

# Music

## OPPORTUNITIES

# 2024

## INSTRUMENTAL AND VOCAL GENERAL INFORMATION

When you apply for individual music lessons we will endeavour to place you immediately with an appropriate tutor. However, if no position is available your child will be placed on a waiting list and a letter/email will be sent to you informing you of this. As soon as a position becomes available with a suitable tutor, lessons may commence.

The following ages may be used as a guide to indicate when your child will be physically ready to start learning particular instruments. Please note that this is a guide only and that all children develop at different rates and have differing levels of music ability and interest.

Piano .....	Year 2	Trumpet.....	Year 4
Flute .....	Year 4	Bass Guitar .....	Year 4
Violin.....	Year 2 / 3	Double Bass .....	Year 5
Voice .....	Year 3	Alto/Tenor/Baritone Sax.....	Year 6/7
Drums.....	Year 3	Trombone.....	Year 5
Guitar .....	Year 3 / 4		
Clarinet .....	Year 4		

### INSTRUMENTAL GENERAL INFORMATION

- Visiting instrumental tutors provide private tuition on campus. Most are self-employed and not employed by Tenison Woods College. Some faculty staff provide tuition at the school.
- All students having lessons whether new or continuing MUST complete the 'Application to Learn an Instrument' form that must then be processed by the Music Office.
- There may be waiting lists for some instrumental/vocal lessons.
- The College provides an instrument hire system that can be accessed by families.
- The Head of Performing Arts is supported by the Performing Arts Administrator who has key responsibility for learning in the music area.
- These lessons are generally half an hour and students leave their classes to attend these lessons.

### STUDENTS/PARENTS/CARERS WILL BE REQUESTED TO:

- Notify the instrumental/vocal tutors directly if the student is unable to attend the music lesson (excursion, etc).
- Send payment directly to the instrumental/vocal tutor. Consistent late payment or non-payment of fees may result in the school being reluctant to offer instrumental/vocal lessons in the future.
- Be prepared for their instrumental/vocal lessons. Students should be on-time and bring with them their instrument and music.
- Have the use of an instrument for private practice (where possible). Parents wishing to purchase a new or used instrument are welcome to seek advice from music staff. The hire of instruments is available through the school.
- In order to make steady progress, students should develop a regular practice routine. Parental guidance in this regard is most beneficial.

### ATTENDANCE

- The student should attend all scheduled lessons. The instrumental/vocal tutor must be given, where possible 24 hours notice in advance if the student will be absent.
- Should a student be ill on the morning of their lesson please email or phone the instrumental/vocal tutor personally before school hours.
- Please advise tutors if students will be away from school on camps or excursions; or if there is a special event or test on that day. If possible alert the tutor well in advance of the date, so that alternative arrangements can be made.
- Please do not leave messages with the Music Department or College administration staff, as a tutor may not receive the message on time.
- If no reasonable advance notice of absence is given, students will incur the usual lesson charge.

### TUITION FEES

- Fees are paid at a unit price per 30 minute lesson and will vary between instruments.
- Exact prices are available on direct consultation with the instrumental/vocal tutor.
- As a rough guide, lessons range from approximately \$30 - \$35 per half hour.

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### PAYMENT OF TUITION FEES

Parents are requested to send payment directly to the instrumental/vocal tutor. Tutors who are Tenison Woods College Staff will invoice families with their school fees and need to have enquiries directed through music administration. If fees are not paid, lessons may be discontinued at the discretion of the instrumental/vocal tutor. If there is any difficulty regarding payment, parents should contact the instrumental/vocal tutor to discuss the matter. Consistent late payment or non-payment of fees may result in the school being reluctant to offer instrumental lessons in the future.

### PRACTICE

In order to make steady progress, students should develop a regular practice routine of at least 15 minutes per day is recommended. Efficient practice each day will yield better results than spasmodic efforts. Parental support in this aspect is essential for success. After 12 months progress on an instrument/voice, it would add to the learning experience for the student to join an ensemble at school (when recommended by their instrumental/vocal tutor). After consultation between the student, the parents, the instrumental/vocal tutor, school music staff (and possibly an audition process), students may join an ensemble. In the case of vocal students it is advisable that they be involved in one of the many school choirs.

***Suggested Practice Routine:*** • 1/4 Session Warm-up / Technique • 1/2 Session Pieces • 1/4 Session Ensemble Pieces

### MUSIC

At the discretion of the instrumental/vocal tutor students may be encouraged to purchase music books for their ongoing learning.

### HIRE

College instruments (except guitar, bass guitar, drums and keyboard) are available for hire. The hire of instruments is available through the school. Please fill in and sign the *Application Form for Instrument and Tuition Hire*. If a student discontinues lessons or changes instruments, the original instrument must be returned to Music Staff immediately, examined by a staff member and then signed back in. The Music Department will not cancel or alter the hiring arrangement unless this procedure has been followed. If an instrument is returned during the academic year, a proportional hire refund will be credited to the college fee account. Instrument case interior must be cleaned before they are returned. More advanced students are encouraged to buy their own instruments in order to make the College instruments available for new students. Parents wishing to purchase a new or used instrument are welcome to seek advice from Music Staff.

### MAINTENANCE

Students and parents are reminded that they are responsible for the safekeeping of instruments during the hire period. If an instrument is lost or damaged in any way, please inform a member of staff promptly so that the appropriate action can be taken. Music and books should not be rolled up or jammed into instrument cases – this can damage the musical instrument. Instrumental tutors have been asked to periodically check the condition and cleanliness of school owned instruments. Urgent repairs are done during the term, otherwise general maintenance will take place at a suitable time. Students are expected to clean instruments regularly and should seek the assistance of instrumental staff in this matter. All students must take their instruments home over the holidays and are asked to take particular care when transporting instruments. The College covers the cost of general maintenance of College instruments, however, parents will be expected to pay for excessive damage and/or neglect, or replacement of the instrument if lost. College instruments in need of repair are to be given to a Music Staff member. Parents and students are requested not to undertake their own repairs or make their own arrangements for the repair of College instruments.

### STORAGE

All instruments are to be stored on the racks provided near the Music Office. Instruments should be taken home at the end of the school day. Privately owned instruments – Students who bring a privately owned instrument to school should ensure that the case is clearly labelled to distinguish it from other instruments which may appear similar. For your own benefit, it is advisable to write down the serial number and any distinguishing features of the instrument. If the instrument is lost at any time, this will make its recovery much easier. Families are advised to have appropriate insurance cover.

### REPORTS

Instrumental/vocal reports are issued with College reports at the end of Term 2 and Term 4.

### EXAMS

During the year, students may be required to undertake practical assessments within their music classes. Students and staff will be notified of the requirements as necessary. The department also encourages students to sit for relevant AMEB and other nationally and internationally recognised examinations. These can contribute to SACE credits at higher levels.