

# Flemington Primary School

## 2025 INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC PROGRAM



Dear students, parents and carers,

Flemington Primary School is fortunate to have an outstanding instrumental and choral music program, with a purpose-built music centre and dedicated Instrumental Music teachers who offer private, shared and group weekly lessons, of 30 minutes' duration.

Flemington Primary School has well-resourced music facilities which include four dedicated instrumental music rooms, a large orchestra/band room, a grand piano and a school hall for concert performances.

Lessons take place during the school day, with Instrumental Music teachers collecting students from class and returning them at the end of each lesson. The scheduling of lessons varies in response to the requirements of the academic program and the needs of individual students.

Our Instrumental Music teachers are experienced teachers and skilled music practitioners. All have current Working With Children Checks. Fees are set by the Instrumental Music teachers, and parents are invoiced directly by the Instrumental Music teacher. The fees will be increasing in 2025 to bring them closer to the rates recommended by the VMTA (Victorian Music Teachers Association).

For further information about our program, to arrange for lessons, or to find out more about any of our teachers, please contact our Instrumental Music Coordinator Mr Vern O'Hara.

### **Expressions of Interest are now open for next year's music program.**

As well as the Expression of Interest form, in this pack, you will find an outline of instruments available in the program, advice on instrument selection (particularly useful for new students), instrument hire, prerequisites, the fee structure and the expectation for students who participate in the program. We also have key dates and key contacts at the bottom of page 1 and 2 respectively.

#### **ADVICE ON INSTRUMENT SELECTION**

##### Year 1 and year 2 students

Recorder, ukulele and percussion classes are an excellent way to begin instrumental lessons. The recorder class is a preparatory class for young students to develop their fine motor skills and their aural and music reading skills in preparation for more complex instruments such as the flute, clarinet, saxophone, trumpet and trombone. The ukulele is an ideal instrument for young students to learn due to its size and ease to play. If your child is keen to learn the guitar, the ukulele is an ideal instrument to learn beforehand. The percussion class teaches basic percussion technique and develops aural and rhythmic skills.

##### Year 3 through to year 6 students

Given the physicality and maturity required to learn more complex instruments, we recommend saxophone, clarinet and flute are considered by students in year 3 and above. This is, of course, in addition to the full suite of instruments we offer in the program.

Trumpet, trombone, cello, saxophone, clarinet and flute are a vital part of our band and string ensembles, and we would encourage new and continuing students to the program to consider learning one of these instruments. We have purchased plastic hire flutes, trumpets and trombones which are ideal for younger beginners to commence lessons as they are lighter and easier to hold and play.

## KEY DATES

### 2024

**Friday 6<sup>th</sup> December** – Expression of interest forms due – please send the form in with your child for lodging at the school office.

**Monday 16<sup>th</sup> December** – Confirmation of place for the 2025 program sent out to families.

### 2025

**Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> February** – Term 1 lessons commence

## INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC PROGRAM

### LESSON PRICING STRUCTURE

- Individual \$45 per lesson
- Shared/group \$25 per lesson
- Ensemble fee \$180- \$210 per year (depending on the number of students in an ensemble)
- Choir membership \$70 per year (will be organised at the beginning of Term 1 2025)

### INSTRUMENT HIRE

- Violin \$50 per term
- Flute/clarinet/cello \$55 per term
- Saxophone/trumpet/trombone \$65 per term

Please note: students learning piano, drums, ukulele, recorder or guitar will need to purchase their own instrument before lessons commence, as the school does not hire these instruments.

### ITEM PURCHASE

- FPS music iron on transfers \$5 each
- FPS Music satchel \$30 each

### AGE CRITERIA (Due to physical capability)

- Strings – violin Grades 1-6
- Strings – cello Grades 1-6
- Woodwind – flute/clarinet Grades 3-6
- Woodwind – saxophone Grades 3-6
- Brass – trumpet/trombone Grades 2-6
- Drums Grades 2-6
- Piano Grades 1-6
- Ukulele Grades 1-6
- Recorder/percussion Grades 1-6
- Guitar Grades 2-6
- Voice Grades 2-6

### ENSEMBLES

Our Instrumental Program includes a Senior Choir, Junior Choir, String Ensemble, Concert Band and Senior Rock Ensemble and Junior Rock Ensemble. Students will be invited to join an instrumental ensemble once they reach the required level of proficiency on their instrument.

### ACCOMPANIST FEE

Refer to handbook on the school website under “Music Tuition Fees” and the exam entry form which lists suggested accompanying fees.

## INVOICING

Please note, the instrumental program at FPS is operated by independent instrumental teachers who invoice parents directly. You will be invoiced by your child’s instrumental teacher prior to the commencement of lessons in Term 1 2025. The school will only be collecting money for instrument hire.

