

Music- Instrumental programme

Recognised senior study

Recognised

Recommendations

It is recommended that students have an interest in music. Students may have studied Music in Years 7 to 10, but it is not essential.

Rationale

Instrumental Music provides students with opportunities to become musicians by experiencing the expressive qualities of music through learning to play a band or orchestral instrument and participating in concert bands and orchestras as performance ensembles. The programme extends students' musical experience through the development of music literacy, technique and performance.

Music literacy is integral to students becoming musicians as they learn to decode, interpret and understand what is meant by all that is written on the music, and to demonstrate that understanding through what they play on their instrument. Literacy includes instrument knowledge, symbols and terms, rhythm and melody, and sight reading. The skills and technique involved in playing an instrument are wide-ranging and complex and are refined over a long period of time. Technique develops specific skills of how to best play the instrument. It includes posture, tuning and intonation, tone, articulation, pitch repertoire. Good technique is essential for musicians. Performance synthesises literacy and technique. It includes solo and ensemble performances. Students take the individual skills and techniques learned beyond what is on the page in lessons and practice. They stylistically apply artistry and creativity to produce a holistic and musical performance in front of an audience, demonstrating musical performer protocols and individual flair.

Engagement in the programme improves the quality of perception and self-expression by fostering the acquisition of musical skills, thereby increasing aesthetic sensibility, cultural awareness and social-emotional engagement. Through the lens of music, students are empowered to make sense of their world.

Pathways

A course of study in Instrumental Music can establish a basis for further education and employment in a range of fields of arts practice, as a performing musician as soloist, ensemble member, session musician, or in broader creative industries and cultural institutions, film and television, music production, teaching, sound engineering, technology, arts administration. Music skills are also transferable and complementary to other performing arts subjects and industries.

Objectives

By the conclusion of the course of study, students will:

- complete music literacy, technique and performance elements of the curriculum programme
- develop their musical skills, style, confidence as a musician, music appreciation
- engage in General Capabilities that complement their musicianship such as critical and creative thinking, personal and social skills, digital literacy, communication, collaborative team work to become confident and capable musicians

Delivery (mode, time requirements, lessons)

Instrumental Music as QCAA Recognised study contains Education Queensland curriculum requirements from which schools develop their course of study. To obtain one QCE point for Instrumental Music, there is notional time of 55 hours of teaching and learning, including practical and theoretical assessment, which students complete over 37 weeks. Students fulfil weekly contact time of one hour ensemble rehearsal, one 30-35 min. group lesson, regular home practice, and assessments. Students have access to their ensemble and a lesson session with a teacher each week, delivered via the online learning management system. Students are also expected to undertake weekly practice to complete tasks and assessment in accordance with the Work Rate Calendar. Regular communication with teachers, visual, verbal and written, is expected. Course resources can be accessed online within Australia. Overseas access online must be arranged by parents/carers through Cairns SDE's Education Queensland State Schooling application procedures.

Student requirements

Computer, reliable access to internet, headset with microphone, scanner (and if needed, a printer), USB/ external hard drive, exercise book, display folder. Music equipment- personal music device and speaker. Audio and video recording device for recording performance assessment tasks. First lessons, and the Cairns SDE website's 'Getting Started' and 'IT Support' pages assist with the clarification of Requirements.

At Cairns SDE, woodwind and brass instruments are the instruments offered in the programme. Information about other instruments is available via The Arts enquiries. Enrolment is first via subject selection, and administrative forms and finance process completion particular to the programme. The Arts Curriculum staff will require information about beginner status, or about any previous and/or current music training and industry involvement. A student-specific combination of any parent/carers' information, documentation, video or video links, and/or a scheduled MS Teams meeting will be needed, to establish current student level, goals, and lesson grouping.

Students may already own or have access to an instrument. For other students trialling a new instrument, there is an option to hire one for the first year or so, prior to family investment in a purchased instrument. Cairns SDE has these instruments available for hire to Instrumental Music programme students: flute, clarinet, bass clarinet, alto saxophone, tenor saxophone, trumpet and trombone. An EQ 11 form will be available during enrolment should instrument hire be required. Instruments are returned after the final performance of the calendar year, for regular servicing arranged by Cairns SDE.

Structure

Term 1	Term 2	Term 3	Term 4
Music Literacy, Technique, Performance Progression	Music Literacy, Technique, Performance Progression	Music Literacy, Technique, Performance Progression	Music Literacy, Technique, Performance Progression

Assessment

Formative assessment

Regular Music Literacy, Technique, Performance practise and discussion demonstrates progress.

Summative assessment

Term 1	Term 2
Time commitment met: ensemble, lessons. Music Literacy, Technique, Performance objectives assessed according to instrument and level of study.	Time commitment met: ensemble, lessons. Music Literacy, Technique, Performance objectives assessed according to instrument and level of study.

Term 3	Term 4
Time commitment met: ensemble, lessons. Music Literacy, Technique, Performance objectives assessed according to instrument and level of study.	Time commitment met: ensemble, lessons. Music Literacy, Technique, Performance objectives assessed according to instrument and level of study.

Recognised study- Instrumental Music Curriculum contains assessment specifications and conditions for the assessment instruments that must be implemented to ensure comparability, equity and validity in assessment. Schools develop assessments accordingly to meet QCAA auditing requirements. Students will also receive an overall subject result (A–E).

Disclaimer All of the above information is accurate at the time of publication.