2018 Classroom Teachers

Mr Dan Ryan - Director of Music
Miss Bianca Pittman
Mr Chris Pittman

Instruments, Music Offerings and Teachers in 2018

(Subject to change)

Bass Guitar
Felicity Freeman

Guitar
Neil Christopher

Trombone
Dave Longdon

Drums
Paul Lewis

Piano
Pamela Buccini

Trumpet
Robin Finlay

Flute/Cello
Sam Penny

Saxophone/Clarinet
Jack Degenhart

Voice
Naomi Hede & Kelvin Maynes

Ensemble Offerings and Conductors in 2018

(Subject to change)

Concert Choir/Senior Vocal Ensemble
Kelvin Maynes

Jazz Ensemble
Felicity Freeman

Drum Line
Paul Lewis

RE Ensemble
Lauren Bierer

Guitar Band
Neil Christopher

Stage Band
Dan Ryan

Instrumental Music Program Overview

Classroom Music in Years 10-12. Options for any student at any level:

• Music General
• Music Industry/Technology
• Music Experience.

Instrumental Music Lessons

• Open to all students regardless of whether or not they enrol in classroom music.

Extra Curricular Ensembles

• Open to all students regardless of whether or not they enrol in classroom music.

The Instrumental Music Program is an extremely important feature of the overall Music Department. All students enrolled in Music General and Music Industry classes are strongly encouraged to have Instrumental music lessons as they are imperative to success in the practical assessment components of these subjects. Instrumental music lessons are also a vital component of the Ensemble Program to enable students to adequately prepare for public performances.

Instrumental music lessons are provided at Sacred Heart College Senior by a staff of qualified and experienced music teachers. The Instrumental Program exists to provide opportunities for students to learn a musical instrument of their choice, as well as support their practical assessments in classroom music.

Occasionally, issues can arise with regards to instrumental lessons. This document outlines the terms and conditions relating to the Instrumental Music Program. If Parents/Caregivers and/or students have any questions regarding these conditions, please contact Mr Dan Ryan at danryan@shc.sa.edu.au.

To begin Instrumental Music Lessons, please indicate your instrument of choice on the Instrumental Music section of the webform and check the Terms and Conditions box.
Lessons, Timetables and Rooms

Instrumental lessons take place once a week during school hours, and are 30 minutes in length. These lessons occur every half hour of the school day in various practice rooms in the Performing Arts Centre (PAC). Every effort will be made during Term 1 to find an appropriate lesson time. Timetables may rotate to accommodate various requests if necessary.

Timetabling is done by the individual instrumental music teachers, and therefore direct contact with them regarding lessons times and changes is recommended. These teachers’ contact numbers can be obtained from them directly or via the Music Office.

It is the student’s responsibility to find out in advance or after their instrumental lesson, what work they have missed from their regular classes, and catch up that work accordingly. Student lesson times are placed on the timetable board near the recording studio in the PAC.

Student Absence from Instrumental Lessons

If a student misses a lesson due to forgetfulness, then that lesson is forfeited. If a student is unable to attend their lesson due to an official College excursion/event, then it is up to the student to advise the instrumental teacher at least one week in advance. It is most important that students are organised in advance and check times and events well ahead of time.

If a student is unable to attend their lesson due to unforeseen illness, parents/caregivers must contact the instrumental teacher direct by 8am. It is not guaranteed that phone messages left with the College Office or emails to College music teachers will get to the instrumental teachers in time.

If the teacher receives advanced warning, they can reschedule their teaching on that day and the lesson will be made up at a later time. If no warning is given (i.e. the student has a test or an excursion, and the instrumental teacher is not notified in advance) then the lesson is forfeited and must be paid for.

If a student misses a lesson, parents/caregivers will be notified by email.

Tuition Fees/Payment of Accounts

Parents/Caregivers will receive an invoice direct from the instrumental teacher during each term. It is expected that this bill is paid within 14 days of receiving the invoice. Payments are to be made DIRECTLY TO THE INSTRUMENTAL TEACHER - not Sacred Heart College Senior.

Please note that these competitive fees are often the teacher’s main source of income. It is for this reason that we ask for prompt payment each term. Any questions about accounts are to be addressed to the instrumental teacher concerned. Parents/Caregivers are encouraged to stay in contact with the instrumental teacher to monitor their child’s progress.

Instrumental Teacher Absence

If the teacher is absent for a lesson or lessons, the teacher will notify the College and students will then be notified via email, the timetable board near the recording studio and on the practice room door. These lessons will be made up at a later date.
Withdrawal From Instrumental Lessons

Lessons are run on a term by term basis. Once a student has started learning an instrument, it is College policy that the term must be completed. If a student wishes to cease learning the instrument during the term, this can only be done after the following process has been followed:

1. Notify the Music Director, Dan Ryan, via phone or email
2. Contact will be made from the Music Director to Parents/Caregivers to discuss student withdrawal options.

Any withdrawal of a student from instrumental lessons must be done prior to the term commencing.

Simply telling the instrumental teacher is not adequate. Lessons will continue to be charged until the process above has been followed.

Storage of Student Instruments

Students are encouraged to store their instrument in the music store room, which is located next to the practice rooms in the PAC. Students are asked to store their instruments in a neat and tidy manner. The store room will be open from 8.15am each school day.

Extra Curricular Ensembles

The College has an extensive extra-curricular ensemble program. Depending on the ensemble, rehearsals are run during lunchtime or after school. Students who enrol in classroom music and/or learn an instrument are strongly encouraged to become involved in at least one extracurricular ensemble. Auditions are held for ensembles during Week 2 in Term 1, however, all students who want to be involved will be placed in an ensemble. Audition times can be allocated and assigned during Friday Week 1, Term 1 at a lunchtime meeting in the Debourg Centre.

All ensembles participate in the ‘Arts Workshop Weekend’ during Term 1. Selected ensembles attend additional camps and competitions during the school year. Details for these events will be distributed as required.

Joining an ensemble is a wonderful way for students to improve their music skills as well as participate in the highly respected community of the Sacred Heart College Senior Music Department.

Practice Requirements

Regular practice is essential in seeing improvement on an instrument. Parents/Caregivers are asked to support music staff by encouraging students to practice their exercises and songs from instrumental lessons, classroom music and ensembles. Short regular practice will provide substantially more results than large infrequent sessions.

Instrumental teachers and ensemble conductors will provide more specific information to students regarding practice requirements. Practice on the days you eat!