

# MUSIC HANDBOOK



# **Music Handbook**

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# **Statement of Purpose**

The Wesley College Music Department is an inclusive, relationship-focused musical community committed to providing an experience that is personally challenging, relevant, and rewarding. Respecting, honouring and developing the creativity and diversity of our music students within a positive and collaborative culture is the focus of the Music Program.

The main goal of music teachers is not to convert every student into a professional musician, but rather to instill within every student the ability to think critically and develop the ability to express a concept or emotion with convincing intent. After all, if you can develop the ability to understand the intent of the composer, performer, or one's self, you can better develop the ability to understand the motives and actions of other people. This is essential to developing empathy, sympathy and fundamental social skills for individuals in a healthy society. The fact that they develop a love for music through this process is a wonderful side-benefit.

The decision to pursue music enhances social and emotional development, group interaction, leadership skills, and overall quality of life. While it is a commitment for both students and parents, studying an instrument has been proven to enhance a child's capacity to observe and analyse the world. Instrumentalists have been found to possess well above average analytical skills which they can apply to all situations. Whether or not a student chooses to continue with a career in music, the ultimate goal is a life-long understanding of music which allows students to actively seek out, appreciate, and enjoy the arts throughout their lives.

The purpose of this guide is to highlight the opportunities available at Wesley College and provide important information for parents and students.



# **Music Department Staff**

| Director of Arts                    | Mr Stephen Roberts         | 8178 |  |
|-------------------------------------|----------------------------|------|--|
| Head of Music                       | Mr Cameron van Reyk        | 8024 |  |
| Administration – Instrumental Music | Ms Gemma Rostron 8118      |      |  |
| Administration - Arts               | Mrs Jenny Emmeluth 8096    |      |  |
| Junior School Music Teachers        | Ms Katrina Pollock         | 8213 |  |
| Middle/Senior School Music Teachers | Mrs Vivien Ling 8245       |      |  |
|                                     | Mr Alex Boyd               | 8106 |  |
|                                     | Miss Arianne Rooney        | 8018 |  |
|                                     | ocal Music Tutors          |      |  |
| Bassoon                             | Ms Linda Charteris         |      |  |
| Cello                               | Ms Anneke van der Laan     |      |  |
| Clarinet                            | Ms Jacqui O'Neil           |      |  |
| Didgeridoo                          | Mr Steve Richter           |      |  |
| Double Bass                         | Mr Shane Pooley            |      |  |
| Drum Kit                            | Mr Robbie Corvaia          |      |  |
| Drum Kit                            | Mr Ben Vanderwal           |      |  |
| Flute                               | Ms Tresna Stampalia        |      |  |
| French Horn                         | Ms Arianne Rooney          |      |  |
| Guitar - Acoustic/Classical         | Mr Don Candy               |      |  |
| Guitar - Acoustic/Classical         | Mrs Ruth Lenz              |      |  |
| Guitar – Electric                   | Mr Matt Bartel             |      |  |
| Contemporary Keys                   | Mr Jackson Van Ballegooyen |      |  |
| Oboe                                | Ms Hannah Woolley          |      |  |
| Organ/Piano                         | Mr Alessandro Pittorino    |      |  |
| Percussion                          | Mr James Chong             |      |  |
| Percussion                          | Mr Tom Robertson           |      |  |
| Piano                               | Mrs Margaret Reale         |      |  |
| Piano                               | Ms Caitlyn Woolley         |      |  |
| Piano                               | Ms Louise Jackson          |      |  |
| Saxophone/Clarinet                  | Mr Alex Boyd               |      |  |
| Trombone                            | Ms Catherine Noblet        |      |  |
| Trumpet / Composition               | Mr Adrian Kelly            |      |  |
| Trumpet                             | Mr Evan Cromie             |      |  |
| Tuba/Baritone/Euphonium             | Mr Jason Catchpowle        |      |  |
| Violin / Viola                      | Mr Adrian Yeo              |      |  |
| Violin / Viola                      | Ms Margaret Gunson         |      |  |
| Violin                              | Miss Eliza McCraken        |      |  |
| Voice                               | Mr Sam Nafie               |      |  |

#### **Contacts**

Office telephone number: +61 8 368 8018

Email: <u>arts@wesley.wa.edu.au</u>

Music Tutor Email: first name.surname@wesley.wa.edu.au

#### **Location and Facilities**

The **Music Office** is located on Level 1 of the Joseph Green Centre. This office is the first point of call for parents and staff who wish to see any of the tutors within the Music Department.

