Christway College

Instrumental Music

Information Booklet

Enrolment Policy

2027

"Oh come, let us sing to the Lord; let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!"
Psalm 95:1

Instrumental Music Information Booklet 2027

Vocal, Contemporary & Classical Piano
Guitar & Bass Guitar
Flute, Clarinet & Saxophone
Trumpet, French Horn & Trombone
Drums/Percussion

Dear Parents and Guardians

If you would like your child to undertake instrumental lessons on one of the above instruments at Christway College for 2027, please read the following terms and conditions and return the enrolment form to the College office. Any questions can be directed to the music department via email at music.admin@christway.vic.edu.au.

Instrumental Lessons – Timetabling

- Music lessons are scheduled to work with the student's classroom timetable, being delivered on a rotational basis to minimise disruption to classroom programs and ensure that students don't regularly miss the same class.
- It is the student's responsibility to make up any class work missed during instrumental lessons.
- Timetabling preferences are given to senior students.
- Lessons outside scheduled classes are arranged at the instrumental instructor's discretion and availability.
- Lessons are 30 or 45 minutes duration and there are 15 lessons per semester. For our young beginners, Prep and Grade 1 students, there are 20-minute lessons available.
- Instrumental lessons are posted on Compass timetables.

Condition of Enrolment – Missed Lessons

If the student is aware that they are not going to be able to attend their lesson, a make-up lesson will be given in the following circumstances:

- When the student requests a change to accommodate other school activities such as tests, excursions and sporting commitments, a minimum of 24 hours' notice is given to the music department at music.admin@christway.vic.edu.au.
- Where the student is ill or absent on the day of their lesson and parents request cancellation of the music lesson by email to the music department directly at music.admin@christway.vic.edu.au prior to 8.30am **(this is in addition to the notification normally given to the College office).**

Other than the circumstances as set out above, make up lessons or reimbursement will not be given for missed lessons.

Where the student is present at college on the day of their lesson but has forgotten their instrument or is unable to play it, the lesson will proceed as a theory lesson, and the student is still required to attend.

Parents will be contacted to be informed of missed lessons without prior notification, lateness, and failure to bring the correct resources to a lesson.

Changing Lesson Times
If a music lesson is timetabled to clash with a test in a particular subject, this will be evident on Compass. Students are to notify their instrumental teacher and music administrator prior to the scheduled music lesson to avoid charges.

Cancellation Policy
Lessons will automatically roll-over from semester one to semester two, but re-enrolment is required for the following year. Withdrawal from instrumental lessons can only be done at the end of semester one, **giving notice in writing prior to the semester break**. Failure to give the required notice will incur the following semester's charges. Lesson fees will not be refunded for students who withdraw before a semester ends. Instrument hire fees are for the full year and are not refundable.

Leaving Class to Attend a Music Lesson
Secondary students are expected to go promptly to and from their music lessons. They must ensure they see their respective subject teacher for the commencement (or remaining) minutes of that period. It is the student's responsibility to make up any work missed during absences. Primary students will be collected from and returned to their classroom by their instrumental teacher for their lesson.

Storage of Instruments at School
All instruments should be neatly stored in the music department's allocated storage area while at school. Instruments should not be left on top of or next to lockers. Please ensure that the student's name and contact number are clearly marked on the instrument case.

Soiree Participation
There are performance opportunities for participation in two Soirees throughout the year. Should an accompanist be requested together with rehearsals, extra charges will apply. Costs will be determined depending on the needs of the individual student. An accompaniment permission form will need to be completed with the costs and signed by parents. These charges will then be added to your FACTS account.

Fees and Charges
Instrumental fees will be charged to your school FACTS account* for the full year as this will enable families to control budgeting across the year.

Individual Lesson – 20 mins **(Prep/Grade 1 only)**	$ 34 Lesson	$ 510 Semester	$ 1,020 Year
Individual Lesson – 30 mins	$ 50 Lesson	$ 750 Semester	$ 1,500 Year
Individual Lesson – 45 mins Advanced students: AMEB Grade 6 & above VCE Unit 3 & 4 Performance	$ 75 Lesson	$ 1,125 Semester	$ 2,250 Year
Accompaniment:	Soiree/Rehearsal – 15/30min lesson $25/$50 AMEB accompaniment – Grade 1 to 4 $85 AMEB accompaniment – Grade 5 and above $100		

*Please note that students will not be able to enroll in this program if school fees are in arrears.

The above fees are based on the recommended fees for music lessons. These are available from the Victorian Music Teachers Association Website https://www.vmta.org.au/teachers/vmta-recommended-rates/

Hire of Instruments
Hire of instruments are available on request for students who are undertaking lessons within the college's private instrumental program. Instruments are not for hire for students to take external music lessons. Not all instruments are available to hire as they are used within the Year 7/8 Concert Band program. Instrument hire fees are for the full year and are not refundable. Hired instruments are to be returned promptly upon cessation of college instrument lessons.

Purchasing an Instrument
Students are encouraged to purchase their own instrument. When considering acquiring an instrument for your child, it is important to remember to buy a reputable brand, as your child will outgrow inferior brands very quickly. It is advisable to keep away from instruments that are purchased from places such as eBay or Aldi, as they are often unable to be repaired. If you need advice, please talk to your child's teacher

Purchasing Print Music
To facilitate a structured learning process, students will need to purchase music books and/or theory books as requested by their instrumental teacher. These costs are not included in the lesson fees.

Practicing at Home
It is essential for your child to develop a regular practice routine at home as this is important for consolidating and improving previous concepts while learning new works. This requires your child to remember to take their instrument home.

- Beginners 15 - 20 mins daily
- Intermediate 30 - 40 mins daily
- Advanced 45 mins - 1 hour daily

Music Examinations & Accompaniment
Students are encouraged to undertake external exams through AMEB (Australian Music Examinations Board) or ANZCA (Australia and NZ Cultural Arts). Exams build excellent pathways to growth and are a meaningful tool in marking students' progress. The student will be required to learn specific instrumental pieces according to their level. Parents are responsible for transporting their child to the examination venue and are expected to pay the examination and accompaniment fee. Please discuss with your teacher the full requirements and estimated costs. Please note that the cost for the exam and accompaniment is dependent on the level of the exam. An exam/accompaniment permission form will need to be completed with the estimated costs and signed by parents. These charges will then be added to your FACTS account.

VCE Performance
Students must provide their own instrument or make necessary arrangements to access an instrument of an appropriate quality for VCE Performance, as this is not the College's responsibility. Students must also undertake private instrumental lessons on their chosen instrument to support their learning at this level and provide their own accompaniment for the VCE Performance Examination.

VCE Performance – Accompaniment
Accompaniment for VCE performance examinations needs to be organised and paid for by individual students doing VCE music. While we have an accompanist at Christway, we cannot guarantee their availability for VCE exams, and it is the students' responsibility to arrange this. Names of alternative accompanists are available on VMTA website https://www.vmta.org.au/teachers/how-to-search-for-a-music-teacher-or-piano-accompanist/. Please discuss with your instrumental teacher the requirements and estimated costs. Please note that the cost for the accompaniment is dependent on the level of exam. An exam/accompaniment permission form will need to be completed by your instrumental teacher with the estimated costs and signed by parents. These charges will then be added to your FACTS account.