



“I would teach children music, physics and philosophy; but more importantly music; for in the patterns of music and all the arts, are the keys to learning,” - Plato.

Extensive research has shown that learning to play a musical instrument and studying music at school can have lifelong benefits:

- Music improves confidence, self-expression and fosters creativity.
- Music promotes teamwork and collaboration.
- Music develops neural pathways and enhances brain function.

At Bunbury Cathedral Grammar School there are many ways to be involved in our dynamic and exciting Music Department.

School

Class Music (compulsory subject)	Kindergarten - Year 8
Music as an Elective	Years 9 - 10
Music ATAR	Years 11 - 12
Certificate III Music	Years 11 - 12
Free String Tuition & Instrument use	Year 3
Free Wind/Brass Tuition & Instrument use	Years 5 - 6
Instrumental Tuition & Instrument Hire	Kindergarten - Year 12

Primary and Secondary Students

- Primary Choir
- Vocal Ensembles (by invitation)
- String Ensembles
- Steel Pans Ensembles

Secondary Students

Strings Ensembles	Flute Ensemble
Concert Bands	Choir
Jazz Ensemble	Big Band
Music Collective (<i>after School club</i>)	Brass Ensemble



Instrumental Music

As a general rule, it is recommended that tuition on woodwind and brass instruments begin at Year 5 or older and voice at Year 7 or older. If you are unsure which instrument to choose for your child, please contact the Music Department to discuss your requirements. Tuition is offered as follows:

- Piano
- Guitar and Bass Guitar.
- Theory and Musicianship.
- Brass - Trumpet, French Horn, Trombone, Tuba, Baritone and Euphonium.
- Strings - Violin, Viola, Cello and Double Bass.
- Percussion - including drums.
- Woodwind - Flute, Oboe, Clarinet and Saxophone.
- Voice - Classical and Contemporary.

Instrumental Hire

The School has a large range of instruments available for hire. Instruments may only be hired for one year; after this time students are expected to provide their own instruments. In some circumstances, however, instruments may be available for hire in excess of one year, at the discretion of the Director of Music.

Instruments are hired to families on the condition that they are maintained in good order at all times. Parents are responsible for bearing all the costs contingent upon the loss, damage and repair of the instrument. Instruments will be issued at the first lesson.

The listed instruments are available for hire through the School:

Alto Saxophone	Oboe
Cello	Tenor Saxophone
Clarinet	Trombone
Double Bass	Trumpet
Euphonium	Tuba
Flute	Viola
French Horn	Violin

Piano, keyboard, guitar and drums are not available for hire.

Ensembles

Ensembles offer an opportunity to develop teamwork skills and a range of musical skills that cannot be taught in an individual lesson. Intermediate Concert Band is for young players and those new to their instruments. More experienced players will be invited and auditioned to join Senior Concert Band. Older students are welcome to attend Intermediate Concert Band in a mentoring capacity. Singers who are regular members of a School Choir may be invited to participate in Vocal Ensembles. These are designed as extension opportunities for students undertaking vocal lessons, however, other committed choir members may be invited to participate provided they maintain membership of a School Choir.

Commencing and Ceasing Tuition

Students wishing to commence tuition are required to fill out the included application form. Generally students are dissuaded from undertaking instrumental tuition on more than two instruments.

Lessons may be offered during and out of school hours. Lessons during the school day are timetabled on a rotating basis so that the same class is not missed each week. Priority for out of school lesson times is given to senior students. It may be possible for Year 11 and 12 students to have fixed lesson times; all other students will have lessons conducted on a rotational basis.

Tuition is undertaken on a yearly basis. Students wishing to discontinue tuition must provide four weeks written notice from a parent to the Director of Music.

Re-scheduling Lessons

Lessons will not be rescheduled except in the case of a lesson coinciding with an event published in the School Calendar.

“We teach music because it is unique and good. We teach music so that children can make their own music. We teach music because it acts in a unique way on the heart, mind, soul and spirit of the child, stimulating thought and imagination in very special ways,”

Richard Gill AO, 2013.

