

INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC 2023



HEIGHTS COLLEGE

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All children have musical potential, and at Heights College, we believe that every child should be given a chance to express their musicality, both with their voices and on instruments. Participation in music provides students with rich and balanced learning experiences which cross all aspects of the curriculum and supports their personal life developments.

This handbook is for students in one or more of the following categories:

1. A student wishing to learn to play brass, woodwind or strings – tuition provided by Heights tutor.
2. A student wishing to learn to play the drums, piano, guitar, vocals – tuition provided by an external tutor at Heights.

Please read the handbook carefully. If you are a continuing student, or wish to enter the College's Instrumental Music Program, please register your Expression of Interest via Parent Lounge through the 'Events and Payments' tab.

We look forward to seeing you at your first lesson!

INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC PROGRAM AIM

The aim of the Instrumental Music Program at Heights College is to provide every student the opportunity to learn and develop a love for music. Learning an instrument is one of the most beneficial activities in a child's development and we have seen an increasing need to provide a varied, quality instrumental program at Heights to cater for this area of development. The instrumental program is designed to complement the current classroom music program from Prep to Year 12 and to extend students' knowledge and appreciation of music.

MEET OUR TUTORS



Michelle Lane (Year 5 Instrumental Music; Concert Band; Brass & Woodwind Tuition.)

Michelle has over 21 years' experience as a private tutor and accompanist. Growing up locally, she received her ATCL in piano and completed numerous Trinity College exams in voice, violin, clarinet and music theory. Over the years, Michelle has been actively involved in church worship teams, local youth and adult choirs, eisteddfods and community-based performances, including musicals and performances with the Rockhampton Symphony Orchestra.

Naomi Naylor (Primary Music Teacher; Jazz Band; Double Bass/Woodwind/Brass/Percussion Tuition)

Naomi is an instrumental and vocal coach with over 20 years' experience accompanying and teaching piano, vocals, flute, clarinet, double bass and percussion. When she was 15, Naomi achieved her AmusA on piano. She then went on to study a Bachelor of Piano Performance at the Qld Conservatorium of Music followed by a Dip. Ed. at UQ. Growing up in Brisbane, she accompanied many ensembles, instrumental and vocal soloists, as well as managing and performing in Jazz Bands and Community Orchestras. She has performance experience in both singing and playing in bands for many Brisbane community music events such as musical theatre and festivals. Before relocating to Yeppoon in 2012, she ran the Praise & Worship team at her local church. Since relocating to CQ, Naomi has continued to be involved in Praise & Worship teams, local music events and local theatre productions at the Pilbeam Theatre.





Kirsten Kerr (Year 5 Instrumental Music Program; Strings Tuition)

Kirsten Kerr is a string instrumental teacher with 35 years' experience teaching violin, viola and cello of all levels, ranging from CQ University tuition to extensive experience in school programs, and teaching very young children. Kirsten holds a Bachelor of Music degree from Griffith University and a Masters in violin performance from Michigan State University. She has also performed with orchestras such as The Queensland Symphony Orchestra and the Queensland Youth Orchestra, both in the orchestras and as a soloist. Kirsten has lived in Rockhampton since 2009, where she has been teaching, running string ensembles and leading the worship team at Oasis New Life Centre.

Jane Graham (Piano Private Tuition)

Jane has been teaching as a private tutor in the Instrumental Music program at Heights College since 2018. She trained as a Primary school teacher and spent some years as a classroom teacher and music specialist. More recently, Jane was employed as a string instrumental music teacher in Rockhampton schools. Jane has taught piano and violin in the local region for many years and has been an active performer and accompanist. Jane has attained AMusA and ATCL Diplomas in piano, as well as teaching qualifications of Bachelor ED (Music) and Dip. Teach.



Stephen Kumar (Secondary Music Teacher; Drum, Guitar, Piano and Vocal Private Tuition)



Originally from Fiji, Stephen Kumar has attained his Bachelor of Music – specialisation in Jazz Studies at CQ Conservatorium of Music. Stephen is a well-accomplished jazz musician who has received commendations from respected Australian artists. Having undertaken composition classes at CQCM, Stephen has also developed a penchant for musical composition within the jazz idiom. Stephen initially enrolled at CQCM as a guitar player, and then added piano to his Major in the second semester of 2008. Graduating in 2011, Stephen travelled to USA with a Jazz & Pop ensemble, performing throughout the United States. Among his skill-set, he also played drums and sang for Pop ensembles. In 2020, Stephen completed his Masters in Teaching, and he is passionate about helping young people learn music.

INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC TUITION

ENROLMENT IN THE INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC PROGRAM

Enrolment and payment for tuition in the Instrumental Music Program is on a term by term basis. Tuition for external tutors are to be made direct to the tutor. Tuition for group lessons by a Heights tutor will be added to the students' school fee account.

Students are given the opportunity to select which instrument they would like to learn and are to participate for the full school term. If your child withdraws mid-term from their lessons, no refund will be provided. Music Tuition Lessons are available on a range of musical instruments.

