



**Southern  
Cross** CATHOLIC  
COLLEGE



# **Southern Cross Catholic College Music Academy Handbook**

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**Welcome to all families of Southern Cross Catholic College. Southern Cross Catholic College aims to develop self-discipline, confidence, musicality and individuality through participation in the Instrumental Music Program and ensembles.**

## **Principal's Welcome**

Welcome to the Southern Cross Catholic College Instrumental Music Program. We are very excited to have you as part of our musical community.

Learning a musical instrument, or learning how to sing, is one of the joys of human experience. The Music Academy at Southern Cross Catholic College is an exciting and engaging opportunity in which students find academic, social and emotional benefits, in addition to many other positive outcomes. It complements and extends the opportunities offered to students through our Curricular Music Program (Classroom Music Program).

This handbook was produced to assist members of our College community to understand how the program fits within our daily College life. I encourage all students and parents to become familiar with the contents of this handbook, and to seek help or clarification from the music staff if any of it seems unclear.

Students – you have the opportunity to be a part of a fantastic music experience, and I urge you to grasp every opportunity with both hands. I am looking forward to seeing you all at one of our many performances throughout the year, and I thank you in advance for your dedication and commitment.

Greg Cameron

**Principal**

## **Program Leader's Welcome**

Welcome to the Southern Cross Catholic College Music Academy. Our program is still very young and growing every day. As we get bigger, we want to become more of a music presence in the Townsville community, and throughout Queensland at different events. We are also planning more opportunities to see music in action in the real-world.

Our talented music tutors love seeing the confidence students develop as they learn their instrument and perform both individually and as part of an ensemble throughout the year.

There are many performance opportunities throughout the year (some of which are listed on page 8) and information will be provided closer to other events where students can perform.

We hope you all enjoy making music as much as we enjoy hearing it.

Tamara Korn

**Music Academy Program Leader**



## Music Program Overview

Students can elect to participate in group or individual lessons. Enrolment into an area is subject to staffing and equipment availability. For this reason, the enrolment form provides space for listing 2 preferences of instrument. All efforts will be made to ensure student preferences are accommodated.

Students can enrol in individual or group lessons (as applicable) for the following instruments:

Area	Group / Individual	Year Levels
Violin Viola Cello Double Bass	Group <u>or</u> Individual	Available to students in <b>Year 3</b> and above.
Flute Clarinet Alto/tenor Saxophone	Group <u>or</u> Individual	Available to students in <b>Year 3</b> and above.
Piano	Individual only	Available to students in <b>Year 3</b> and above.
Voice – Singing	Group <u>or</u> Individual	Available to students in <b>Year 4</b> and above.
Classical Guitar	Group <u>or</u> Individual	Available to students in <b>Year 3</b> and above.
Trumpet Trombone Tuba Euphonium	Group <u>or</u> Individual	Available to students in <b>Year 3</b> and above.
Percussion	Individual only	Available to students in <b>Year 4</b> and above.

## Enrolment & Available Instruments

Parents can enrol their child in Instrumental Music or Vocal Lessons through completion of the online **Instrumental Music Application for Enrolment** form, which is located via the link below:

<https://forms.gle/BCTisirAn3PstJQGA>

The opportunity to learn more than one instrument requires approval from the **Instrumental Music Program Leader**. This opportunity is generally reserved for students who show **outstanding commitment and dedication to their general academic studies**.

All continuing students must re-enrol each year via the enrolment link.

## Rental of Instruments

**Public rental:** An instrument rental scheme is available through most retailers, or through national company Musicorp Australia (<http://www.musicorp.com.au>).

**College rental:** There are a small number of instruments available for hire from the College for the duration of the academic year. These loans are primarily designed for beginners in their first year of playing and instruments which students outgrow quickly (e.g. ¼ size cello) or very expensive instruments (e.g. baritone saxophone costing \$8,000).

