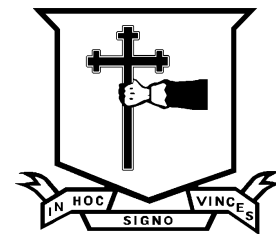


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Instrumental Music Handbook



2019

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Welcome

Welcome to the Iona College Instrumental Program. Giving your son the opportunity to learn an instrument here at the College is a great way of helping your son develop important lifelong skills which he will use every day for the rest of his life. Research tells us that there are many benefits to learning an instrument. These include:

- Creating new pathways in the brain
- Improving reading and comprehension skills
- Refining time management and organisation skills
- Enhanced co-ordination
- Further develops social skills
- Develops emotional response
- Teaches perseverance and discipline
- Relieves stress

“Students who sing in a choir or play in an ensemble must simultaneously perform a complex set of operations that call on more aspects of the human being than any other activity they face in school” – Walter Bitner, Composer and Educator.

Music is a significant part of Iona life not just for the students who participate in the music program but for the entire school. All boys are encouraged to sing and participate fully at our College Masses and music often features during our College assemblies. We also have a very strong academic music program with many boys electing to study music in their senior years.

Over the years, Iona students have been members of ensembles such as the Queensland Youth Orchestra, the Griffith University Young Conservatorium and Birralee Voices. Students have also gone on to study at the Queensland Conservatorium of Music, perform with the Queensland Symphony Orchestra and even have their music played on the national youth radio network, Triple J.

This handbook outlines the aims, expectations and details of the Iona College Instrumental Music Program and is required to be read by parents before enrolling their son. If you require further information than what is listed in this handbook then please contact the Music Department directly.

Mr Brian L’Huillier
Head of Instrumental Music



Aims of the Instrumental Music Program

Ensemble based program

The Iona College Instrumental Music Program is an ensemble based program and membership of an appropriate level of ensemble is a compulsory condition of enrolment. Playing in an ensemble with students who are at a similar level of playing helps students to further develop their ability and understanding of music. Students have a range of opportunity depending on the instruments they learn. In some cases, a new student may need a few focused lessons before attending their first ensemble rehearsal however, this is always at the discretion of the Head of Instrumental Music. It is our aim to have all new students in an ensemble as soon as possible following their enrolment.

Expectations

To get the most out of the Iona College Instrumental Music Program students, parents and teachers must work in collaboration. School life is often busy and students will need to navigate all their commitments ensuring that expectations are met. The responsibility lies with all to ensure that communication is clear and timely and all interactions are positive and constructive.

Students are expected to:

1. Attend their weekly lesson;
2. Practise regularly, as directed by their teacher;
3. Attend ALL of their scheduled ensemble rehearsals and performances;
4. Demonstrate continual improvement; and,
5. Accept responsibility for proactively solving scheduling conflicts.

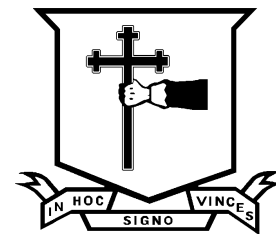
Parents are expected to:

1. Provide an appropriate place and time for practice in the home;
2. Guide their son through time management planning processes surrounding practice, study, work and other activities;
3. Give their son positive and constructive feedback regarding their progress;
4. Assist their son in attending all rehearsals and performances punctually;
5. Support their son in developing the skills needed to negotiate positively with their teachers and conductors;
6. Support their son by attending his concerts and other performances.

Teachers are expected to:

1. Prepare lessons, rehearsals and materials that are suitable to the students age and stage of development;
2. Plan for the musical development of each student for the short, medium and long term;
3. Communicate clearly, positively and in a timely manner any concerns regarding the student attendance or progress with the student, parents and the Head of Instrumental Music;
4. Engage with all staff, students and parents in a positive manner with the goal of working proactively and collectively towards the holistic development of the student.

