

S T J O S E P H S
NUD G E E
C O L L E G E



MUSIC HANDBOOK 2026

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Welcome to the Nudgee College (NC) Music Program

This handbook provides information to help parents/caregivers understand what is being offered to support your child's music development. Whether your child is interested in trying out an instrument for the first time, wishes to continue lessons, or has advanced musical skills and knowledge, our Music Tutors can adapt to every students' needs.

Please read the following information carefully and keep it for reference. Feedback is important to us and you are invited to contact the Music Team (music@nudgee.qld.edu.au) at any time.

When a student is unable to attend a co-curricular commitment due to a clash with another scheduled Nudgee College co-curricular activity, the student, parent, or caregiver must notify all relevant parties via email. This includes both co-curricular staff (e.g. the chess coach and basketball year group coordinator) and the directors of each activity (e.g. the director of rugby and coordinator of performance music). All parties will make every reasonable effort to find a workable solution to the scheduling conflict, rather than discontinuing one activity to resolve the clash. In-term GPS activities (e.g. debating, volleyball, cricket, music in Term 1) take priority over pre-season activities.

Broad Aims of the Music Program

The aim of NC Music is to develop students' musical, social and personal awareness through participation in instrumental or vocal music instruction, ensemble, rehearsal and performance. Undertaking the study of music not only involves the learning of new skills, it also teaches important organisation and time management, as students are given the responsibility of managing their lesson timetables.

Students will be encouraged to participate in a wide variety of musical ensembles and activities, allowing them to experience the joys of music making and to stimulate their creativity. In addition to involvement in other Performing Arts activities, Sport and Social Justice, Music will enhance the academic life of each student during their time at Nudgee College.

Music Team (Ensemble) Requirements

NC Music is a team-based program. It is strongly encouraged that all students involved in Music tuition participate in a NC Music team. These groups rehearse once a week to build a repertoire of material suitable for public performances. This enables students to progress on their instrument and allows several performance opportunities each year. Notices of major performances are marked in the College calendar and information about upcoming performances will be sent home via the College App and email.

Those students excelling in their Core teams may be invited to join or audition for an Extension Ensemble - they will remain in their Core team to develop leadership skills and assist other students.

Becoming a member of any NC Music team is a serious commitment for the whole year. Attendance at rehearsals and performances is compulsory. Students who are unable to attend must inform their conductor in advance. Music must be prepared and learnt outside rehearsals (at home and in lessons).

Music Teams



Core Music Teams

- Percussion Ensemble
- Drumline
- Junior Drumline
- Junior Guitar Ensemble
- Guitar Ensemble
- Competition Choir
- Treblemakers (Primary Choir)
- NC Brotherhood (Secondary Choir)
- Junior Concert Band
- Intermediate Concert Band
- NC Symphonic Band
- Allegro Strings
- Chamber Strings

Extension Music Teams

All extension teams are auditioned entry only, and participants must also be a member of a Core Team.

- NC Stage Band
- Rock Band 1
- Rock Band 2
- Rock Band 3
- Rock Band 4
- Rock Band 5
- String Quartet
- Jazz Ensemble
- Woodwind Ensemble
- Junior Big Band

Lessons Available

Strings

- Violin
- Viola
- Cello
- Double Bass
- Acoustic Guitar
- Electric Guitar
- Bass Guitar

Woodwind

- Flute
- Clarinet
- Saxophone
- Oboe
- Bassoon

Brass

- Trumpet
- French Horn
- Trombone
- Euphonium
- Tuba

Other

- Piano
- Voice
- Percussion
- Drumkit
- Music Theory

Enrolling in Lessons

Please complete the Private Tuition Application Form to enrol your son in private tuition at the College.

Ms Janelle Harding (jha@nudgee.qld.edu.au) will be able to answer any questions, and direct you to the most suitable Music Tutor.

Individual participation in external music examinations or competitions/eisteddfods is encouraged and is entirely at the discretion of the student and parent/ caregiver, in consultation with the Music Tutor. Additional costs for exam fees and accompaniment fees will be charged to parents for these activities.





Lesson Structure

Students receive one lesson per week with a specialist Music Tutor on the student's chosen instrument. Lessons occur during regular school hours and students will be permitted to leave their scheduled class to attend lessons. The lessons are 30 minutes in duration and are delivered in either individual or small group settings. Students learning in a group will be matched with other students of a similar standard. Group lessons are not available for all instruments.

Students will attend lessons according to a rotating timetable to minimise the impact on any particular school subject.

A timetable will be provided to students detailing the lesson time for each week for the duration of the term. Some lessons may be offered outside class time at the Music Tutor's discretion - priority is given to students in Years 11 and 12.

It is the student's responsibility to know when their scheduled lesson for each week is. Music Tutors will provide your son with Google Calendar appointments along with email communication of lesson times. Students are expected to attend all lessons and bring all music books, ensemble music and their instrument to each lesson.

