



# Music Handbook

/ 2023 Edition



CHRISTIAN  
BROTHERS  
COLLEGE

**THE  
WORLD  
BEFORE  
US.**



# Music at CBC

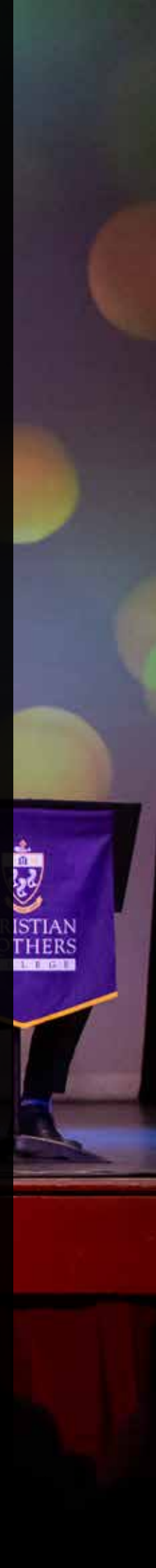
The Christian Brothers College Instrumental/Vocal and Co-Curricular Music Programmes have grown exponentially over the last 9 years, to become a widely known and well-respected programme in Adelaide. Co-curricular music is 'the face' of our College's music program. It is when doing co-curricular music that students have the opportunity to perform in a 'real' musical setting, as either a singer or instrumentalist. By becoming a member of any one of our many co-curricular music ensembles, students gain a large number of musical skills and experiences, however, the benefits reach far beyond this... What are the benefits of joining a Co-curricular Music Ensemble?

A large body of recent research tells us that: Students who learn an instrument and join an ensemble can have greater academic success. Learning an instrument and being part of an ensemble can provide students with greater social inclusion and positive experiences with others. These aspects can, and often have, changed the course of students' lives, through feeling more included, finding "their tribe", and gaining greater social acceptance and helping to greatly improve their self-image. Students who are part of an ensemble are engaging in rich learning experiences and gain lifelong skills. Engaging in an ensemble enables creative expression and increases confidence in students.

This document outlines what is available to students with instrumental/vocal music lessons and co-curricular ensembles at Christian Brothers College. Please read this document carefully and keep it on hand as it will prove a useful tool on many occasions throughout the year. You will need to refer to this document from time to time, as there are often questions that may arise in relation to ensemble and instrumental/vocal lesson commitments from time to time. The intention of the guidelines contained within this booklet, is to clarify any questions you may have and inform you of the procedures that are in place. If you have any further questions regarding the music programmes at the College, please contact Hamish Buckley on 8400 4275 or email [hbuckley@cbc.sa.edu.au](mailto:hbuckley@cbc.sa.edu.au).

## Music at CBC:

- is participatory
- integrates listening, performing (singing and playing), composing
- promotes both individual and social aspects of music-making
- develops creative thinking
- assists in the development of the whole person (sensory, physical, intellectual, personal, emotional, cultural, and sense of community)
- is fun and challenging



# Curricular

## Junior Campus

In Junior School, classroom music is incorporated into a holistic performing arts programme. From Reception to Year 2 the programme focuses on singing, movement, enjoyment, fun, communication and participation.

From Years 3–6 students begin to transfer their learning to playing percussion instruments and participating in class ensembles and composition. The opportunity to learn an instrument to complement the classroom musical experience is also offered and encouraged.

## Senior Campus

The curriculum in the Senior Campus is based around real-life learning projects and 21st-Century learning. Students develop skills and knowledge in music literacy, performance and creative technologies.

Students in Year 7 and 8 participate in one semester of music. From Year 8, the Elective Music Course provides a sound basis and

background of experiences for students to take SACE Music Stage 1 and 2. All Elective Music students are encouraged to take weekly 30-minute instrumental or vocal lessons and participate in a class ensemble, supplemented by relevant theoretical components.

Year 8 students with no previous experience are encouraged to learn a concert band instrument. Advanced piano students who wish to major in that instrument in senior years are encouraged to gain experience on another instrument in order to participate actively in ensembles where there are only limited positions available for keyboard players.

It is expected that students give a three year commitment to the subject in order to gain the maximum benefit from tuition, normal hire fees and to consolidate their own efforts.