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Tuition

All boys in the College can elect to learn singing or a musical instrument. Students have the opportunity to take these lessons during school time on a rotating timetable that has minimal impact on their academic subjects. These lessons are offered as small group lessons. Please note: **Lessons are not offered outside school hours.**

The Iona College Instrumental Music Program offers tuition on the following:

<i>Flute</i>	<i>French Horn</i>	<i>Violin</i>	<i>Voice</i>
<i>Oboe</i>	<i>Trumpet</i>	<i>Viola</i>	<i>Guitar</i>
<i>Bassoon</i>	<i>Trombone</i>	<i>Cello</i>	<i>Electric Bass</i>
<i>Clarinet</i>	<i>Euphonium</i>	<i>Double Bass</i>	<i>Percussion</i>
<i>Bass Clarinet</i>	<i>Tuba</i>		
<i>Saxophone</i>			

Enrolment

To enrol your son in the program an **Enrolment Form** must be submitted. This can be downloaded from the College website or collected from the Music Department Office. The Enrolment Form is an agreement between you, the parents and the College with regards to the Music Program and is an agreement that you will follow the guidelines in this document and agree to pay the associated fees.

An enrolment form does not guarantee a place in the Music Program. Some instruments have a waiting list due to popular demand. Continued enrolment in the program requires renewal each year.

Cancellation

To cancel your son's enrolment a **Cancellation Form** must be submitted. This can be downloaded from the College website or collected from the Music Department Office. Cancellation requires **3 weeks' notice prior to the end of term.** Students will not be permitted to leave the program once a term has commenced without either a cancellation form being submitted prior or at the discretion of the Director of Music. A withdrawal midterm will still require full term fees to be paid.

Cancellation for Year 5 students

Year 5 students will be expected to complete a full year before they have the option to withdraw from the program. More information about the Year 5 program is in our **Year 5 Instrumental Music Program Pamphlet**. This pamphlet can be downloaded from the College website or collected from the Music Department Office.

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Lesson Structure

Students will participate in one group lesson per week with a specialist teacher on their given instrument. Lessons are 30 minutes in duration and scheduled during school time. ***There are no lessons given before or after school.*** Instrumental lesson times are on a rotating timetable which ensures that students do not miss out on the same classroom lessons each week.

What to bring to your lesson?

Students are required to bring to every music lesson their instrument, method book (if required), black music folder and any other music required by the teacher.

Students are to bring their College diary to their music lesson each week, which the teacher will stamp indicating the time of the next music lesson. The teacher will also sign the diary as evidence of attendance enabling you to keep track of your son's attendance and have written communication with teachers.

It is always the responsibility of the student to ensure that he has his diary signed after he has attended his lesson and stamped for his next lesson. If your son misses his lesson, it is his responsibility to come to the Music Department Office and get a stamp for his next lesson.

All sheet music distributed to the student throughout the year must be kept in the music folder and returned in good condition to the Music Department Office at the end of the year.

Rescheduling and Non-Attendance

If a student is unable to attend a lesson due to a genuine reason he must notify his Instrumental Music Teacher or the Music Department Office ***at least 24 hours in advance***. In most cases an alternative lesson time can be arranged if enough notice is given. However, ***if the student or parent does not notify us in advance, or simply forgets to come to the lesson, a rescheduled lesson cannot occur.*** Even if a student is absent on official College excursions, year-level camps, or because of assessment, a rescheduled lesson cannot occur without prior knowledge from the student or parent.

Parents shall be contacted via the Music Department Office with regards to absence from lessons or rehearsals.

More information is contained under the heading ***ABSENCES***.

Timetables

Timetables are displayed in the music department at the beginning of each term for the duration of each term. Students can access these timetables before tutor group, during their breaks, after school or when they have their instrumental lesson. It is the student's responsibility to check these timetables each week.

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Absences

Please adhere to the following guidelines with regards to absence from lessons:

Notice of absence must be provided directly to the Music Department Office or to the Instrumental Teacher at least 24 hours prior to the scheduled lesson, or by 8.30am on the day in case of illness. Contacting the Main Office, Tutor Group or Head of House is unfortunately not sufficient as there is no guarantee the message will make it to the Music Department in enough time to reschedule the lesson.