Instrumental tutors may be contacted by email or by leaving a message with the music administration staff. Music staff will endeavour to return phone calls and emails as quickly as possible but please organise an appointment through the music administration staff if you wish to discuss an issue at some length.

Wesley has a designated teaching space for the pursuit of music studies, with purpose built practice and rehearsal studios located on Level 1 of the Joseph Green Centre as well as within the Junior School.

Our Goatcher Auditorium in the Joseph Green Centre is the principal performance venue for our students.

## **Classroom Music Curriculum**

#### **Junior School**

Music classes aim to give students the confidence to explore ideas, learn about music, movement and different ways to express themselves, and then create works of art to share with others.



In Music lessons the students use listening, singing, playing, moving, responding and creating as a means of experiencing the elements of music. A blend of the pedagogical teachings of Dalcroze, Kodaly and Orff, together with current trends as to how students can best learn, are incorporated into weekly music lessons that are part of each year level's curriculum.

#### Middle School

Music has the capacity to engage, empower and enrich students, inspiring excellence and creativity. All students in the Middle School will experience classroom Music, which has been proven to foster the development of physical, social, emotional and cognitive skills. Music in Year 6 and Year 7 are year-long courses where students will develop an understanding of musical elements through singing, moving, listening, performing, analysing and creating.

Through an aural-based developmental program grounded in practical music-making activities, students will develop an understanding of the foundations of musical literacy, including staff notation, and transfer these skills to their own compositions.

Furthermore, students who play a concert band or orchestral instrument will have ensemble and solo instrumental playing integrated into their Music course, with a focus on nurturing their musical abilities and developing them into well-rounded musicians.

#### **Year 5 Band Program**

Students in Year 5 participate in our celebrated Band Program where they are each given the opportunity to learn a band instrument and to perform as a band within their class.

The aim of this course is to provide students with a practical music experience which allows them to engage in music making by learning a new instrument



in an ensemble-based environment. The program is "hands-on" but is also designed to inspire creativity, teach basic music knowledge, improve fine motor skills, and develop a sense of self-discipline through a structured practice routine. The major objective for these classes is to prepare at least two concert performances during the year for parents and friends.

All students who enter Year 5 are allocated a band instrument to form a balanced band within each class. The instruments they may be given include many from the brass and woodwind families as well as percussion. Students receive an instrumental lesson each week in groups of two to three with one of the College's instrumental tutors.

Students are strongly encouraged to continue with their allocated instrument in Year 6 and beyond in order to maximise the numerous ensemble and performance opportunities available to them as they progress through their Middle and Senior school years, as well as experiencing the many other benefits associated with learning an instrument.

#### **Senior School**

Music has the capacity to engage, empower and enrich students, inspiring excellence and creativity. Music is offered as an elective in Years 9 – 10 as a series of sequential courses that focus on developing the skills and knowledge required to enable students to achieve their expressive and creative potential.

Students will study various instruments and musical styles that will allow them to compose, arrange and perform music for their instrument and for various instrumental groups in the class. Along the way, students will develop music literacy skills through singing, playing of instruments, aural training, music theory, composition and arrangement, aiming to develop students as musically-literate performers.

These courses complement instrumental tuition and the Wesley College ensemble program for the student desiring a well-rounded music education. The skills gained through completion of this course empower students to become lifelong active musicians as well as succeed in the ATAR Music courses should they wish to pursue their music studies seriously in Years 11 and 12.