# Extra-Curricular

CBC provides a range of ensembles for musicians who achieve the appropriate skills level on their instrument or voice. Students learning a musical instrument from a CBC instrumental teacher are required to participate in an ensemble appropriate for their age, ability and instrument as soon as they are able. Participation in an ensemble is dependent on students learning their instrument from an instrumental teacher as this enables the music to be taught in a one-on-one manner and the standard of the ensemble is improved. Playing in a large ensemble is the means through which the social and interactive nature of playing and learning a musical instrument is developed; it is an essential aspect of being a musician. There is no cost to being a member of an ensemble at CBC, except your time and commitment.

CBC has a number of ensembles in which students can participate including:

## Junior Campus

Junior Concert Band	B Vocal (Yrs 3-4)
Intermediate Concert Band	Junior Percussion Ensemble
Junior Guitar Ensemble	String Ensemble
Festival Choir (Yr 5-6)	Junior Rock Band

## Senior Campus

Big Band 1	Senior Percussion Ensemble
Big Band 2	Ensemble
Senior Concert Band	Jazz Combo
Vocal Project	Rock Band 1
Senior Guitar Ensemble	Rock Band 2
Senior Vocal Ensemble	Rock Band 3

Ensembles in the Junior Campus primarily rehearse during class time whilst Senior Campus ensembles rehearse either before school, recess or after school. Most ensembles are open to join at any stage however some require an audition.

## Conditions of Membership of an Ensemble

### Rehearsals and Performances

Students are expected to attend all rehearsals and performances within the calendar year. In the case of an unforeseen absence, ensemble directors **must be informed in advance**, by note from a parent or via email to [music@cbc.sa.edu.au](mailto:music@cbc.sa.edu.au). Emails to this address will be forwarded to both the Music Assistant and Ensemble Director.

Should a child not attend and no reason is given, the parent/guardian of the child will be

contacted to advise of the absence. **Absentee notes and messages must come from the parent/guardian of the ensemble member, not the child.** Any student who misses a number of ensemble rehearsals or is continually late to rehearsals, without just cause; and/or found not to be contributing positively to the ensemble; will be asked to discontinue being a member of that ensemble.

In the unforeseen event a student is unable to participate in a performance, communication from parents/caregivers is required a minimum of 2 weeks before the performance. If a student fails to attend a performance without notification, they may be disqualified from further participation in the ensemble. If a student is sick and unable to perform they must notify the Head of Learning – Performing Arts and Ensemble Director as soon as possible

### Music Camp and Generations in Jazz

All students in Senior Campus ensembles (except Rock Bands) are required to attend Music Camp in Term 1. In addition, students in Big Band 1 or 2, Jazz Combo and Senior Vocal Ensemble will be required to participate in the Generations in Jazz festival in Mount Gambier (approximate cost \$570).

### Behaviour

Students must be courteous at all times, patient, cooperative, reliable, enthusiastic and keen to learn. A successful ensemble relies on personal commitment and team effort. Inappropriate behaviour will not be tolerated. Each student is expected to help with the set up and packing away of chairs and stands at the beginning and end of each rehearsal. A pencil should be brought to all rehearsals

### Practice

Students are expected to practice their ensemble repertoire at home regularly and with their instrumental or vocal tutor. Parents are encouraged to support their children in regular practice. Students are expected to come to rehearsals prepared for the music that will be rehearsed.



## Junior Campus Ensembles

### **B Vocal**

The Super Singers is a group that consists of students from Years 3 and 4. The choir focuses on achieving a high standard of performance whilst singing fun and engaging repertoire.

### **Festival Choir**

This choir performs as part of the Catholic Schools Music Festival which is held at the Festival Theatre at the end of Term 3. The choir combines with other schools to form a massed choir of approximately 300 students. The choir is for Years 5 and 6 students only.

### **Junior Concert Band**

The Junior Concert Band is for any woodwind, brass, percussion or keyboard student that has just begun learning an instrument. Students are invited to join once they reach a desired level. Students play a range of repertoire and focus on developing skills on their instrument and playing in an ensemble.

### **Junior Rock Band**

The Junior Rock Band is an audition-based ensemble for voice, guitar, keyboard, bass guitar and drum students in the Junior Campus. The ensemble performs a range of rock/pop repertoire.