Explained Absence will be marked on the instrumental roll if a student is away on camp, an excursion, is sitting an exam, **providing enough notice was given** to the Music Department Office or Instrumental Teacher to reschedule their lessons for the day.

Unexplained Absence will be marked on the instrumental roll if a student does not show up to a scheduled lesson without the Music Department Office or Instrumental Teacher being notified in enough time to re-schedule. In this case the lesson is forfeited. Notification will be sent to parents when an **Unexplained Absence** is recorded on the instrumental roll.

If a student is **Away Sick**, a call or email directly to the Music Department Office before 8.30am is required to ensure the lesson is not forfeited. This will give the Instrumental Teacher enough time to reschedule any lessons that were affected by the day's absentees and arrange for opportunity for catch-up lessons to occur.

Recurring absences without explanation could result in the student's exclusion from the ensemble, an upcoming concert or in some cases, the program.

Fees 2019 (prices subject to change)

Music Fees are issued as follows:

Group Lessons \$315.00 per semester

Hire of instrument \$100.00 per semester

Percussion Levy \$35.00 per semester (for percussion students only)

All fees will be charged on Term 2 and Term 4 school fee accounts.

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Instrument Hire

Iona College offers instrument hire to students who do not own their own instrument. Before hiring an instrument parents and students must acknowledge that the instrument remains the property of Iona College and is issued on loan to the student subject to the following conditions:

1. The instrument is to be used by the student to whom it is loaned & by no other person.
2. Every care and attention must be given to the instrument during the period of loan.
3. The instrument is returnable upon demand at any time for inspection or repair.
4. The instrument must be returned promptly for any repair that may be required through normal wear and tear.
5. In the event of accidental loss or damage, the circumstances must be immediately reported to the Music Department Office.
6. **In the event of deliberate damage to a College instrument, the cost of repairs will be charged to the family.**
7. A rental fee will be charged for all instruments.

The following instruments are available for hire: flute, clarinet, bass clarinet, alto/tenor/baritone saxophone, bassoon, oboe, trumpet, trombone, euphonium, tuba, violin, viola, cello, double bass. **There is no hire charge for guitar or bass guitar as these students must provide their own instrument.**

Students are required to look after their instrument. If a problem arises with the instrument, you must advise your music teacher. The instrument will be sent off for service/repair.

An ***Instrumental Hire Agreement*** form will need to be submitted with your enrolment form if you wish to hire an instrument. This form is available on the College website and from the Music Department Office.

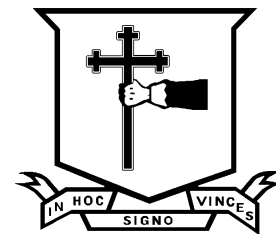
Storage of Instruments

Instruments are to be stored in the storerooms located in the Music Department. When arriving at school students can leave their instrument in the designated storeroom before school and collect their instrument when leaving the College.

It is expected your son's instrument is to be ***taken home throughout the week, over the weekend and during the holidays*** to practise.

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Practice

A crucial part of a student's success of learning an instrument is regular home practice. It is advisable that all boys are given a suitable place to practice and that this becomes part of their daily homework routine. It is very important that parents are supportive of the practice routine and are encouraging of their son.

It is a condition of enrolment that all students will do a minimum of twenty minutes, 3 days per week.

Ensembles

The College successfully runs more than 30 ensembles from beginner through to advanced offering students a wide range of musical experience. Our top ensembles have enjoyed success on both a state and national level and have also performed internationally, most recently in Singapore and New Zealand.

Year 5 Ensembles

All students in year 5 who are enrolled in our instrumental program are required to play in one of our *Year Level Ensembles*. These ensembles run once a week during school time within a lesson dedicated to learning the art of performing with others. More advanced year 5 musicians are often invited to join a more advanced ensemble that may rehearse before or after school in addition to their year level band. Our ensembles in year 5 include Concert Band, Strings, Guitars and Voices.