#### **ATAR Music**

The Music ATAR course aims to develop high-level musicians who are confident and expressive musicians. Students extend their musical skills, understanding and appreciation through a range of musical experiences. They perform, compose, arrange and respond to music. They develop aural, theory and analysis skills, and apply these skills to their creative and practical endeavours.



The course is made up of a written component and a practical component, which are both of equal weighting, and which inform each other to develop a confident and well-rounded musician. For the practical component, students choose either Performance or Composition to specialise in. Students will work with an individual instrumental, vocal or composition tutor for this component of the course. This will culminate in a solo showcase of their year's work at the annual Year 12 Music Perspectives.

#### **Instrumental Lessons**

#### **Music Registration**

Students wishing to commence instrumental tuition must complete a registration form and return it to the Music Office. Lesson tuition can commence at any stage during the year and fee statements will be adjusted accordingly. Forms are available below or from the Music Office, Junior School Reception or Schoolbox.

Students may enrol in more than one instrument, but this must be done in consultation with Music staff.



#### **Fees**

Instrumental tuition is billed at 34 lessons per year. Lessons are billed at 18 lessons in Semester One and 16 lessons in Semester Two. Instrumental lesson fees are payable each semester in advance. Year 12 students receive 26 lessons from Term 1 to 3.

An annual music participation fee of \$1,816 for Kindergarten to Year 6 (30 minute lessons) and \$2,420 for Year 7 to Year 8 (30-40 minute lessons) and Year 9 to Year 12 (40 minute lessons) is charged for all instrumental students. The annual participation fee is charged in two instalments, one instalment per semester, enabling 34 lessons to be given per year.

Please note, every lesson is charged for unless there is a specific ongoing illness or injury of which the Music Office has been made aware, or a school excursion whereby the instrumental tutor has been informed seven days prior. Unfortunately, instrumental lessons may clash with in-class assessments and students should be given sufficient notice by their class teacher to allow them to reschedule either their lesson, or their assessment. Again, regular use of the Music Diary and ongoing communication with your child's tutor is the best way to manage disruptions to lessons.

#### Instrument Hire/Maintenance

The College has a large number of instruments available for students to hire. The hire of an instrument through the College is \$260 per annum. This is charged in two instalments of \$130 per semester and enables the instruments to be maintained and upgraded as required. Group instrumental fees are charged at \$408.50 per semester, a total of \$817 per year.

There is a hire fee contributes towards the general upkeep of these instruments and a <u>Hire Agreement Form</u> must be completed and returned before the instrument is issued. This fee does not cover the costs of replacement strings, valve oil, reeds or the like, or instrumental damage. Most accessories can be purchased through the Music Office and charged to your school account. There is no hire fee associated with the Year 5 Band Program.

The following instruments are available for tuition:

| Baritone   | Euphonium                     | Piano      | Tuba        |
|------------|-------------------------------|------------|-------------|
| Bassoon    | Flute                         | Percussion | Viola       |
| Cello      | Horn                          | Keyboard   | Violin      |
| Clarinet   | Guitar Acoustic/Bass/Electric | Saxophone  | Voice       |
| Didgeridoo | Oboe                          | Trombone   | Mini Mozari |

DidgeridooOboeTromboneMini Mozart'sDouble BassOrganTrumpet(group piano skills class)

For Early Childhood students, enrolment in the music instrumental program is subject to physical size and motor development and will be undertaken in consultation with their class teacher.

Please note that the following instruments are not available for hire from the College:

- Drum kit
- Guitar Acoustic
- Guitar Electric
- Piano

- Full size violin
- Guitar Bass
- Percussion
- Didgeridoo

Once a student demonstrates an ongoing commitment to their instrument, parents are encouraged to purchase their own, in consultation with the instrumental tutor.