### **Loan instruments are not available for piano, guitar or percussion**

Aside from the large, very expensive instruments (e.g. baritone saxophone) students will be able to access a college hire instrument for the duration of 1 academic year only. After that, they will be expected to purchase their own. This ensures that the beginners for the following year will have access to hire instruments and that every student has a chance to try an instrument before having to purchase it. If you have any concerns or are unable to purchase an instrument, please contact the college to discuss options.

**Students who are part of the year 4-6 Instrumental Immersion Program may be able to continue to hire their instrument in Year 7 (subject to availability). Please contact your child's tutor for more information.**

Students must be enrolled in the Instrumental Music Program to be considered for an Instrumental Loan. Hire fees are outlined in the '[Fees](#)' section and reflect the cost of annual servicing.

Information about purchasing instruments can be found at the links below.

[String Instrument Buying Guide](#)

[Woodwind and Brass Buying Guide](#)

### **Damage / Repairs to Hire Instruments**

If a loan instrument becomes damaged or requires repair, please inform the music tutor as soon as possible. All repairs to loan instruments must be organised through the College office and carried out by an authorised repairer. Depending on the nature of the damage, the hirer may be asked to contribute to the cost of repairs.



## Ensembles

One of the joys of learning an instrument is participating in ensembles with others! It increases performance opportunities, encourages team spirit, develops specific skills and students who are part of an ensemble are less likely to give up on their instrument than those who are not.

**All students who undertake lessons are required to join one or more of the College's music ensembles after a period of one year, OR as advised by their instrumental music teacher or the Instrumental Music Program Leader in relation to readiness and potential. Students will find out which ensemble they have been assigned to at the beginning of the year.**

This does not apply to piano students; however, these students are strongly encouraged to join one of the College Choirs or participate with other ensembles when the opportunity arises (accompanying string or flute ensembles, Stage Band, liturgical events). As well as year round ensembles, there may be special ensembles put together for competitions and special events.

Examples of ensemble opportunities at Southern Cross in 2023 are as follows:

Program	Ensembles
Woodwind/Brass and Percussion	Concert bands, stage band and small ensembles as applicable
Strings	String orchestras and small ensembles as applicable
Guitar	Guitar ensembles, stage band and small ensembles as applicable
Voice	Primary choir, secondary choir and specialist ensembles as applicable

### As a member of a Southern Cross music ensemble, students will:

1. Attend all scheduled rehearsals. Many ensemble members participate all year without missing any rehearsals. If a rehearsal will be missed, please notify the conductor directly (including if a student is absent from school).
2. Attend all scheduled performances. When in extreme cases this is not possible, a written advice (email) from a parent/caregiver is required in advance with a legitimate reason.
3. Prepare and learn music outside rehearsals. The rehearsals are to prepare performances, not to learn notes!
4. Keep your music in good condition. Marks can be made in pencil only.
5. Be seated and ready to sing or play at the rehearsal start time.
6. Be responsible in actively wanting to make your best possible contribution to the ensemble, especially in rehearsal.
7. Take notice of all memos and information notes – **and show them to parents!**
8. Bring music, a pencil and an eraser to every rehearsal.



Attend the rehearsal if you are at school, even if for some reason you are unable to play on a particular day. Much can be learnt through observation. If you are well enough to be at school, you are generally well enough to attend rehearsal!

The following ensembles are offered at Southern Cross Catholic College. Other than those indicated as audition or invitation only, students are expected to join at least one of these ensembles when they are deemed ready by their tutor.