In the event of student absence and sufficient prior notice being received (24 hours via email to the Music Tutor), lessons may be rescheduled, but it is dependent upon room and teacher availability. In the event of student or staff absence, rescheduling of lessons is not guaranteed. The fee per term does take into account staff absences and College events throughout the year. When a student is absent from a lesson without explanation, and not due to a College event, parents will be notified.

Tuition Fees

Group Tuition

- **\$240 per term**

The boys will come out of class for one 30-minute lesson per week with a small group from their year level who plays the same instrument. The group lessons will have a minimum of two boys and maximum of five boys allocated to each group. The College will allocate the boys to lesson groups depending on the applications received. Group tuition is only available in Year 5 and 6.

Private Tuition

- **\$340 per term**

In a private lesson, the students have a one-on-one instrumental lesson with the Music Tutor. The boys are withdrawn from class for a 30-minute private lesson once a week on a rotating schedule. Students also have the option to take part in ANZCA or AMEB musical examinations if they choose.

Fees will be invoiced by the College at the beginning of each Term. The same amount will be charged per term irrespective of the length of the term. Fees are not charged on a per lesson basis, rather the goal is to have weekly lessons during each school term. It is the responsibility of the student to ensure they attend all scheduled lessons and notify the Music Tutor of any conflicts to their lesson time.

Cancellation

Cancellations will be accepted at the end of the term only. Cancellation forms must be received by the last school day of the current term, or two weeks before the commencement of Term 1, for the cancellation to take effect from the beginning of the year. Fees will not be refunded if a student wishes to withdraw immediately during the term. If you wish to cancel, please email Ms Harding at music@nudgee.qld.edu.au to request the cancellation form.

For Year 12 students, lessons will cease at the conclusion of Term 3. A cancellation is not required for Year 12 students at this time.

Year 5 Immersion Program

On entry to the College in Year 5, students participate in a compulsory Instrumental Immersion Program. After completing testing to determine the right instrument, students are provided with the use of an instrument and an accompanying music book for the year. They receive small group lessons with Music Tutors, form an ensemble with their peers, and have accompanying lessons in their core class to enhance their theory and aural skills.

Should a student have learnt an instrument beforehand, a new instrument from another orchestral family is chosen for them. Boys do however have the opportunity to continue their original instrument through the Co-Curricular Music Program and participate in ensembles appropriate to their instrument and level.

On completion of the Year 5 Immersion Program, students are highly encouraged to continue learning their instrument in Year 6 and beyond. Group lessons are available for Year 6 students to participate in at a discounted rate.





Instruments, Books and Consumables

Instruments

NC Music has a number of beginner-standard instruments that are available for student use without additional charges. It is expected that ongoing rentals are returned to the College over Christmas break to be serviced (if deemed necessary by your child's Music Tutor).

Any damages to the instrument will also be charged to parents during the loan period if a student is found responsible.

Parents will need to complete the Instrumental Agreement Form accepting these terms and conditions before an instrument can be released on loan.

It is highly recommended that as students progress above beginner standard, they source their own personal instrument. Instruments should be brought to school for lessons and rehearsals.

During the school day, instruments can be left in the instrument store room on the lower level of the Cleary Building. Nudgee College accepts no responsibility for any damages to students' personal property.

Music Books and Consumable Items

It is the parents' responsibility to purchase any music books required for lessons. Your son's Music Tutor will be able to recommend retailers to purchase these items.

Any consumables for long term instrument loans such as reeds, oil, grease, strings, rosin, etc. are to be supplied by parents.

Performance Uniform

Unless otherwise advised, the Winter Uniform (white shirt, tie and blazer) is required for performances.



Communication

NC Music aims to include its parent body in the Music Program. It is essential that teachers and parents alike support and encourage students in their practices and performances. Information is relayed to parents via emails and via the NC Music Team App. It is recognised that parental support is essential to the successful running of the program. NC Music endeavours to maintain meaningful and regular contact with parents in order to ensure that the needs of our students and their families are met.

For a student to make progress on their musical journey, regular practice is essential. We ask that you assist us in the musical training of your child by ensuring that his instrument is taken home and practised at least five times each week. Beginning students should start with about 10-15 minutes a day, increasing to 20-30 minutes a day for intermediate students and up to 60 minutes a day for advanced musicians. A certain amount of practice must be completed regularly simply to maintain a level of ability. If you don't practise, you go backwards!

Parents/caregivers should monitor their child's practice where practical.

Effective practice occurs when:

- A space is organised for practice away from distractions (television, people, pets, etc.)
- A set time is allocated for practice each day
- Parents comment positively on improvements in their child's playing, and refrain from making any disparaging remarks

If you would like to contribute more, please consider joining the Arts Committee. Please see Mr Sam Smith (ssm@nudgee.qld.edu.au) for more information about the committee.

We look forward to welcoming you and your son into the NC Music Program, and hope to have years of wonderful experiences together!



Mr Sam Smith
Director of Performing Arts



Mrs Janelle Harding
Coordinator of Performance Music





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