## KEY CONTACTS

**Mr Vern O’Hara, program co-ordinator:** for questions on tuition and timetabling, or with concerns regarding lessons on [Vern.Ohara@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:Vern.Ohara@education.vic.gov.au).

**School office:** Students can bring in Expression of Interest form and hand them to the office.

# Flemington Primary School

## 2025 INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC PROGRAM

### EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FORM



Child's name: \_\_\_\_\_ 2025 year level: \_\_\_\_\_

#### INSTRUCTIONS FOR FILLING OUT THIS FORM

- **New students:** Under the appropriate column for your **2025 year level**, number three instruments 1, 2, 3 in your order of preference. You may not get your first preference, so please select three.
- **Continuing students:** Under the appropriate column for your **2025 year level**, place a 'C' in the instrument(s) you will continue to learn in 2025. If you wish to commence an additional instrument or theory, place the number 1 under your **2025 year level**.
- Then, for each instrument you have selected, in the **Preferred lesson structure**, number cells 1, 2, 3 so we know your preference for the class size.
- Finally, indicate with a tick under **Instr. hire** if you wish to hire your nominated instrument.

Please return this completed page to school by Friday 6<sup>th</sup> December 2024.

	2025 Year level						Preferred lesson structure			Instr hire
	1	2	3	4	5	6	Indiv.	Shared	Group	
Violin										
Cello										
Flute										
Clarinet										
Recorder										
Saxophone										
Trumpet										
Trombone										
Drums										
Piano										
Guitar										
Ukulele										
Drumming class										
Voice										

**Acceptance of conditions and expectations:** I have read and understood the conditions and expectations and agree to follow them.

**PARENT / GUARDIAN:** \_\_\_\_\_  
NAME

\_\_\_\_\_  
SIGNATURE

\_\_\_\_\_  
EMAIL

\_\_\_\_\_  
PHONE NUMBER

# Expectations and conditions

## Instrumental Music Teachers will:

- Directly invoice parents/carers one term in advance for the term ahead with all details of how to pay the Instrumental Music teacher. Parents/carers will pay Instrumental Music Teachers directly and not the school.
- Set fees in line with the Victorian Music Teachers association (VMTA) rate.
- Provide parents/carers with one term's notice of any increase of price of lessons as recommended by the VMTA.
- Not provide lessons to a child if their account has not been settled within the expected time frame which is in advance of the term.
- Provide the student with at least 36 lessons per year. Lessons will not be delivered during the first and last weeks of term 1 & 4 respectively.
- Endeavour to make-up lessons missed due to school events or where prior notice has been given.
- Provide their students and parents with regular feedback on their progress and guidance via music diaries, personal contact, mid and end of year reports and phone calls.
- Provide the opportunity for students to participate in an ensemble when their skills allow, and with the opportunity to perform at school concerts and soirees.
- Provide the students with the opportunity to enrol in external music examinations. Instructors will clearly outline expectations and requirements of both the student and parents regarding the examination process.
- Provide maintenance for hired instruments.
- In coordinating the program, give priority to students already in the program, followed by older children, shared lessons and students learning one instrument.

## Students will:

- Participate positively in the program, and practise regularly – a minimum of 5 days a week. For beginners 10-15 minutes each time, as regular short sessions are more effective than less frequent longer sessions. Your instructor will advise more experienced students on appropriate times.
- Take good care of their instrument – keep it away from food and drink and younger siblings, and protect it from bumps and knocks.
- Arrive on time and be prepared for their lessons and band rehearsals.
- Wear music t-shirt together with blue/black skirt or pants to all performances.

## Parents/Carers will:

- Ensure invoices are paid on time and directly to the instrumental teacher
- Help children check the time of their lesson, and take and collect their instrument and music on the days of their lesson and band rehearsal.
- Make time for practise and sign the diary to confirm which components have been practised (for example practical, aural, sight reading, technical, general knowledge and repertoire), and for how long.
- Be present while your child is practising to observe, encourage and praise.
- Raise any concerns about child's lessons as soon as possible and advise the school of any absence.
- Purchase Flemington Primary School instrumental / choir t-shirt for performances.
- Be liable for replacement cost of lost or damaged school hired instruments.
- Give the Instrumental Music Co-ordinator a minimum of 2 weeks' notice prior to the end of the current term if you intend to withdraw your child from the program or request a lesson change.
- Understand that, as the core curriculum has priority over the music program, timetables may occasionally change to allow for lessons, excursions and special activities.

**Important note: No refund of fees will be made for withdrawal from lessons during term or for lessons missed due to family holidays or similar absences. Lessons missed due to teacher absence or school-based events, camps or excursions will be made up.**