



St John's School

A school in the Mercy tradition, since 1881

Dear Parent/Caregiver,

Applications for students to join the St John's Instrumental Music Program in 2026 are now open. In 2026, students from Year 3 – 12 may learn a string instrument, and students from Year 4 - 12 may learn a string, brass, woodwind, or percussion instrument.

What is the Instrumental Music Program?

The Instrumental Music Program is a co-curricular subject in which students learn to play a brass, woodwind, percussion, or string instrument. The purpose of the Instrumental Music Program is to provide students with the opportunity to become musicians and experience the expressive qualities of music through learning to play a band or orchestral instrument.

The core focus of the Instrumental Music Program is learning to play in a group or ensemble. All instrumental music students are required to have a weekly group lesson and participate in an ensemble.

Each semester, students are also required to complete assessment through performance of music and technical exercises, in both groups and as individuals. Student progress is reported to parents via the Semester 1 and 2 reports.

There are countless benefits for children who learn to play a musical instrument and as students progress in their playing, opportunities for performances, camps and workshops arise at district, regional and state levels.

For more information, please refer to the **St John's Instrumental Music Handbook**.

If your child is interested in learning a musical instrument in 2026, please complete the attached Physical Test Permission Form and Expression of Interest forms and return to the office by **Friday 17th October**.

Students will undergo instrument sizing and testing during Term 4, and successful applicants will be notified by the end of the school year.

Yours sincerely,

Mr Mark Watson
Principal
St John's School

Mr Michael Cahill
Instrumental Music Teacher
Wind, Brass, Percussion

Mr Vincent Kwan
Instrumental Music Teacher
Strings

Physical Test Permission Form – Instrumental Music Program 2026

Parents and Caregivers: The information on the form will be kept confidential and will be used to assist determining which instruments your child is most suited to. For example, we ask about your mode of transport to school so we do not place an instrument like tuba or double bass with a student who only walks to and from school. Similarly, having braces, a tongue tie or hyper flexibility does not exclude your child from participating in the program, but it may affect which instrument they are placed on as these attributes can make certain instruments more difficult to play.

Student Name: _____

Date: _____

- ☐ I give permission for my child to be tested for physical suitability on the instruments available.
- ☐ I do not give permission for my child to be tested and understand this means they will not be considered for a place in the program at this time.

Parent / Caregiver Information Questionnaire: *[Filling this section out is NOT Compulsory]*

1. Does your child participate in extracurricular activities outside of school time? ☐ Yes ☐ No
If yes, please list:

2. How does your child usually travel to school?
☐ Private Car
☐ Public Transport (Bus and/or train)
☐ Walks or rides bike
☐ Other
3. If your child were to be offered a place on a larger instrument, would there be provision for them to bring it to and from school for lessons, rehearsals, and home for practice? (E.g. car transport on lesson and ensemble days, etc.) ☐ Yes ☐ No
4. Is your child having or are they likely to have major dental work or braces in the next year? ☐ Yes ☐ No
5. Are there any physical attributes or planned interventions that you are aware of that may affect your child's suitability for an instrument? (For example, tongue tie, large overbite, braces, surgery, hyper flexibility (double joints), etc.)
☐ Yes ☐ No

6. Further information (if you would like to tell us anything else you feel may be important):

Parent/Carer Name: _____ (Please Print)

Parent/Carer Signature: _____

Expression of Interest Form – Instrumental Music - Band Program 2026

Student Name: _____

Date: _____

Class Teacher: _____

Class: _____

Please complete this form if you will be in **Year 4 or above in 2026** and would like to learn a **band instrument**.

*Parents, please note, if we do not receive a response we will be unable to consider your child for selection in the Instrumental Music Program.

☐

I **wish** for my child to be considered for Instrumental Music in 2026.

Instrument Preference/s

Please number the boxes in order of preference and only order your **FIRST THREE** preferences. For example, put a '1' in your first preference, '2' in your second and '3' in your third.

Brass

☐

Trumpet

☐

Trombone

☐

Baritone/Euphonium

☐

Tuba

☐

French Horn

Woodwind

☐

Flute

☐

Clarinet

☐

Saxophone

☐

Oboe/Bassoon

Percussion

☐

Percussion

String

☐

Bass Guitar*

*Students wishing to learn bass guitar must have their own instrument.

1. Do you have experience playing any of the above instruments? ☐ Yes ☐ No (please provide more information)

2. Do you play piano? ☐ Yes ☐ No

3. Are you changing schools in the next few years? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If yes, which year: _____ School: _____

Parent/Carer Name: _____ (Please Print)

Parent/Carer Signature: _____

Expression of Interest Form – Instrumental Music – String Program 2026

Student Name: _____

Date: _____

Class Teacher: _____

Class: _____

Please complete this form if you will be in **Year 3 or above in 2026** and would like to learn a **string instrument**.

*Parents, please note, if we do not receive a response we will be unable to consider your child for selection in the Instrumental Music Program.

☐

I **wish** for my child to be considered for Instrumental Music in 2026.

Instrument Preference/s

Please number the boxes in order of preference and only order your **FIRST THREE** preferences. For example, put a '1' in your first preference, '2' in your second and '3' in your third.

String

☐

Violin

☐

Viola

☐

Cello

☐

Double Bass

1. Do you have experience playing any of the above instruments? ☐ Yes ☐ No (please provide more information)

2. Do you play piano? ☐ Yes ☐ No

3. Are you changing schools in the next few years? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If yes, which year: _____ School: _____

Parent/Carer Name: _____ (Please Print)

Parent/Carer Signature : _____