#### What is the Student's Role?

The most fundamental part of learning a musical instrument is often the most difficult thing in any young musician's life – PRACTISE! With so many other commitments, it is important to make the time to practice regularly. When a student makes practice part of their daily routine, like completing homework or brushing teeth, it makes a vast difference to their level of playing ability, the speed at which they progress and ultimately their overall enjoyment of the instrument. The parent's



role in helping their child develop a regular and effective practice routine is crucial for the development of the child, particularly in the younger years.

#### What is the Tutor's Role?

The best music tutor in the world will not only teach a student how to play, but will also teach a student how to learn on his/her own in between each lesson. They will help the student develop critical listening skills and an understanding of the instrument as well as giving an increased appreciation of music. Communication between tutors and parents is vital, and it is an expectation that the tutor and parents will communicate through the Music Diary on a regular basis. The most successful learning experience happens when an effective partnership is formed between student, tutor and parent.



#### Parent Attendance at Instrumental Lessons

All parents are welcome, and encouraged to attend their

child's instrumental lessons at any time throughout the year. It is a requirement that parents attend lessons for students up to Year 1.

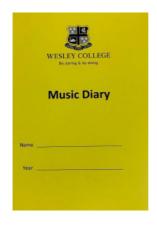
An open lesson week is offered to parents during Terms 1 and 3 where parents are invited to attend their child's scheduled music lesson and can observe and discuss their child's progress and development with their tutor.

We ask that you please wear your Wesley College name badge if you are attending your child's instrumental lesson.

#### **Music Diary - Communication with Music Tutor**

The Music Diary is vital in maintaining communication, detailing pieces and technical work to be studied, and providing a practice record of each week's work. We strongly encourage parents to check the record book regularly and sign on a weekly basis.

Each student is issued with a Music Diary by their Instrumental Tutor at the commencement of lessons.



#### **Lesson Structure and Duration**

Music lessons differ in duration through the sub-schools. It is College policy that all students in Year 1 or below have a parent attend their lessons, to maximise the benefits and progress.

In Years K - 6 students are allocated a 30 minute lesson. Students in Years 7 and 8 may choose a 30 or 40 minute lesson while Years 9 - 12 students receive a 40 minute lesson. Lessons take place during the school day on a rotational basis. Where possible, Year 11- 12 students will have lessons during an out-of-class time.

Students in Junior School will be collected from class for their lesson. Students in the Middle and Senior Schools are expected to excuse themselves from their classroom to attend lessons. It is not the responsibility of the instrumental tutor to locate a student within the school grounds. Students and parents are encouraged to check the instrumental timetable on Schoolbox regularly. Parents will be notified by e-mail if their child has missed a lesson with an unexplained absence.

#### **Timetables**

Instrumental lesson times are timetabled at the commencement of every term and are displayed on Schoolbox. Although tutors make every effort to avoid changes to the timetable, the flexible nature of a school means they can be subject to change. Parents and students are encouraged to check their times each week or to contact the Music Office if they are unsure of a lesson time. A link to your child's timetable will be emailed at the commencement of each school term.

#### **Lesson Time Requests**

While every effort is made to minimise disruption to a student's academic timetable, specific requests for lesson times are generally not possible owing to time constraints of our visiting tutors. There are times when a small number of out-of-school instrumental lessons are arranged and subject to the availability of tutors. Preference for these times will be given to Year 11-12 students and Katitjin students.



#### Katitjin

Wherever possible, instrumental lessons continue throughout the Katitjin program, but are scheduled before and/or after school to allow the students to attend. At this age, it is very disruptive to the students' playing ability to take a full term off. The ensemble program also continues throughout this time and it is an expectation of the College that commitments to the ensembles are honoured.

#### **Leaving During Term Time**

As students are expected to be at school for the duration of term time, any family/personal extended holidays and events of that nature which encroach on the school term are not acceptable reasons for absence from scheduled music lessons. Missed lessons under these circumstances will be charged.

#### Illness or Injury

Charges still apply if a student is ill or injured other than an ongoing situation of which the Music Office is advised.