Ensemble	Level
Junior Wind Ensemble	Primary
Junior String Ensemble	Primary
Junior Guitar Ensemble	Primary
Southern Cross Trebles (Junior Choir)	Primary
Beginner String Ensemble	Primary (from term 2 or early term 3 TBA)
Senior Wind Symphony	Secondary
Senior String Ensemble	Secondary
Stage Band	Secondary
Senior Guitar Ensemble	Secondary
Southern Cross Voices (Senior Choir)	Secondary
Flute Ensemble	Secondary (by invitation for primary)
Marching Band	By invitation for events
Symphony Orchestra	By invitation and audition only

## Performance Calendar Overview

All of our music performance ensembles perform regularly at the College and in the wider community. Some examples of performance opportunities may include:

Full Year	College Assemblies	Both primary and secondary ensembles
Full year	Instrumental Recitals	Individual students nominated by parents or teachers
Term 1	College Open Day	Select secondary ensembles individuals
Term 2	ANZAC Day ceremonies	Marching Band
Term 2	College Musical (even years)	Vocalists, musicians
Term 2	Feast Day	Vocalists and musicians
Term 3	Mulkadee Youth Arts Festival	By parent nomination as per Mulkadee guidelines
Term 3	Queensland Catholic Music Festival (QCMF) (odd years)	Select ensembles
Term 3	Townsville Eisteddfod	Small and large ensembles, individuals
Term 3/4	Ensemble Showcase	All primary and secondary ensembles
Term 4	College Awards Night	Select ensembles
Term 4	Theatre Restaurant (odd years)	Select ensembles





## Instrumental Music Immersion Program

All Year 4, 5 and 6 students learn a musical instrument as part of the classroom music program. The program consists of small group tuition on their selected instrument and large ensemble rehearsals.

Instrument hire is provided by the College and included in the school fees. Families **DO NOT** need to purchase an instrument for this classroom program.

Instrument selection for the Immersion Program is separate to the Instrumental Music Program.

### YEAR 4 INSTRUMENTAL IMMERSION PROGRAM BEGINS

All students learn one band and one orchestral string instrument

### YEAR 5 INSTRUMENTAL IMMERSION PROGRAM

All students study one instrument for the entire year

Year 5 Concert Band/Year 5 Immersion Strings

*Students may be invited to join other ensembles in the Instrumental Music Program or take additional lessons on their instrument if they show aptitude*

### YEAR 6 OPTION EITHER CONTINUE IN INSTRUMENTAL IMMERSION OR ALTERNATE MUSIC CLASS

Year 6 Concert Band/Year 6 Immersion Strings/Year 6 Symphony Orchestra

*Students may also be part of ensembles or taking lessons in the Music Academy in addition to the immersion program*

Participation in the Year 4 Immersion Program can be a 'taster' of different musical instruments before they commit to individual or group lessons in the Music Academy.



## Equipment

Below is a list of materials required for each instrument. Individual tutors may provide further details of what is required, especially for continuing students.

When purchasing an instrument, please be mindful that not all brands are of equal quality. Speak to your child's tutor directly or a reputable music retailer for recommendations on brands and models. Cheaply made instruments often end up costing more in the long run due to repairs and can be far more difficult to play/keep in tune. Second-hand instruments are a great option but exercise caution. Ask any question you would ask someone selling a used car - eg. Service history, age, major accidents, reason for sale, etc.

**Please contact your child's instrumental music tutor directly at the start of the year with any concerns regarding equipment.**