### **Intermediate Concert Band**

Students who learn woodwind, brass and percussion are invited to join the Intermediate Concert Band. Entry is by audition or invitation only. Students play a range of repertoire including movie themes and pop/rock songs. The ensemble helps students further their ensemble skills in preparation for moving to the Senior Campus.

### **Guitar Ensemble**

The Junior Campus Guitar Ensemble is open to all students that learn guitar both internally or externally. Students are required to play acoustic guitar and must have the ability to read music.

### **Percussion Ensemble**

The Percussion Ensemble is open to all students that learn percussion both internally or externally. Students play a variety of tuned and untuned percussion instruments from a wide selection of repertoire.

### **String Ensemble**

The String Ensemble caters for all students in the Junior Campus that learn a string instrument. The ensemble performs a range of classical and contemporary repertoire.



## Senior Campus Ensembles

### **Big Band 1 and 2**

The Big Band is an audition based ensemble that performs swing, Latin and funk repertoire. The ensemble performs at many school functions throughout the year and also participates at Generations in Jazz in Mount Gambier each year.

### **Senior Concert Band**

The Senior Campus Concert Band is open to all students from Years 7–12 that learn a woodwind, brass, string or percussion instrument. The ensemble performs a variety of repertoire including movie themes, show tunes and pop/rock hits.

### **Vocal Project**

The Vocal Project is a choir/rock band open to all students from Years 7–12. Student voice is central to the ensemble with students actively involved in the selection of repertoire and playing guitar, drums, bass and horns.

### **Guitar Ensemble**

The Senior Campus Guitar Ensemble is open to all students that learn guitar both internally or externally. They play a range of contemporary and classical repertoire.

### **Percussion Ensemble**

The Percussion Ensemble is open to all students that learn percussion both internally or externally. Students play a variety of tuned and untuned percussion instruments from a wide selection of repertoire.

### **Rock Band**

The Rock Band is an audition-based ensemble for voice, guitar, bass guitar and drum students. The ensemble performs a range of rock/pop repertoire.

### **Senior Vocal Ensemble**

The Senior Vocal Ensemble is an audition based choir for students whose voices have broken. The ensemble performs a range of repertoire including jazz, sacred, contemporary and pop. The ensemble also participates at Generations in Jazz in Mount Gambier each year. Students are expected to also be a member of the Vocal Project.

### **Jazz Combo**

This group fosters the opportunity for students to learn basic improvisational techniques and perform many jazz standard charts. Entry is by audition.

## Instrumental Tuition

Instrumental Tuition is available on the following instruments:

Double Bass	Piano
Electric Bass	Saxophone
Cello	Trombone
Clarinet	Trumpet
Drums/Percussion	Tuba
Euphonium	Tuned Percussion
Flute	Viola
French Horn	Violin
Acoustic Guitar	Voice
Electric Guitar (SC only)	

**To apply for lessons, parents are required to submit a form on the SEQTA Music Portal.**

Instrumental tutors are recommended to charge between \$34-\$36 per half hour lesson for individual lessons and \$22 per half hour shared lesson. Shared lessons are not encouraged from years 7-12.

## Lesson Allocation

Instrumental lessons usually take place during the school day. In the Junior Campus, lessons are on a rotating basis and students are collected for their lesson by the Instrumental Tutors. In the Senior Campus, lessons are on a rotating basis and students are required to attend their lesson on time. Preference is given to senior students requesting lessons during lunch, recess, before or after school. These preferences are exceptions only. Generally, a particular College lesson should not be missed more than twice per term so that there is no serious interruption to work.

Please note that specific lesson time requests will be considered (e.g. avoiding clashes with certain subjects), however this cannot be guaranteed.

### Timetables

Instrumental lesson times are entered into SEQTA and will appear on students' timetables. Students should check their lesson time on the morning of their lesson.