Students are given the opportunity to select which instrument they would like to learn. Lessons are available on the following instruments:

Flute	Euphonium	Trombone
Saxophone	Drums / Percussion	Violin
Clarinet	Piano / Keyboard	Viola
Trumpet	Acoustic and Bass Guitar	Cello

FEES

	HEIGHTS tutor	EXTERNAL tutor
Program	Brass, Woodwind & Strings students (Group lessons - 2-5 students)	Drum, Guitar, Piano and Vocal Students (One on one lesson)
Cost	\$25 per lesson	\$35 per lesson
Payment	Payable to the College	Payable direct to tutor
Lesson Duration	50 mins	30 mins
Payment Frequency	Invoiced at end of Term	As arranged with tutor
Student absence due to sickness, exams or excursions	Please contact the College	Please contact the tutor prior to the event otherwise lesson will be charged

Please note that if your child withdraws from the Instrumental Music Program, a formal written letter by the child's parent/guardian to the College will be required to be submitted to Mrs Natasha Vanderwolf, Academic Support Officer – (natasha.vanderwolf@heights.qld.edu.au)

LESSONS

College staff and a range of external tutors provide tuition. For tuition with a Heights tutor, students are usually placed in groups of 2 – 5, depending on instrument and ability levels. Lessons are given on a weekly basis and are always on a set day. Some students are placed on a rotating timetable throughout that day so as not to miss the same class lesson each week. Lessons are held within normal school hours and do not include lunch or morning teas. Students and class teachers will receive a timetable at the beginning of each term. Parents are requested to ensure that students are aware of their lesson times through the day.

For private tuition with an external tutor (drums, guitar, piano, vocal), lessons are done individually on a weekly basis and are set by the tutor. Parents can liaise with the tutor around their preferred time.

Students are expected to attend all lessons throughout each term. If students are regularly not attending lessons then teachers / tutors will contact parents to discuss the matter further.

MAKE UP LESSONS

Students do miss lessons throughout the year due to a range of circumstances. The instrumental teacher will make every effort to make up missed lessons throughout the year.

Make up lessons will **NOT** be provided under the following circumstances:

- Students forget to attend lessons
- Students did not inform tutors of absence (including if a student is sick). If your child is sick, please ensure that you inform the tutor of their absence due to illness. If you fail to give notification, tutors will not arrange a make-up lesson.
- Students forget instruments
- Students absent from College due to reasons other than sickness (e.g. holidays during term time)

Teachers and tutors will make every effort to make up lessons - an accurate attendance record is kept. If your child misses their make-up lesson and notification **is not** given of their absence, the tutor will not reschedule the make-up lesson and will charge for this missed make up lesson. Please email or speak to the teacher or tutor directly if you have any concerns regarding this.

HOME PRACTICE

Regular home practice is a vital part of students' progress in music. Each week students should be practising:

Primary School	20 – 30 minutes
Secondary School	30 – 60 minutes

Parents have just as an important part in home practice as students. As parents, you can help your child by:

- Setting a permanent practice time
- Sitting and listening to practice. Maybe set up an informal 'concert' where your child plays you 1 new tune.
- Encourage your child to play for grandparents and other family members when they visit.
- Giving positive feedback regarding last lesson
- Learning the instrument with them – have them teach you!
- Sitting in on lessons with students and instrumental teacher
- Communicating with instrumental teacher
- Supplying student with a good quality instrument
- Encouraging participation in music exams i.e. AMEB, Trinity
- Encouraging theory homework
- Having a practice chart on wall
- Remember which day/s your child needs to bring their instrument and books to school – and help them learn to get organised the night before.

Very few children will be highly motivated to do all the learning and organising themselves – this is the challenge for parents! Even well into teenage years, your child may need reminding, reinforcing and constant encouragement. Please persevere – it is all worth it in the end!

STUDENT REQUIREMENTS

New and continuing students must bring the following to each lesson:

- Instrument
- Tutor Book
- Pencil
- Band Folder

Students will need to purchase a music stand to assist with practice at home. Some instruments do require additional accessories.

These may be purchased from Green Brothers Music store (Corner Alma and William Streets).

TRUMPET / EUPHONIUM / TUBA

Valve oil, Polishing cloth and Cleaning Brush

TROMBONE

Slide cream, Water spray, Polishing cloth

CLARINET / SAXOPHONE

4 reeds – please ask teacher which size and brand

Cork grease, Pull through swab

FLUTE

Cleaning cloth and cleaning rod

DRUMS / PERCUSSION

One pair 5A drum sticks, Brushes

GUITAR

Pick

The main aim of the Instrumental Music Program is for students to enjoy making music. By observing the few guidelines mentioned, ALL students in the program will have the opportunity to do so.

We look forward to seeing you at your lessons and listening to the wonderful sounds you will be making!

FURTHER ENQUIRIES

If you have any further enquiries, please contact Mrs Natasha Vanderwolf, Academic Support Officer
-(natasha.vanderwolf@heights.qld.edu.au)