



Introduction:

Esk State School's Instrumental Music Program operates as part of the Queensland State Schools Instrumental Music Program. It is a comprehensive tuition program in which students learn orchestral or band instruments. It provides an extra dimension to the school music program ensuring that educational outcomes are maximised for all students taking full account of individual circumstances such as their location, gender, socioeconomic situation, language and cultural background, and any impairment and special talents they may have. It provides the opportunity for musical development of students through instrumental instruction on a group basis and ensemble experience so that students develop ensemble performance skills as an integral part of their music education.

The program of instrumental music instruction is organised where possible to operate on a pyramid structure. As such, Esk State School Instrumental Music Students would have access to continue their learning at Toogoolawah State High School.

Benefits of participation:

Music is of such incredible benefit to the growing mind. When learning music and a musical instrument, a student not only gains musical knowledge, but also additional skills such as:

- Creativity
- Confidence
- Problem solving
- Perseverance
- Focus
- Non-verbal communication
- Receiving constructive feedback
- Collaboration
- Dedication
- Accountability
- Fine motor skills and
- Coordination
- Team work

Program Structure:

Education Queensland provides for Esk State School, an instrumental teacher one day a week. This teacher runs the program. Esk State School is fortunate as our instrumental music teacher is also the classroom music teacher, providing a strong link between the two strands of music at the school. Our instrumental teacher is an accomplished musician and a multi-instrumentalist instructor who provides lessons for brass, woodwind and percussion instruments.

Students in the Instrumental Music Program have two contact points.

1. Weekly, half an hour, small group lesson. This is conducted free of charge, during the school day. To mitigate the impact of leaving the classroom learning, the lesson schedule is timetabled on a rotating basis. In this way students do not consistently miss the same lesson each week.
2. When skills sets have developed to an appropriate standard, students then join the band. Band rehearsals occur either before school or during play breaks. Band rehearsal are on the same day as the instrumental music lessons.

The minimum number of students per instrumental music teacher/instructor group is no fewer than 3 and the maximum group size will not exceed 10 students. At no time, will students be taught individually.

The Instruments:

At Esk State School students are able to access brass, woodwind or percussion instruments.

Brass: trumpet, trombone, baritone/euphonium

Woodwind: flute, clarinet, bass clarinet, saxophone

Percussion: drums, tuned percussion and auxiliary percussion instruments plus bass guitar

The school has some instruments available for loan, at an annual fee. This fee is used to maintain the instrument and plan for its eventual replacement. Students newly enrolled into the program will be able to access these loan instruments for the first year of instruction only.

After the first year of instruction, students are required to purchase their own instrument. Naturally, a student is able to use their own purchased instrument at no cost. A student may start on the program using their own instrument.

The exception for the loan arrangement is the larger brass instruments. The duration of the loan for larger, more expensive instruments will be renegotiated near the end of the first year of instruction.

Care of Instruments:

When students bring their instruments to school, they are expected to be stored in the music room or the classroom. They are not to be left on the port racks.

All instruments have different requirements with regards to accessories. Many accessories are considered consumables and are not provided by the school. See below for the required accessories for each instrument. Please note that these accessories are definitely required and are available from a reputable music store.

Instrument	Maintenance Accessory	Consumables
ALL	Cleaning Cloth	Pencil, eraser Music Stand (for home practice and camp)
Trumpet		Valve Oil
Trombone/ Baritone		Slide Cream
Flute	Cleaning rod	
Clarinet	Cleaning Swab Teeth Cushion	Reeds (4x size 2) Cork Grease
Saxophone	Cleaning Swab Harness (Not a Neck Strap)	Reeds (4x size2) Cork Grease
Percussion	Practice Pad (for home practice) Drum Sticks 7A Woodtip	

Student Selection:

Students in Years 4 - 6 are eligible to be considered for enrolment into the instrumental program. How many students are accepted into the program depends upon the time allocated to the school, the availability of instruments and the suitability of the student.

In second semester of the year, the classroom music teacher introduces the opportunity to the students and shows them the instruments that they have access to. An expression of interest is then called.

The Instrumental Music Teacher, then undertakes on the behalf of the principal a selection process that examines:

- Student's demonstrated interest.
- Student's summative assessments from classroom music.
- Student's commitment to instrumental program requirements.
- Student's behaviour and effort grades.
- The availability of the instrument of choice, together with an evaluation of the student's instrument choice for size and suitability.
- Year level of student.
- The process is also influenced by factors such as perseverance and home support.

The final decision on selection is made by the principal.

Music:

Students are required to purchase a music textbook for their lessons. Please be aware that the text book is altered slightly for the different instruments, and you will need to ask for the appropriate version of the text. At Esk State School, students use "Tradition of Excellence: Comprehensive Band Method". This text is readily available through good music shops or online.

Other music is purchased as needed. As the school already has a small library of suitable music, only a small annual fee is charged to cover those costs. At Esk State School, our Instrumental Music Teacher keeps these costs to a minimum by undertaking some of the writing on the behalf of the students.

Performances:

There will be many opportunities for the instrumental music students to perform at concerts or band performances throughout the year. While some are during the school week, there will be weekend performances.

These performances may incur a bus fare.

During performances students are expected to wear:

- the band uniform shirt (which is provided by the school),
- long black, plain pants (no coloured stitching etc)
- black shoes with black socks eg. joggers, leather shoes, riding boots. No high heels or knee length boots. Totally black shoes with no coloured trims etc.

Camps:

Annual music camps are held in the district. Attendance at these camps is optional.

For more information please contact Esk State School on ph 54244111, and our Instrumental Music Teacher will return your call.