Parental Assistance

Parents are asked to ensure that practise is completed and recorded in the Music Record Book provided. The rate of progress and amount of pleasure derived from playing an instrument depends largely on the amount and regularity of practice, as well as effort and concentration applied.

It is recommended that students practise for 20 to 30 minutes per day in their first year of instruction and 30 to 40 minutes per day in their second year. Primary students may find practising for five or ten minutes at a time, several times a day, more beneficial and easier to cope with. It is unrealistic to expect improvement without regular practice. Encourage your child to play for you, be generous with praise and offer your support when children become discouraged during difficult stages of learning.

Student's Responsibilities

The student is responsible for:

1. Knowing the time and day of their next music lesson. A timetable is displayed on the Performing Arts' Notice Board and on the My BCGS Parent Portal. Students must check this at the beginning of each week and enter the lesson time in their Music Record Book.
2. Informing their subject teacher in advance of when they will be absent from class, as a result of an Instrumental lesson.
3. Informing the Instrumental teacher in advance if they are going to be absent from school for any reason. Instrumental teachers require a full week's notice of such an absence.
4. Attending each lesson and practising between lessons.
5. Taking care of their instrument, whether hired from the School or their own property.
6. It is compulsory for all instrumental students to participate in a relevant school ensemble.

Fees and Charges for 2021

Instrumental Hire (per semester)	\$100
Private Instrumental Lesson (per 30 minutes)	\$35

Eight Lessons per term will be scheduled.

Music lessons are billed for in advance and teachers will bill parents directly within the first few weeks of each semester.

Prompt payment is required in accordance with the terms and conditions of the account received.

Music Staff Profiles

Jessica Brittain

'Cello and Double Bass (BMus, DipEd.)

Jess graduated with a Bachelor of Music (Performance) from the WA Conservatorium of Music in 1994. She attained a Graduate Diploma in Music Education from the University of Western Australia in 2008 and a Graduate Certificate in Special Needs Education in 2016. Jess has performed as master class student to cellists Steven Isserlis, Raphael Wallfisch and Ralph Kirschbaum, and performed extensively with the West Australian Symphony Orchestra. She has also performed as a freelance cellist in national touring musical productions, contemporary music and film recordings and as a recitalist. Jess has over 25 years of experience as a strings/cello teacher and she has held the position of Strings Co-ordinator at the School since 2008. In 2011 Jess established the South West Youth Strings under the auspices of the West Australian Youth Orchestra. She has toured this group to Perth Concert Hall and schools over the South West, and convenes yearly workshops at BREC.

Yvonne Carlson

Piano and Guitar (BMusEd, LTCL.)

A former student, Yvonne attained a Bachelor of Education (Classical Music) degree from WAAPA and she was accepted into the Golden Key National Honour Society upon graduation. Achieving the Licentiate in Piano Performance from Trinity College, London at the age of sixteen, Yvonne has performed on piano in a number of musical theatre productions. She has worked as both a classroom teacher and an instrumental specialist in several schools, including two years teaching on Christmas Island. Yvonne spent four years teaching English in Japan before returning to Australia to pursue her music teaching. Yvonne commenced her role at Bunbury Cathedral Grammar School in 2008 where she has been a classroom teacher, instrumental tutor, musician for Eucharist services and accompanist for various choirs, vocal ensembles and soloists.

Neil Davies

Guitar and Bass Guitar (DipT, BEd, NCAE)

Neil has been teaching guitar at Bunbury Cathedral Grammar School since 1996. He operates a project studio ('Touchwood Studios') providing music production services for local singer-songwriters and composers, as well as location recording and CD productions of concert performances. As a performer, he has worked with various musical duos and trios in the South West and has been involved in productions by the South West Opera Company. Neil is currently the resident musician/entertainer for the Busselton based Villa Carlotta Tour Company.

Tanya Kavanagh

Voice (BSc.)