Instrument	Required Materials
All Students	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>A4 display folder</b></li> <li>• <b>Pencil &amp; eraser</b></li> <li>• <b>Music stand (home practice - do not bring to school lessons)</b></li> <li>• <b>Practice Diary (supplied by College)</b></li> <li>• <b>Library bag to hold method books, folder &amp; music diary</b></li> </ul>
Violin / Viola	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Instrument and bow (sized correctly)</li> <li>• Shoulder Rest (Everest preferred)</li> <li>• Rosin</li> <li>• Soft cloth for cleaning instrument</li> <li>• String Vision bow grip guide</li> <li>• <u>All students</u> Essential Elements book 1 or as advised by teacher</li> </ul>
Cello / Double Bass	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Instrument and bow (sized correctly)</li> <li>• Donut/ Endpin Stopper</li> <li>• Rosin</li> <li>• Soft cloth for cleaning instrument</li> <li>• String Vision bow grip guide (cello only)</li> <li>• <u>All students</u> Essential Elements book 1 or as advised by teacher</li> </ul>
Flute	<p><b>All flute students</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Flute</li> <li>• 1x pull through cloth, 1x polishing cloth</li> <li>• Flute cleaning rod (usually supplied with instrument)</li> <li>• <u>Beginners Only</u>: Essential Elements Book 1 (or as advised by teacher)</li> </ul> <p><b>Optional</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Flute stand (to hold instrument when not playing)</li> </ul>
Clarinet	<p><b>All clarinet students</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Clarinet</li> <li>• Pull through and polishing cloth</li> <li>• Cork Grease</li> <li>• 3 reeds (size 1.5 for beginners)</li> <li>• <u>Beginners only</u>: Essential Elements Book 1 (clarinet) or as advised by teacher</li> </ul> <p><b>Optional</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Clarinet stand (to hold instrument when not playing)</li> </ul>
Saxophone	<p><b>All saxophone students</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Alto/Tenor saxophone</li> <li>• Pull through and polishing cloth</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cork Grease</li> <li>• 3 reeds (size 1.5 for beginners)</li> <li>• <u>Beginners only</u>: Essential Elements Book 1 (alto/tenor as required) or as advised by teacher</li> </ul> <b>Optional</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Saxophone stand (to hold instrument when not playing)</li> </ul>
Trumpet	<b>All trumpet students</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Trumpet</li> <li>• Valve Oil</li> <li>• Polishing cloth</li> <li>• Slide grease</li> <li>• <u>Beginners only</u>: Essential Elements Book 1 (trumpet) or as advised by teacher</li> </ul> <b>Optional</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Trumpet stand (to hold instrument when not playing)</li> </ul>
Trombone	<b>All trombone students</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Trombone</li> <li>• Polishing cloth</li> <li>• Slide lubricant</li> <li>• <u>Beginners only</u>: Essential Elements Book 1 (trombone bass clef) or as advised by teacher</li> </ul> <b>Optional</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Trombone stand (to hold instrument when not playing)</li> </ul>
Percussion	<b>All percussion students</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Practice Pad</li> <li>• Pair of drum sticks (size 5A)</li> <li>• Glockenspiel</li> <li>• Glockenspiel mallets <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ (percussion kits including all of the above can be purchased from The School Locker and other similar retailers)</li> </ul> </li> <li>• A4 plastic Display Book</li> <li>• <u>Beginners only</u>: Method book TBA after enrolment</li> </ul>
Guitar	<b>All guitar students</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Nylon string classical guitar -correctly sized (restrung if continuing student)</li> <li>• Foot stool</li> <li>• Spare strings</li> <li>• Chromatic clip on tuner</li> <li>• <b>Primary</b> <u>Beginners only</u>: Hal Leonard Guitar Method book (Wil Schmid and Greg Koch)</li> <li>• <b>Secondary</b> <u>Beginners only</u>: Hal Leonard Classical Guitar Method (Paul Henry)</li> </ul>
Piano	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Piano or digital piano with 88 keys (<u>fully weighted</u>) and sustain pedal</li> <li>• A4 plastic display book</li> <li>• Method Books: to be advised by tutor after enrolment</li> </ul>
Voice	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A4 plastic display book</li> <li>• USB (8G)</li> </ul>

## Uniform

The Music Performance Uniform was developed in 2017 with the input and support of the College Leadership Team and the parents and staff involved in the Friends of Music group. The Music Performance Uniform is designed as a distinctive uniform which enhances the presentation and group identity of music ensembles from Southern Cross Catholic College.

## Who wears the Music Performance Uniform?

All students who are members of ensembles in the **YES** column below are required to purchase and wear the full Music Performance Uniform at all nominated performances.