### Lesson Attendance

If students are unable to attend a lesson it is





their responsibility to arrange a swap by mutual agreement with another student or an alternative lesson time with the tutor. CBC is not responsible for advising instrumental tutors about planned absences, including school events. In the case of sickness, please contact the instrumental tutors directly by at least 7:30am. If a student misses an instrumental lesson without giving the tutor prior notification, the tutor is entitled to charge for this lesson. Tutors may make up or refund one lesson per term due to pre-advised sicknesses or events. It is up to the tutor's discretion if they make-up or refund any more lessons in a term. In the case of a tutor being absent, he/she is obliged to make up the lesson or adjust the account accordingly at the end of the year.

### **Payment of Tuition Fees**

Accounts will be issued by Instrumental Tutors and are payable within two weeks of receipt. Payment must be made directly to the tutor and not to CBC. In the case of fees not being paid, lessons may be discontinued. Should there be any difficulty regarding payment, please make early contact with the tutor in the first instance or the Head of Learning - Performing Arts.

### **Termination of Lessons**

A commitment to lessons must be made for an entire term. If lessons are to be discontinued for a subsequent term, notice is required to the instrumental/vocal tutor from the parent/caregiver by the end of Week 9 of the current term or by negotiation with the instrumental tutor in conjunction with the Head of Learning - Performing Arts. Parents/caregivers must complete the 'Termination of Instrumental Tuition' form on the SEQTA Music Portal. If notification is not received in due time, the next semester's fee may be payable.

### **Reports**

Instrumental Reports will be issued with the general school reports each semester. It is strongly recommended that students studying an instrument sit AMEB exams or the like.

### **Practice**

In order to make steady progress, students should develop a regular practice routine. Efficient practice each day will yield better results than spasmodic efforts. Parental guidance and encouragement in this regard is most beneficial.





## Instruments

### Hire

The college has a limited amount of instruments to hire, including flute, clarinet, trombone, trumpet and saxophone. Priority is given to students that are new to learning an instrument and is at the discretion of the classroom music teachers. Instrument hire fees are as follows:

Instrument	Per Semester
Acoustic Guitar	\$100
Cello	\$230
Clarinet	\$155
Double Bass	\$400
Electric Guitar	\$155
Electric Bass	\$165
Euphonium	\$280
Flute	\$155
French Horn	\$280
Percussion	\$145
Saxophone	\$285
Trombone	\$155
Trumpet	\$155
Tuba	\$300
Viola	\$125
Violin	\$110

If a student discontinues lessons or changes instruments, the original instrument must be returned to the Music Administrator immediately. It will be examined by a staff member and then signed back into the hire store. A record of instrument return will then be mailed to parents confirming the proper return of the instrument.

Instruments must be returned by the end of the semester otherwise the next semester's fee may apply.

The Music Department will not cancel or alter the hiring arrangement unless the procedure outlined in the hire agreement has been followed.

### Purchase

More advanced students are encouraged to buy their own instruments in order to make the College instruments available for new students. Where the instruments are in the higher price range (e.g. bassoon or oboe) the College is prepared to hire these until the senior years. Should a large number of students continue hiring, the programme could be seriously restricted. Instrumental and departmental staff should be consulted regarding the purchase of a suitable instrument.



## 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 the Head of Learning - Performing Arts 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 music and instruments.

Instrumental tutors have been asked to periodically check the condition and cleanliness of 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 if the instrument is lost. College instruments in need of repair are to be given to a member of the music department staff. Parents and students are requested not to undertake their own repairs or make their own arrangements for the repair of instruments.

## Storage

In the Junior Campus instruments are to be stored in the shelving outside the music rooms or in the students classroom. In the Senior Campus, instruments are to be stored in the music storage area on the ground floor of the Centre of Innovation and Learning. Generally, instruments should not be left in the storeroom overnight. 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 and also give this information to the music staff. If the instrument is lost at any time, this will make its recovery much easier. Families are advised to have appropriate insurance cover.



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[www.cbc.sa.edu.au](http://www.cbc.sa.edu.au)

**A Co-Ed ELC and R-Year 12 Catholic College for Boys in the Edmund Rice Tradition**

**Senior Campus** 214 Wakefield Street, Adelaide P 08 8400 4200 **Junior Campus** 324 Wakefield Street, Adelaide P 08 8400 4222

**Early Learning Centre** 178 East Terrace, Adelaide P 08 8223 5469 **Email** [enquiries@cbc.sa.edu.au](mailto:enquiries@cbc.sa.edu.au)