



FIRBANK  
GRAMMAR  
Aspire • Achieve

**PLEASE RETAIN FOR FUTURE REFERENCE**

### **Special Subject Music at Firbank 2018**

Dear Parents,

The Music School offers tuition in the following:

**Woodwind:** Flute, Oboe, Clarinet, Bassoon, Saxophone  
**Brass:** Trumpet, French Horn, Trombone, Euphonium, Tuba  
**Strings:** Violin, Viola, Cello, Double Bass  
**Percussion:** Percussion, Drum Kit  
**Other:** Piano, Singing, Music Theory, Classical Guitar, Bass Guitar

Due to the physical demands of certain instruments, we recommend that careful consideration be given to the commencement age. Staff are available to advise parents. Please contact the Music School for individual queries. However, please note that, as a general rule, the following applies:

For students commencing lessons in Prep/Year 1, parents are encouraged to attend lessons for the first year.

**Singing** - this is not normally available until Year 6 depending on maturity of voice. Year 5 students wishing to have singing lessons will require an assessment to determine suitability. All singing students are expected to join the choir for their year level.

**As players become more proficient they are expected to participate in school ensembles.**

#### **FEES**

**Fees are for a semester's tuition (15 lessons)** and are non-refundable. Semester fees will be charged at the end of Term 1 and Term 2. Additional lessons may be negotiated between individual teachers and parents.

For individual lessons :	20 mins	\$500.00	
	30 mins	\$600.00	
	45 mins	\$900.00	
	1 hour	\$1,180.00	(Grade 6 & higher and VCE Music Performance)
Group tuition (2 or 3 students):		\$500.00	

**Parents contract for a full year which entitles students to 15 lessons per semester, making a total of 30 for the year.** Pro-rata adjustments will be made if students commence in the middle of a term. As there is no refund of school fees for days missed by students, **instrumental lessons missed by the student with no explanation or by voluntary withdrawal from school will not be made up.** Lessons missed due to year level camps or staff absences will be made up. Parents will be notified if their child has missed three lessons in a school term due to unexplained absences. In the case of prolonged student illness, special arrangements should be made with the Co-Director of Music.

### **TERMINATION OF LESSONS**

If lessons are to be discontinued, we require **one term's notice in writing to the Music Office** otherwise the full semester fee will be charged.

### **RESPONSIBILITIES OF STUDENTS**

Lessons are timetabled on a rotating basis for students. Each student is given a copy of their timetable for the term. **It is the responsibility of students to ensure that they attend their lesson at the correct time.** When parents know their child will be absent from an Instrumental Lesson they should inform the Music Department, as early as possible, prior to that timetabled lesson. Students requiring a change of time due to clashes with other activities must notify the Music School at least 3 days prior to their timetabled lesson, and alternative times will be arranged where possible. Many of our instrumental teachers are available to teach at the school for a short time only each week, and consequently require advance notice of changes.

### **VCE MUSIC PERFORMANCE UNITS 1 - 4 2018**

VCE Music Performance is offered as part of the Firbank Curriculum. Students who are undertaking this course are able to be taught within Firbank. The instrumental teachers work closely with the Co-Director of Music (Choral and Curriculum) to ensure all assessment work is covered within their lessons. If a student is thinking about enrolling in VCE Music, now or in the future, we recommend they let their instrumental teacher know or speak directly to the Co-Director of Music.

### **IMPORTANCE OF PRACTICE**

The attention and co-operation of parents in this matter is essential. Students must be encouraged to practise regularly every day at home - depending on age and standard this should be approximately half an hour per day. More advanced students should spend up to an hour or so per day.

### **HIRE OF INSTRUMENTS** (Please note hire agreement form)

\$180 per semester - all instruments

A limited number of instruments are available from the School. **Parents are reminded that they are totally responsible for the care and maintenance of the instrument once it has been issued to their child, and that instruments on hire are not covered by School insurance.** There is no charge for Junior School students and Year 7 students who play in school ensembles or learn an instrument at school.

## **AMEB (AUSTRALIAN MUSIC EXAMINATIONS BOARD) EXAMINATIONS**

The school is happy to facilitate entry for the AMEB Examinations. We currently offer exams in Terms 2 and 3, and for younger students in Term 4. Students are encouraged to enter these exams by their instrumental teacher if it is felt to be of benefit to their progress. **However, parents should not feel it is a requirement of the school.** Parents who sign the appropriate entry form will have their accounts debited for the examination fee, and accompanist charges if applicable. **The school has no control over dates or times for these exams** and merely acts as a host exam centre when requested to do so.

If you are interested in individual tuition for your child, please complete and return the application form overleaf **as soon as possible**. This applies to **ALL** students whether continuing or beginning lessons in 2018.

Yours faithfully,



**Mr Simon Marsden**

Co-Director of Music,  
Instrumental and Performance



**Ms Jo Field**

Deputy Principal and  
Head of Senior School

**PLEASE ADDRESS ALL ENQUIRIES TO THE CO-DIRECTOR OF MUSIC,  
INSTRUMENTAL AND PERFORMANCE**

See application form  
Page 4 overleaf

**APPLICATION FORM FOR SPECIAL SUBJECT MUSIC LESSONS – 2018**

Please complete and return to the Music Office.

I wish my daughter/son \_\_\_\_\_ who will be in year \_\_\_\_ at the Bri/Sand Campus in 2018 to begin / continue tuition in \_\_\_\_\_(name of instrument).

- 20 minute individual lesson or Group lesson
- 30 minute individual lesson
- 45 minute individual lesson
- 1 hour individual lesson

**PLEASE PRINT**

Students full name : \_\_\_\_\_

Date of birth : \_\_\_\_\_

Name of parent/guardian : \_\_\_\_\_

Address of parent/guardian : \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Post code : \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone No. of parent/guardian : \_\_\_\_\_

**I agree to the conditions as set out on the information sheets. PLEASE NOTE: If lessons are to be discontinued, I agree to provide one term’s notice in writing to the Music Office.**

Signed : \_\_\_\_\_ Date : \_\_\_\_\_  
(Parent or Guardian)

**APPLICATION FOR HIRE OF INSTRUMENT - 2018** *(No charge for Junior students and Year 7 students)*

This section **MUST** be completed if you wish to hire a school instrument. Instruments are checked before being issued to ensure they are in good condition and are expected to be returned in the same condition. Pianos, guitars and drum kits are not available for hire.

Reeds, strings, valve oil, cleaning fluid and rosin are the individual responsibility of the user. All instruments are expected to be regularly cleaned. (FOR DETAILS PLEASE CHECK WITH THE INDIVIDUAL INSTRUMENTAL TEACHER.)

I, \_\_\_\_\_ (parent or guardian) wish to hire a  
\_\_\_\_\_ (type of instrument), for my child  
\_\_\_\_\_ in year \_\_\_\_\_.

**I realise that I am totally responsible for the care and maintenance of that instrument once it has been issued to my child and that instruments on hire are not covered by School insurance. I authorise any repairs needed to be organised by the School and charged to my child’s account.**

Signed : \_\_\_\_\_ (Parent or Guardian)