Tanya is a Mezzo-Soprano and has taught singing in south west schools for the past 13 years and in her private music studio for 25 years. Tanya completed 10 years of vocal training with Evelyn Thompson and Marguerite Monagle in both classical and contemporary techniques. Throughout her career Tanya has played several leading roles in Gilbert and Sullivan Society and South West Opera Company operetta's and musical theatre productions. Tanya performed in a contemporary vocal duo for several years and currently performs as a soloist at community festivals and events. Tanya provides vocal lessons for all ages in classical, musical theatre and contemporary vocal techniques at BCGS.

Gary Larkin

Percussion (CMus.)

Gary completed a Certificate of Music (Jazz) at the West Australian Academy of Performing Arts and he has been teaching at various schools in the South West for the past 15 years. He has taught percussion at the School since 2005. Through his work within the school system, Gary has toured California, New Zealand, Singapore, the Northern Territory and he has played at the Sydney Opera House. He has supported various artists at Leeuwin Estate Concerts including James Morrison, Diana Krall, Michael MacDonald, Bryan Ferry, Boz Skaggs. Over the past five years Gary has played as the percussionist for the Jazz ensemble, 'Jazztrix'.



Jacqueline Ross

Clarinet, Saxophone and Oboe (AMusA, BMus, GradDipEd, GradDipBus. Man)

Jacqueline started playing the clarinet when she was nine years old and went on to complete her Associate of Music in 1983 while a Year 12 student. Her love of music took her to Melbourne University where she completed her Bachelor of Music. Jacqueline added a Grad.Dip.Ed. to her qualifications and has gone on to amass thirty years' experience as a music educator, including six years as Director of Music at Bunbury Cathedral Grammar School. In addition to her teaching career, Jacqueline has performed extensively in and has been musical director for numerous amateur and professional productions in Australia and overseas. Currently, Jacqueline leads music workshops for people with special needs and directs a singing group for people with neurological impairment, while also undertaking study for a Master of Music Therapy.

Shaun Molewyk

Saxophone, Flute, Clarinet, Oboe (BEd (Music), MEd, A.Mus.A, Certificate IV in Training and Assessment)

As a music educator, Shaun has worked in country and Perth schools in the roles of conductor, classroom music teacher (Year 7 – 12), woodwind specialist and a Teacher in Charge of Music. Shaun is an experienced conductor and woodwind specialist; at BCGS he conducts jazz ensembles, the Intermediate Concert Band and the Big Band on a weekly basis as well as teaching music to Year 7 and 8 classes. As a musician, Shaun has played in number of pit orchestras for various productions over the past 25 years, including SWOC's production of 'Phantom of the Opera'. He has also worked as musical director of local productions such as 'The King and I' and the 2018 BCGS production of 'The Wiz'.

Kathryn Rennie

Flute and Piano (BMusEd.)

Kathryn Rennie holds an honours degree in Music Education, specialising in woodwind instruments, classroom teaching and choral conducting. Kathryn has over 20 years' music teaching experience and she currently teaches flute, clarinet, saxophone and piano. Kathryn also conducts the BCGS Flute Ensemble and Secondary Choir. Kathryn founded and conducted the Dalyellup Sing Australia choir for eight years and and she has conducted a community Good Friday Choir for over a decade. She has been actively involved with the South West Opera Company for over five years.

Anne Speer

Violin (AuA (Mus), BA, M.Lib, MA.)

Anne made her musical debut as a three year old singing "The Little Gypsy Tearoom" at a church concert. Following this was her first violin appearance on Adelaide's 'Willy Weeties Breakfast Show' playing the March from Carmen for 10 shillings. By then she was hooked on music making and she has been actively involved ever since. Anne played with the Australian Youth Orchestra prior to graduating from Elder Conservatorium of Music, University of Adelaide, with a Bachelor's Degree in Music and a BA. In the 1970's Anne played professionally with the Tasmanian Symphony Orchestra and Hobart Operatic Society as well as singing and conducting amateur musical groups and choirs. Anne moved to Perth in 1996 and is currently a violin tutor at Bunbury Catholic College, Leschenault Catholic Primary School and Bunbury Cathedral Grammar School as well as providing private tuition for students ranging from Years 1 to 12. Anne teaches using resources from AMEB, Trinity, Fletcher and Suzuki syllabuses and has prepared students for AMEB and Trinity exams.

