Welcome to the Nossal High School Instrumental Music Program 2017

Please read the following information. This sets the terms, conditions and expectations of the program. Students who participate in the Instrumental music program are required to be committed to attendance at lessons, rehearsals and performances. Music Camps and tours are planned for the future and students will be strongly encouraged to participate.

ETHOS
The Instrumental Music Program aims to expose students to the many benefits of participating in a vibrant, energetic and practical music education experience. It is internationally recognised that participation in music education assists students to develop the ability to think critically, analytically and creatively, to problem solve and encourages students to be self-motivated and self-disciplined. The Instrumental Music Program enables socialisation with students in other year levels, develops confidence in presenting and performing to their peers, to the whole school, and to the wider community. Students involved in the music program create quality music and make long term friendships.
Your child’s level of success at learning an instrument depends very much upon how diligently he/she practises, and on how much support they are given at home. It ought to be remembered that not every musician can become a concert performer or a professional musician, but every musician can develop the expertise to be involved in music making as a leisure time pursuit.

CONTACT
We look forward to your participation in the Nossal High School Instrumental Music Program. Questions regarding the program, its content, teaching and management, charges, payments or administrative arrangements, should be made to the Director of Music, Ms Julia Stoppa at julia.stoppa@nossalhs.vic.edu.au or on 8762 4602. Please leave a voicemail as Julia may be teaching a class.
PROGRAM STRUCTURE
Instrumental music at Nossal High School is an Ensemble-Based Program. Students are required to attend scheduled rehearsals of a school based ensemble. Rehearsals are rarely, if ever, cancelled and it is expected they will commence in the second week of the school year, and re-commence in the first week of each term. Performance opportunities for music students to participate in will include Victorian School Music Festival, Winter Arts Gala, Casey Arts Cluster Concert, Spring Ensemble Concert and others. Nossal also competes successfully in the South Street Eisteddfod, Eisteddfod by the Bay, and “Generations in Jazz”.
Participation in an ensemble allows students to enrol in instrumental tuition at a discounted rate compared to that recommended by the Victorian Music Teachers Association and as charged by most private tutors.

Parental involvement is always encouraged and most appreciated. You can support your child (and their teacher) by being involved in the practice routine, providing performance opportunities at home and by attending and assisting at school performances. You will help your child by simply being interested in what they’re working on and asking them to play something for you from time to time. You do not need to know anything about music to encourage them in this way.

Please assist your child’s progress in this program by ensuring they take their instrument to school on their lesson and ensemble days.

The following performing ensembles rehearse each week throughout the year:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Choir</th>
<th>Concert Band</th>
<th>Big Band</th>
<th>Guitar Ensembles</th>
<th>Percussion Ensembles</th>
<th>Orchestra</th>
<th>Junior String Ensemble</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

The following performing ensembles are seasonal and will rehearse at various times throughout the year:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Flute Ensemble</th>
<th>Cello Ensemble</th>
<th>Chamber Strings</th>
<th>Piano Trio</th>
<th>Piano Four Hands</th>
<th>Piano Eight Hands</th>
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</thead>
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INSTRUMENTAL TUITION
Nossal High School is fortunate to be able to offer both private and group tuition in the following instruments:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Flute</th>
<th>Oboe</th>
<th>Bassoon</th>
<th>Clarinet</th>
<th>Saxophone</th>
<th>Trumpet</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Trombone</td>
<td>French Horn</td>
<td>Euphonium</td>
<td>Tuba</td>
<td>Bass Guitar</td>
<td>Violin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Viola</td>
<td>Cello</td>
<td>Double Bass</td>
<td>Percussion - Orchestral</td>
<td>Percussion - Drums</td>
<td>Guitar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Voice</td>
<td>Composition</td>
<td>Piano</td>
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INSTRUMENTAL LESSON SCHEDULE
Students’ lessons are scheduled on a rotating timetable and are usually on the same day, but not the same time each week. This means that students rarely miss the same 30 minutes (60 minutes) of class time. The only time a student should miss the same class more than once is in an 11 week term (Term 2 & 3 in 2016).

Parents can view when instrumental lessons occur via Compass and are encouraged to help students organise themselves so they have their instrument at school on the correct day. It is the student’s responsibility to know when their lesson is, have their instrument with them on the appropriate day, and arrive at their lesson on time.
ATTENDANCE

24 hours’ notice of an expected absence is required. This is possible by emailing the teacher or leaving a message on the School Attendance phone line. Unexpected absences are managed on an individual basis. Requests for absence from ensemble rehearsals and performances must be made in writing by parents/guardians.

Attendance at all ensemble rehearsals and lessons is absolutely necessary for your child’s progress to be satisfying and rewarding. It is the student’s responsibility to attend all lessons at the scheduled time/day. The instrumental teachers will do their best to locate students if they have forgotten by sending them a text message or email. However, if the student does not attend their lesson, and 24 hours notice has not been given, the lesson will be forfeited and it will not be made up at a later date, exceptions to this will be for unexpected illness.

Continued unexplained absence from ensemble rehearsals will result in your child’s instrumental lessons being suspended until ensemble attendance is resumed. The Director of Music will be in touch with parents in this situation.

If your child will be absent from school (due to illness, camps, and excursions) and you have let the instrumental teacher know, the missed lesson will be made up at a later date. Parents and students can easily communicate with the instrumental teachers using Compass.

EQUIPMENT

Your child will require certain equipment throughout the year and is expected to come to all lessons prepared. Basic equipment may include:

- Instrument
- Music books as requested by their teacher (Nossal actively discourages the illegal photocopying of music)
- School diary to record practice instructions
- Spare reeds, strings, rosin, valve oil etc…

FEES AND CHARGES

The Instrumental Music Program is a user pays extra-curricular enrolment at Nossal High School. Funding covers payment to the instrumental teachers, the purchase of music resources, and repairs and maintenance to the school owned equipment.

Students are expected to attend all excursions related to their ensembles (such as camps, festival performances, competitions and tours) and there will be additional individual charges for these events. Anticipated Fees for 2017 (To Be Confirmed in December 2016)
Ensemble Participation & Instrumental Lessons

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>30 minute group lesson</th>
<th>30 minute individual lesson</th>
<th>60 minute individual lesson</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$700 per year</td>
<td>$940 per year</td>
<td>$1800 per year</td>
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Ensemble Participation Only

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<tr>
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<td>$110 per year</td>
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Payment Arrangements:
50% of the fee will be required before the commencement of lessons in Semester 1 and the balance before the commencement of lessons in Semester 2. Enrolment in the program can only be confirmed when music fees are paid, however, should you be experiencing any difficulty, please contact the office to discuss a payment plan.

CANCELLATION OF LESSONS
In order to ensure we are able to retain the services of exemplary music teachers, the Music program staffing for 2017 is planned for the full academic year in Term 4, 2016. As a result it is expected that students will make a commitment for a full year’s tuition. Please be aware that withdrawal from classes impacts on the employment contracts of the music teachers.
If circumstances arise that a student is considering withdrawal from the program all attempts will be made to resolve any issues to ensure they are able to continue their music lessons until the end of the year.

In the event that issues cannot be resolved A FULL TERM’S NOTICE (Min 10 weeks) is required in writing to the Director of Music from the parents to terminate lessons. Please note that includes a full terms notice in Term 4 for discontinuation of lessons in Term 1 the following year.