YES	NO
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Secondary ensembles including choirs (yr 7-12)</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Primary ensembles including choirs (up to yr 6)</li><li>Piano Students (see below)</li></ul>

**Piano students will not be required to wear the Music Performance uniform unless they are a member of one of the ensembles listed above.**

Any primary student who is invited to participate in a secondary or middle school ensemble, will be required to wear the Music Performance uniform as part of the dress standard expectation for that group. If you are unsure of uniform requirements, please contact your conductor.

**Requirements for the Music Performance Uniform are listed below:**

BOYS	GIRLS
<p><b>Black boys music shirt - \$45</b> <i>(available from The School Locker Campus Store at Southern Cross Catholic College)</i></p> <p><b>Black boys music pants - \$40</b> <i>(available from The School Locker Campus Store at Southern Cross Catholic College)</i></p> <p><u>Plain</u> black belt</p> <p><u>Plain</u> black socks</p> <p>Black school shoes (polished) - no joggers</p>	<p><b>Black girls music blouse - \$45</b> <i>(available from The School Locker Campus Store at Southern Cross Catholic College)</i></p> <p><b>Black girls music pants - \$40</b> <i>(available from The School Locker Campus Store at Southern Cross Catholic College)</i></p> <p><u>Plain</u> black socks or black hosiery</p> <p>Black school shoes (polished) - no joggers</p>

- The correct black pants must be purchased and worn to ensure uniformity of style, cut, and length.
- Hair must be worn neatly, off the collar, and in a hair band if touching the collar.
- Wearing of jewellery is restricted to that listed in the College Uniform Policy. Make up is not permitted as per the College Uniform Policy.



The **primary performance polo** will be available from the School Locker in early 2023. Students will use this to perform at any events as an alternative to their academic uniform. Parents will be advised when this is available to purchase and the cost.



## Fees

Enrolments are for a **minimum of one semester**. This encourages the valuable skill of perseverance through the inevitable challenges of learning an instrument. Parents who wish to withdraw their child from instrumental music lessons must advise [music@sctsv.catholic.edu.au](mailto:music@sctsv.catholic.edu.au) by **week 8 of term 2** for end of semester 1 withdrawal or **week 8 of term 4** for end of semester 2 withdrawal. **There are no refunds for mid-semester withdrawals.**

Schedule of Instrumental Music Fees - 2023	
Lessons - Individual	\$460 per semester (15 lessons)
Lessons - Group	\$255 per semester (15 lessons)
Year 12 (semester 2 only) - Individual	\$300 (10 lessons)
Year 12 (semester 2 only) - Group	\$170 (10 lessons)
College Instrument Hire Fee - Woodwind/Brass*	\$150 per school year
College Instrument Hire Fee - Strings*	\$100 per school year
Ensemble Participation	No regular cost (possible costs for excursions or events, and uniforms)

\*The difference in Hire Fees reflects the different costs involved with annual servicing.

Fees will be invoiced at the beginning of term one for the first semester, and then at the end of semester one for the following semester two tuition fees. They must be paid in advance at the beginning of each semester. If you would like to arrange payment via credit card on the due date please contact the office to complete the necessary paperwork. Payment can also be made by direct deposit to our account or by coming into office. Fees are charged at the above rate for a minimum of 16 lessons per semester.

**Note: Year 12 students will be charged for 10 lessons in semester 2 to accommodate for their extended exam block in term 4.**

Families who are in arrears with College Fees payments may not be able to enrol their child for instrumental music tuition until accounts are in good standing. Failure to make payment by the due date may result in your child being withdrawn from the program until payment is made.





