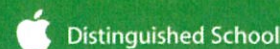


Mount Ousley Public School

McGrath Street, Fairy Meadow NSW 2519
T: 02 4285 4211 E: info@mops.nsw.edu.au
W: www.mops.nsw.edu.au



Dear Parents,

The **Wollongong Conservatorium of Music** is working with our school to run a band program in 2018.

Students from years K-6 who are interested in playing a wind or brass instrument are invited to join the program. We also welcome new guitarists and drummers.

- New students do not need to have any prior experience to join the band. The program will cater for absolute beginners.
- Students with prior experience are welcome, but we will be starting from the beginning.
- Students do not need to take music lessons outside the school band. Basic playing techniques will be covered in the band class. Of course it will greatly benefit the students to sign up with a teacher at the Con for lessons, but it is certainly not a requirement at this stage.

Instrument choice

- Flute
- Clarinet*
- Alto saxophone
- Trumpet
- Trombone
- Baritone
- Bass guitar
- Guitar
- Drums

Please note: we do not offer keyboard as a band instrument. For students learning piano, band can be a good opportunity to learn a second instrument.

*If you are unsure about which instrument to play, the clarinet is a good option. The band method suits beginning clarinet players and the band sounds great with a large clarinet section. There is always an option to swap over to saxophone in later years.

Cost

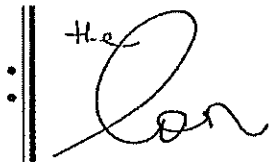
The cost is capped at \$10 per week for tuition fees. If sufficient students join the band, we may be able to reduce this fee. You will also need to purchase or hire an instrument if you do not already have one.

Materials

Students should bring the following to each rehearsal:

- ✓ Instrument
- ✓ Method book – Essential Elements Book 1
- ✓ Folder or plastic sleeve for music and handouts
- ✓ Pencil

Peter Holmes
Principal
05/02/18



Instruments & Materials - Information for Band Parents

Instrument Purchase or Hire

Purchasing or hiring an instrument is one of the most important aspects of preparing for the students first lessons in band. Regardless of whether you are hiring or buying, new or secondhand – it is definitely worth going for quality.

Please discuss choice of instrument during the lead up sessions. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact your band teacher with any questions. The band program caters for the following instruments: flute, clarinet, alto saxophone, trumpet, trombone baritone and bass. Once you know which instrument you need, here are some options:

INTERNET WARNING! Many cheaper wind instruments purchased via the Internet can be very poor quality, and cause significant difficulties with the students' learning. Some reliable name brands for wind and brass instruments are Yamaha, Conn, Jupiter, Selmer, King, Bach. There may be others, so feel free to contact me with any questions about instruments.

Online

Musiccorp (www.musiccorp.com / rental@musiccorp.com.au) is the largest online musical instrument hire service in Australia. They have an easy convenient service. It is possible for schools to setup a relationship with Musiccorp and bring in all the required band instruments together, or Parents can hire directly from Musiccorp on an individual basis

Creative Arts Resource Loans: Musical Instrument Hire Program

It may be possible for your school to hire instruments through NSW Public Schools Education department. Ask you band coordinator or school principal about this option.

Local Music Shops

- Engadine Music Ph.02 9520 3044 / www.engadinemusic.com
- Wollongong Music Centre – 4228 9286
- Haworths Guitars (Wollongong) Ph.42252844 / www.haworthguitars.com.au
- South Coast Music / Ph.4421 8688 / www.scmusic.com.au

Method Book - Essential Elements Book 1'

Our band will use 'Essential Elements Book 1' (Hal Leonard publishing). These books are readily available online and from the music stores mentioned. Make sure you purchase the book specific to your instrument (eg. Essential Elements Book 1' for Clarinet)

Music Stand

For practicing at home a music stand is very useful. A music stand promotes good posture and makes practicing more efficient and enjoyable (during the week leave the music stand setup in the bedroom or other practice space with the method book open to the page we are working on in band). The music shops indicated above will stock a variety of music stands.

Other Materials

In addition to their instrument and method book, students should also bring to each rehearsal; a pencil and a folder with A4 plastic inserts for additional print music and other handouts