemble is the study of the relevant instrument through individual lessons. All boys are invited to participate regardless of whether they learn at school or with an external teacher.

Possible options are:

- i. The String Orchestra – Fridays 3:15 – 4:15pm
- ii. The Training Band – Thursdays 3:15 – 4:15pm
- iii. The Concert Band – Thursdays 3:15 – 4:15pm
- iv. The Chamber Orchestra – Fridays 7:45 – 8:30am
- v. Individual instrumental ensembles – dependent on size of student cohort. Enquiries to the Music Department.

Any enquiries can be made to Mrs Campbell regarding these groups. Boys can also be invited to join an ensemble by their music classroom or instrumental teacher.

# INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC ENROLMENT FORM 2016



Please complete this form for a new enrolment in the Instrumental Music Programme.

Before your son can commence music lessons, this enrolment form must be returned to the Music Department Office.

Student's Surname

Student's Given Name

House

Student No.

Year

Class (Primary Only)

Parent's Name

Parent's Email

Address



Suburb

Post Code

Telephone (home)

Telephone (work)

<b>Instrument</b>	
Approx AMEB grade achieved	
Do you own your own instrument	
Brand and Serial Number	
Teacher (office use only)	

Please enrol my/our son in the Instrumental Music Programme.

I/We have read and understood the Music Handbook and agree to enrol my/our son for a period of one year and to pay the fees as set out in the Trinity Grammar School Tuition Statement.

I/We also agree that our son will regularly attend rehearsals and performances of at least one musical performing group as recommended by his instrumental teacher.

Signature

Date

Office Use Only		
Database	Teacher	Bursar

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