# Student Expectations, Standards and Responsibilities

## Students:

1. Please attend all lessons, ensemble rehearsals and performances on time and with all equipment
2. Practice regularly at home
3. Look after your instrument
4. Be proactive with your schedule. Requests to reschedule a lesson for any reason (including college events) must be made 24+ hours in advance. *Please note: lessons that have not been rescheduled in advance will be forfeited.*

## Families:

1. Support and encourage your child to practice their instrument regularly at home including having a designated area to practice.
2. Support your child's attendance at lessons and ensembles. Young children sometimes need reminding!
3. Support and encourage their child through slumps in motivation (*yes, these will happen!*)
4. Communicate proactively with their child's instrumental music tutor about any issues which arise.

You can encourage and support your child's involvement in the Instrumental Music Program in a range of ways:

- Encouraging them to practise regularly
- Enabling them to attend ensemble rehearsals as scheduled
- Attending their performances
- Attending Friends of Music meetings and volunteering to help where possible
- Checking information on the College website, College Facebook page and reading the College Newsletter

*When we all work together, we can achieve great things!*

At Southern Cross Catholic College, we recognize that the best results will be obtained through dedication, commitment and persistence. The following guidelines are designed to assist students to get the best out of their membership of school ensembles.



## Timetables

Instrumental music lessons are offered during the school day in the following formats:

1. **Secondary students** have a 30 minute weekly lesson on a rotating timetable. For example, the week 1 lesson may be at 9:00am, week 2 will be at 9:30am etc. This ensures that students are not missing the same subject every week. It is the student's responsibility to attend at their scheduled time.
2. **Primary students** have weekly 30 minute lesson at the same time every week. The lesson will be scheduled at a time that avoids other specialist classes. This is because it is easier for primary students to remember a static lesson time, and easier for classroom teachers to anticipate when their students will be leaving the room. It is the student's responsibility to attend at their scheduled time, however young students may need encouragement with ways to remember and some reminding (year 3 students will receive a phone call to their class if they have not arrived at the lesson).

*NB. There are often a small number of lessons available outside of class time. If requested, priority for these time slots will be given to students in years 11 and 12.*

Timetables will be emailed to families each term and displayed in the P block noticeboard. All classroom teachers can access an electronic copy via the school drive. Secondary students can also view their lesson time in their daily Compass schedule.

## Variations to schedule

Occasionally, lesson times will need to be adjusted due to either foreseen or unforeseen circumstances.

If a student is unable to attend a scheduled lesson for **any** reason (including college events), please contact the instrumental music tutor directly via email at least **24 hours in advance**. With at least 24 hours notice, the tutor will provide a make up lesson at a mutually agreed time. **Lessons that are missed without notice are forfeited.**

If an instrumental music tutor cancels a lesson due to illness etc, the lesson will be made up.

It is appreciated that unexpected things happen. With effective communication from all parties, a solution is often found quickly to ensure students continue to receive a high quality instrumental music education.



## Achievement Standards & Reporting Procedure

The Music Academy has a year round communication and reporting system, separate from college report cards. All students will be assessed using Compass Continuum. Tutors will show their students where to find the information during their lessons.

There are also individualised plans for those students operating outside of the standard levels. Each level has been created with reference to the Australian Curriculum and AMEB. The checklist retains flexibility for music tutors to tailor items to a students' instrument, repertoire choice and personal goals. The purpose of the levels sheet is to provide detailed, ongoing feedback throughout the entire year as well as allow students to reflect on their progress and identify their goals.

Parents are welcome to contact the College Office and arrange an appointment to discuss their child's progress or participation in the program.

## Contacting Music Staff

### 2023 Music Staff Contact Details

For general instrumental music and enrolment enquiries, please contact below. Individual tutor and ensemble conductor details will be distributed at the start of each year.

<b>Email:</b>	<a href="mailto:music@sctsv.catholic.edu.au">music@sctsv.catholic.edu.au</a>
<b>Phone:</b>	(07) 4778 3444
<b>Music Academy Program Leader:</b>	<b>Tamara Korn</b>
<b>Email:</b>	<a href="mailto:tkorn2@sctsv.catholic.edu.au">tkorn2@sctsv.catholic.edu.au</a>