



21 July 2015

## **Instrumental Music Program 2016 Recruitment**

Dear Parents / Caregivers,

This term will see the commencement of testing of all Year Two and Three students for possible inclusion in next year's Beginner Instrumental Music Program.

Students in the program receive thirty minutes of group tuition each week (during school time) and, upon reaching an appropriate level of competence, they also join an ensemble. These ensembles participate in a number of performances and competitions throughout the year.

Given the size of Grand Avenue State School, the strength of our Instrumental Program and the limited number of places that we are able to offer, testing is the best and fairest means of identifying those students who would most benefit from participation in the program. This is in line with Education Queensland policy.

**Year Two students who test successfully in 2015 are eligible to join the Strings Program in Year Three 2016.**

**Year Three students who test successfully in 2015 are eligible to join the Band Program in 2016.**

As is the case at all state schools in Queensland, acceptance of a position in our Instrumental Program entails **ongoing commitment on the chosen instrument for the duration of students' time at Grand Avenue (including by parents to support the program)**.

**Please note:** If a (Year Two) child is offered and accepts a String Instrument to commence in Year Three, they become ineligible for a Band Instrument in Year Four, Five and Six. Year Two students who wish to learn a Woodwind, Brass or Percussion instrument are advised to wait until Band offers are sent out (for current Year Three students in semester two) for commencement in Year Four.

Factors taken into account in the recruitment process are: musical aptitude, physical suitability, academic ability (since instrumental lessons involve time away from class), behaviour and interest.

*Offers to students are also conditional on parental representation at a mandatory information session scheduled for **6.30 – 7.30pm Thursday 6 August 2015** in the auditorium.*

As part of the recruitment process parents/caregivers are asked to indicate a preference of instrument for your child to learn. The Instrumental Teachers will then assess the students for which instrument they are best suited and to maintain a balance of instruments for ensembles.

Instruments taught in the String Program, for students beginning in Year Three are:

- **Violin; Viola; Cello; Double Bass.**

Instruments taught in the Band Program, for students beginning in Year Four are:

- **Flute; Clarinet; Bass Clarinet; Alto Saxophone; Tenor Saxophone;**
- **Trumpet; Trombone; Baritone; Euphonium; French Horn;**
- **Percussion: Tuned and Untuned.**

Keyboard, guitar and voice are not taught in Queensland state primary schools. The following is the planned timeline of recruitment activities that follow:

### Term 3

<b>Week 3</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Listening test (conducted in class). All Year Two &amp; Three students assessed by Specialist Classroom Music Teachers</li> </ul>
<b>Week 4</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Catch-up testing for students absent in week 3</li> <li>• <b>Mandatory information session – Thursday 6 August 6.30 – 7.30pm, auditorium</b></li> </ul>
<b>Week 8 &amp; 9</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Physical suitability testing for selected students (in the instrumental room during school time)</li> </ul>

### Term 4

<b>Week 1</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• First round of offers sent home</li> </ul>
<b>Week 2</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Parent response to first round offers due</b></li> </ul>
<b>Week 3</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Second round of offers sent home (if required)</li> </ul>
<b>Week 4</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Parent response to second round offers due (if required)</li> <li>• <b>Payment deadline for 2016 Instrumental Hire &amp; Program levies</b></li> </ul>
<b>Week 5</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Grand Avenue Gala Concert Wednesday 4 November 6.30 – 7.30pm – potential students and parents invited to see the current Ensembles perform in the Auditorium and attending new students will be invited to take on a small role</li> </ul>

If you have any questions regarding the recruiting process, please feel free to contact us at the following email addresses:

Ms Della Martin [dmart125@eq.edu.au](mailto:dmart125@eq.edu.au) (Woodwind)

Mrs Karen Gordon [klgor1@eq.edu.au](mailto:klgor1@eq.edu.au) (Brass & Percussion; Classroom Music Specialist)

Mr Richard Thompson [rthom425@eq.edu.au](mailto:rthom425@eq.edu.au) (Strings)

Mr Craig Thorne [cthore7@eq.edu.au](mailto:cthore7@eq.edu.au) (Deputy Principal)