#### Instrumental Tutor Absence

If for some reason the instrumental tutor is unable to attend a lesson, you will either be notified in advance, or a notice will be placed on the tutor's door. Parents are not charged for lessons missed if a tutor is absent. A credit is applied to the school account, unless the tutor makes up the lesson at another time throughout the semester.

#### **Learning Externally**

We encourage all students learning externally to become involved in the music program at Wesley. If your child is learning externally, we request that you notify the Music Office so your child can benefit from the numerous co-curricular ensemble and performance opportunities available at the College.

#### Reports

Your child's instrumental tutor will complete a summary report on your child's progress at the end of each semester as part of their academic report. This supports regular ongoing feedback through the Music Diary. Tutors are available to discuss progress or other inquiries from parents, but please be aware that many tutors are at Wesley for only a few lessons per week. Messages can be left at the Music Office and will be emailed through to tutors.

#### **Cessation of Lessons**

Your child's enrolment in the Instrumental Music Program is ongoing until a signed, formal withdrawal notice is received by the Music Office. This withdrawal notification must be received by Week 8 of the previous term or continuing charges will be applied.

The official withdrawal notice is available on <u>Schoolbox</u> and at the Music Office. This form is the only method of withdrawal that can be accepted due to the requirements of the Finance Department. As such, any informal notification to the instrumental tutor or Music Office, regarding the cessation of lessons cannot be accepted.

# **Scholarships**

#### Middle/Senior School

A number of scholarships are awarded each year to current Year 6 students and are effective from Year 7 onwards. There are two Council Music Scholarships available which are a combined academic and music scholarship and a further six ES Craft Scholarships, which offer a reduction in music tuition fees. The College also has the Lamont Organ scholarship awarded to a student in the Middle School.



Students who are awarded scholarships are expected to be fully involved in the school music program and a number of conditions apply which are listed below. Scholarships are subject to an annual review with the Head of Arts. Scholarship students who learn externally are required to forward a written report from their instrumental tutor to the Head of Arts, prior to the review.

Terms and Conditions of Music Scholarships:

• Maintain a consistently high level of achievement and behaviour, as would be expected of a scholarship holder, and complete a yearly review with the Head of Arts

- Be fully supportive and contribute to Wesley College Music through participation in at least one instrumental ensemble. In the case of the Organ Scholarship recipient, regular performances at Chapel services are expected.
- Be a member of a relevant Wesley choir, where appropriate
- Scholarship holders are generally expected to take classroom music in Years 8-10 and strongly encouraged to take ATAR Music in Years 11 and 12.

#### **Junior School String Program**

The Junior School String Scholarship Program is currently available to students in Years PP-4. The aim of the program is to provide students the opportunity and benefits of learning either the violin, viola, cello or double bass. There is a lot of research showing the undeniable benefits to brain development and cognitive and emotional function from learning an instrument. The program is currently available to 30 students each year and provides free individual 20 minute lessons in Semester One, and a 50% discount on 30 minute lessons in Semester Two. Students are also provided with free use of the instrument for the course of the year. This program is only available to each student once in Junior School and is for beginner students only.



# **Music Leadership**

Student leadership is encouraged and fostered in every ensemble within the College. This is carried out in a variety of ways ranging from formal positions to informal positions of responsibility during tours and camps. The formal positions are available only to students in Year 12\* and are held for a period of one year. The Head of Arts appoints these positions (with the exception of Arts Prefect).

# **Co-Curricular Arts Awards**

Co-curricular Art Awards for music are nominated each year by ensemble directors for senior ensembles. A student may be awarded an Emblem, Colours, or Honours. There is a strict criteria for all nominations which are subject to endorsement from the Awards' Committee.

<sup>\*</sup>In exceptional circumstances a Year 11 student may be appointed to an informal position.

#### **ENSEMBLES**

Every student learning an instrument, is encouraged to take part in the College instrumental ensemble program and are also encouraged to sing in one of the College choirs. This decision is based on research showing a very strong correlation between singing and playing.

#### **Altar Ego**

Altar Ego is the College's rock band responsible for regularly providing music at Chapel services. The band's repertoire is contemporary with a focus on songs with a great social message.