Concert Bands

The College has 4 concert bands: Wind Ensemble, Symphonic Winds, Concert Band and our Year 5 Band. These bands cater for a large number of students who play woodwind, brass and percussion instruments. Membership ranges from 30-80 students depending on the band and students are expected to rehearse each week for the duration of the year.

Jazz Bands

The College rehearses up to 3 Jazz Bands. This is often the first experience of Jazz as both a performance art and a discipline for most students and skills such as improvising and soloing are learnt and practised here. Woodwind, brass and percussion students who play in a concert band may be invited to play in a jazz band where they will further develop their skills within a jazz context. Numbers are limited.

String Ensembles

The College has 4 String Ensembles: Chamber Strings 1, Chamber Strings 2, Chamber Strings 3 and our Year 5 String Ensemble. For special events we may also run the *Iona Symphony Orchestra*. ISO provides strings, woodwind, brass and percussion players an opportunity to perform alongside each other further developing the skills of all participating students within an orchestral setting.

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Percussion Ensembles

The College has 3 Percussion Ensembles: Senior Percussion Ensemble, Percussion Ensemble 2 and Percussion Ensemble 3. Percussion students who play in a concert band may be invited to play in a percussion ensemble where students will further develop their skill in a variety of contemporary genres. Electric bass players may also have an opportunity to join a percussion ensemble.

Guitar Ensembles

The College has 4 guitar ensembles starting in Yr 5 ranging from beginner to advanced. All guitar students develop their reading skills and explore a variety of styles such as contemporary, jazz, classical, gypsy and Spanish. Guitar ensembles are also home to bass players and percussionists.

Vocal Ensembles

The College has 4 vocal ensembles: Iona Singers, Ionian Voices, Iona Boys Choir and our year 5 vocal ensemble. All boys at Iona are encouraged to sing and students are welcome to join a choir without participating in vocal lessons. However, vocal lessons are always encouraged for students who show an aptitude for singing. Many students who learn an instrument often join a choir as well which supports their instrumental lessons.

Student Ensemble Obligations

Core Ensembles

Students involved in the Music Performance Program are required, without exception, to perform in the core ensemble that is appropriate to their instrument or voice. Ensemble placement is decided by conductors and instrumental teachers in consultation with the Head of Instrumental Music. ***Core ensembles are as follows:***

<i>Brass</i>	Concert Band, Symphonic Winds, Wind Ensemble as designated by the Head of Instrumental Music
<i>Woodwind</i>	Concert Band, Symphonic Winds, Wind Ensemble as designated by the Head of Instrumental Music
<i>Percussion</i>	Concert Band, Symphonic Winds, Wind Ensemble as designated by the Head of Instrumental Music
<i>Strings</i>	String Ensemble as designated by the Head of Instrumental Music
<i>Voice</i>	Iona Singers, Ionian Voices, Iona Boys Choir as designated by the Head of Instrumental Music
<i>Guitar/Bass</i>	Guitar Ensemble as designated by the Head of Instrumental Music

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Performances and Music Concerts

There are a variety of performances throughout the year that your son will be involved with. Many are listed in the College calendar however, there will also be other performances listed on our Semester Concerts pamphlet which can be downloaded from the College website or collected as a hard copy from the Music Department Office. As we get closer to the performances, more details will be provided in the College newsletter and concert notifications will be emailed home.

It is an expectation of the College that students will play at all scheduled concerts. Any date conflicts that arise must be discussed with the Ensemble conductor or the Head of Instrumental Music as soon as possible. The rehearsals that precede a concert are as important as the concert itself therefore any rehearsal conflicts must also be discussed with their conductor or the Head of Instrumental Music as soon as possible.

Iona performances take priority over outside of school activities. Attendance at all performances is expected. If any issues arise or for further clarification, please contact the Head of Instrumental Music.