*Please continue to read the fortnightly school Newsletter for updates regarding the Recruitment process. Other information can also be found on the school website:*

<https://grandavenuess.eq.edu.au/Pages/default.aspx>

Kind regards



Mr Craig Thorne  
Deputy Principal

Instrumental Music Teachers  
Mr Thompson, Ms Martin, Mrs Gordon

**Parental Response Form**  
(Please tick or number boxes as required)

<b>Year Two Students</b>	<b>Year Three Students</b>																						
<p><b>EITHER:</b>  <input type="checkbox"/> My child is not interested in the strings program and would prefer to apply for a band instrument. (<i>Please complete the Year Three preferences and return form to school – there is no need to attend this year’s information session although you are welcome to attend.</i>)</p> <p><b>OR:</b>  <input type="checkbox"/> My child is not interested in being considered for the Instrumental Program (Thank you for advising us)</p> <p><b>OR:</b>            Please number instruments in preference order from 1 (first preference) to 4 (least preference)</p> <table border="1" style="float: right; border-collapse: collapse; text-align: center;"> <tr><td style="width: 20px; height: 15px;"></td><td>Violin</td></tr> <tr><td style="width: 20px; height: 15px;"></td><td>Viola</td></tr> <tr><td style="width: 20px; height: 15px;"></td><td>Cello</td></tr> <tr><td style="width: 20px; height: 15px;"></td><td>Double Bass</td></tr> </table> <p>Which, if any, of the above-listed instruments do you own?</p> <hr/> <p>Does your child have any experience playing any of these instruments – how long?</p> <hr/> <p>Does/did your child play piano/keyboard – how long? Musical grade? (eg: AMEB)</p> <hr/> <p>Will your child be changing school in years 4, 5 or 6?</p> <p align="center">Yes / No / Maybe</p>		Violin		Viola		Cello		Double Bass	<p><b>EITHER:</b>  <input type="checkbox"/> My child is not interested in being considered for the Instrumental Program (Thank you for advising us)</p> <p><b>OR:</b>  <input type="checkbox"/> My child already learns a string instrument</p> <p><b>OR:</b>            Please number four instruments in preference order from 1 (first preference) to 4 (lowest preference)</p> <table border="1" style="width:100%; border-collapse: collapse; text-align: center;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="width: 25%;">BRASS</th> <th style="width: 25%;">WOODWIND</th> <th style="width: 50%;">PERCUSSION</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Trumpet</td> <td>Flute</td> <td rowspan="5" style="text-align: left; vertical-align: top;">Snare Drum, Bass Drum, Xylophone (Tuned percussion and auxiliary)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Trombone</td> <td>Clarinet</td> </tr> <tr> <td>French Horn</td> <td>Bass Clarinet</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Euphonium</td> <td>Alto Saxophone</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Tuba</td> <td>Tenor Saxophone</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Which, if any, of the above-listed instruments do you own?</p> <hr/> <p>Does your child have any experience playing any of these instruments – how long?</p> <hr/> <p>Does/did your child play piano/keyboard – how long? Musical grade? (eg: AMEB)</p> <hr/> <p>Will your child be changing school in years 5 or 6?</p> <p align="center">Yes / No / Maybe</p>	BRASS	WOODWIND	PERCUSSION	Trumpet	Flute	Snare Drum, Bass Drum, Xylophone (Tuned percussion and auxiliary)	Trombone	Clarinet	French Horn	Bass Clarinet	Euphonium	Alto Saxophone	Tuba	Tenor Saxophone
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Child’s Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Class: \_\_\_\_\_

I understand that new offers to join the instrumental Program at Grand Avenue state School are conditional upon my:

- Attendance at the information session 6.30-7.30pm Thursday 6 August 2015;
- Ongoing commitment to support my child to remain in the program through to the end of Year Six including the on-time payment of any required levies and other participation costs;

@

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**Parent/Carer Name                      Signature                      Contact Ph.                      Email**

*Please return this form to the office by Thursday 6 August or bring with you to the Information Session on 6 August.*