#### **Choral Ensembles**

#### **Junior School Choir**

This choir is not auditioned but open to any students in Years 2 - 4. The choir is given basic choral training and sings age appropriate music. It is a popular group with approximately 50 singers who give a variety of performances during the school year both at Wesley College and within the community.

#### **College Choir**

The Wesley College Choir is a non-auditioned ensemble open to all students from Years 5 to 7. Every child is welcome to join, regardless of prior choral experience and the ability to read sheet music is not essential.

The College Choir perform regularly in the broader community, such as competing in the annual Fremantle Eisteddfod, as well as performing in College events, e.g. annual Winter and Choral concerts and school assemblies. This ensemble provides Middle School students an enjoyable and inclusive opportunity to engage with music and develop their ensemble skills through a wide range of choral repertoire.

#### Chorale

The Wesley College Chorale is our senior choral ensemble, which is open to all students in Years 8-12. The choir rehearses weekly and performs regularly, both within the College and the broader community. They have performed at prestigious venues, such as the Sydney Opera House and Perth Concert Hall, as well as participating in festivals like the Australian International Music Festival. They regularly collaborate with other schools and have worked with renowned musicians, such as Paul Jarman, Andrew Eisenmann and Gina Williams. Within Wesley College, they perform at significant events, such as the ANZAC Day Service and the Year 12 Valedictory Service.



#### **Jazz Ensembles**

#### **Big Band**

The Big Band is a developing jazz ensemble and prepares students for entry into the Jazz Orchestra. Students explore a range of jazz and contemporary styles including swing, Latin, rock, and blues, and develop their ensembles skills through carefully selected and engaging repertoire. Students are introduced to the language and conventions of jazz performance and explore their creativity through the development of improvisation and soloing. The Big Band performs at a number of College and community events as well as on regional tours.

#### Jazz Orchestra

The senior jazz group at Wesley is Jazz Orchestra. The membership of this band is most often Year 10 to 12 students who are performing to a very high standard on their instruments. The repertoire selected for this band is often fully professional big band charts from some of the most renowned jazz groups in the world. America, for example, has a rich heritage of jazz and this group rehearses and performs music from many eras across the history of the art form. The band performs regularly and is often showcased in the larger jazz concerts



throughout the year. They also regularly tour, both nationally and internationally to perform for, and workshop with, other young musicians.

There is an expectation that boys who gain entry into this band are highly competent musicians with strong reading and interpretive skills who are keen to work hard at producing some exciting and dynamic music.

## **Concert Bands**

## Wonderful Wesley Woodwinds - Junior School

This ensemble is largely made up of Year 4 students who learn the various recorders in their weekly year level music lesson. However, we welcome other Junior School woodwind players. This ensemble starts in Term 2 each year. The ensemble usually has two performances a year.

#### **Concert Band**

All students continuing their instrument from Year 5 Band, or commencing a new instrument in Year 6, can continue their musical development through an ensemble (band) program as part of Year 6 Classroom Music. In addition, those students who have been playing their instrument since Year 5, or are of the appropriate standard, are invited to join the Concert Band. The main objective of the Concert Band is to train the students further with their ensemble skills and increase the difficulty of the repertoire to which they are exposed. The Concert Band performs at a range of College and external performances, including at the WA Schools' Band Festival.

#### Wind Band

Most students will progress from the Concert Band into the Wind Band in Year 7 after two years of playing. The Wind Band starts to introduce more technically and musically demanding music and requires students to develop and expand their understanding of style and effective ensemble playing. Students will experience a range of different music from classic band repertoire to more modern and contemporary music. The Concert Band performs at a range of College and external performances, including at the WA Schools' Band Festival. Students will remain in Wind Band until they are invited to join Wind Orchestra.