Performance Uniform

Our Year 5 ensembles perform in full College winter uniform. This includes grey shirt, grey shorts, black belt, Iona College tie, black shoes and grey socks. Year level ensembles are as follows:

Year 5 Band

Year 5 Strings

Year 5 Guitars

Year 5 Vocal Group

All other ensembles must wear the College ***performance uniform***.

All co-curricular (practice outside of school hours) ensembles (Iona performance uniform) – Long sleeve white shirt with Iona logo on left pocket, long black dress pants, Iona tie (all available from the uniform shop) dress leather shoes and black socks are to be worn. Co-curricular ensembles are as follows:

Iona Boys Choir

Symphonic Winds

Percussion Ensembles

Ionian Voices

Concert Band

Guitar Ensembles

Iona Singers (auditioned)

Chamber Strings

Mass Band

Iona Wind Ensemble

Jazz Bands

Note please: All students performing in co-curricular ensembles will be required to wear their performance uniform for the entire concert unless otherwise notified.

Membership of these co-curricular ensembles is by invitation, and every student in years 6-12 must participate fully in one of these ensembles but may participate in more than one with permission.

If students wish to join Iona Boys Choir or Ionian Voices, it is not necessary to be having singing (voice) lessons at the College. All are welcome.

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Concert Notification Form

If your son is involved in a concert or performance, we will email these details home. This form will outline all of the information regarding the upcoming event.

Parents are required to RSVP via return email by the due date to acknowledge the student participation in the event. Please ensure that Iona College has your current email address.

Iona College Performing Arts Complex (IPAC)

The Iona College Performing Arts Complex is not only where the Music Department is located but it is also the venue for most of the performances. The College is proud to offer our students the opportunity to perform in this state of the art 550 seat professional theatre.

Music Camps/Workshops

Each year the we offer opportunities for in-house workshops and music camps. Selected ensembles are invited to attend these events, during which times ensembles participate in music rehearsals and activities.

All relevant workshop and camp information including fee charges will be emailed home when necessary.

Ensemble Rehearsals

Ensemble rehearsals are held during, before and after school. Students involved in ensembles are required to attend **every** rehearsal. If your son is absent from his rehearsal, a note is required to explain his absence. Music teachers advise students which ensemble they will be participating in.

In the event a clash arises between ensemble rehearsals and other College events, students are to advise the relevant teacher/conductor in a timely manner so that College staff can negotiate a resolution.

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Music Department Staff

Mr Brian L'Huillier – Head of Instrumental Music, Guitar Specialist
Mrs Aimee McDonald – Assistant Head of Instrumental Music, Woodwind Specialist
Mrs Carmel Moynihan – Head of Music Curriculum
Mrs Kirsten Hudson – Music Administrator
Mrs Karen Corkeron – Woodwind Specialist
Mr Pierce Hurne – Woodwind Specialist
Mrs Hannah Orchard – String Specialist
Mrs Kathryn Fletcher – String Specialist
Ms Madonna Forster – Vocal Specialist
Mr Neil Hall – Percussion Specialist
Mr Aidan Arnold – Double Bass and Electric Bass Specialist
Mrs Vivienne Collier-Vickers – Brass Specialist
Mr Jamie Kennedy – Brass Specialist
Mr Gary Green – Guitar Specialist

Contact us:

Music Department Office phone: 3906 8908
Kirsten Hudson – ionamusic@iona.qld.edu.au

Brian L'Huillier phone: 3893 8872
email: lhuillierb@iona.qld.edu.au

Music Supporters Group

The Music Supporters Group consists of parents who volunteer their time to assist the music department.

The MSG have most recently worked together to deliver a brand new music library system with cabinetry and dedicated files to house our sheet music collection. In the past MSG have contributed a variety of musical instruments including our Sports Band equipment, music stand lighting and a PA system. The MSG also help with the smooth running of concerts and have helped feed our musicians at workshops or evening rehearsals.

We would love you to join us so if you are thinking about supporting the College with a little bit of your time and energy please let us know.

MSG Contact: Kirsten Hudson – 3906 3908, ionamusic@iona.qld.edu.au