#### Wind Orchestra

Wind Orchestra is a large symphonic ensemble that caters for the College's most advanced woodwind, brass and percussion players. They explore a range of musical genres from classical to jazz, and music from stage and screen. Students develop a high level of technical skill and musicianship in solo and ensemble playing and gain a deep understanding of the stylistic elements of band playing. The Wind Orchestra performs at a range of school and community events and festivals and combines with the Chamber Strings to form the Symphony Orchestra.



# **Strings**

Students at Wesley can start studying either Violin or Cello from Kindergarten. Students can also study the Double Bass or Viola but these are usually started later as hand size is a determining factor. All students below Year 2 must have a parent regularly attend lessons and be able to assist and guide their child in establishing a regular practice routine. Whilst Wesley tutors do not teach a 'strict' Suzuki Method, we do utilise the Suzuki books as well as incorporating other texts to develop note reading and a strong technical facility. There are three main string ensembles within Wesley College:

#### Manning House Maestros - Junior School

This group is a predominantly Suzuki based group where students are expected to perform by memory. They also regularly learn other repertoire that incorporates aspects such as playing in a round and singing, or playing 'feature' pieces such as Waltzing Matilda or the Heel and ToePolka. The Maestros perform regularly both within the College and externally.

#### **Sinfonietta**

This is the training orchestra of the College. Any student from Year 5 onwards may audition on any orchestral string instrument. The Orchestra rehearses weekly before school and students, once accepted, are expected to attend all rehearsals and take personal responsibility for learning their parts. This group performs mainly within the College but also gives some external performances. There is also the occasional tour where we normally visit and work with another schools from regional Western Australia.



#### **Chamber Strings**

This is the premier string orchestra within Wesley and has a reputation as one of the finest school string orchestras in the State. This group performs music from the mainstream concert repertoire to a very high standard. Entry into Chamber Strings is by audition and is open to any student entering Year 7 or above. This group rehearses weekly and a high level of commitment to excellence is required by all members. The Chamber Strings also regularly combine with the Wind, Brass and Percussion areas to form the Radio Orchestra. This group generally performs more modern music and extends the students' musical ability and appreciation. The Chamber Strings perform regularly both within the College and externally as well as touring internationally.

# **Symphony Orchestra (and Chorus)**

Symphony Orchestra provides an opportunity for leading for leading musicians from Wind Orchestra and Chamber Strings to join together to perform exciting and expanded repertoire at a range of prestigious performance events throughout the year.



- Clarinet Ensemble
- Brass Ensembles
- Flute Ensemble
- Saxophone Ensemble
- String Quartets
- Guitar Ensembles
- Percussion Ensembles
- Jazz Ensemble
- Rock Bands





#### **Performance Uniform**

The Performance Uniform is required to be worn by musicians and choralists when performing or representing the College at external events. The Uniform consists of a black Music Performance shirt, available from the Uniform Shop, and is worn with College winter trousers and black shoes. The Performance uniform is only required from Years 5 – 12.



#### Rehearsals

Please refer to Schoolbox pages for ensemble rehearsal days, times and venues. A commitment to a school ensemble is expected to last for the duration of the school year. It is vital that students attend regularly and learn their music to a proficient standard.

#### **Auditions**

As with all performance-based arts there is a requirement to meet certain standards before entry into a performing group. There are ensembles at Wesley College to allow musicians of all standards to be involved in the program and there is a gradual progression from beginner to advanced.

A round of auditions is held every year at the start of Term 4. Students need to prepare a piece which accurately reflects their current ability and may be required to perform some scales and a piece of sight reading at a suitable standard. New students to the College will be given an opportunity to audition and will be placed in an appropriate ensemble at the start of the new school year.

# **Performance Opportunities**

There are many performance opportunities available for both individual and group performance both within the College and the wider community. Please refer to Schoolbox for further details.

# **Camps and Tours**

Wherever possible students will be invited to participate in camps or tours which promote team work and musical development.

# **Music Parent Support Group**

The Music Parent Support Group meets regularly each month and play an important role in the College Music Program by providing support for events. Parents are encouraged to become involved in the Music Support Group and details can be accessed through Schoolbox.



By daring & by doing