

BAND PROGRAM

GENERAL INFORMATION

Melba Copland Secondary School currently has 4 bands across all year levels, with views to expand the program in the coming years. There are many students at MCSS who are involved in multiple ensembles – for example, both in Year 7 Intermediate Band and Concert Band, which is an option that is available to students who wish to further their musical abilities.

Year 7 Beginner Band is a class designed for students who are either new to music or who are interested in learning a new band instrument. Upon completion of the beginner band program, students can progress on this instrument to concert band if they so wish.

Year 7 Intermediate Band is a class designed for students who have experience on their chosen instrument. Often, these students will have undertaken band classes as part of their primary school education, and are looking to extend their abilities.

Year 8-9 Band is currently a combined class for students in years 8 and 9 on the junior campus. The genre chosen to be studied will vary pending on student interest and size of the class. In 2023, our pilot year with the course, we had a focus on *jazz* music.

Concert Band is an after school extra-curricular activity looking to extend student playing ability. This band plays technically and musically challenging pieces, giving students the opportunity to extend their music abilities. Concert band is focused for students on the junior campus, 7-9.

Senior Band is an initiative looking to start in 2024, allowing a separate ensemble with more challenging repertoire for students on our senior campus, years 10-12.

Rehearsals

Year 7 Beginner Band, Year 7 Intermediate Band, and Year 8-9 band are held as year-long electives to be undertaken during school hours. During these electives, students will undertake a half-line of band, with a rotation of other electives offered throughout the year to allow students the opportunity to explore alternate electives that MCSS has to offer. The electives currently offered during this rotation are Digital Technologies, Drama, Visual Art, and Food Technology.

Concert Band is held weekly, after school on a **Wednesday** from 3pm – 4:30pm.

Instrument Hire

Melba Copland Secondary School has access to the IMP Instrument Store, so we have several instruments available to hire. These instruments are:

- Flute
- Oboe
- Clarinet
- Alto Saxophone
- Tenor Saxophone
- Baritone Saxophone
- Trumpet
- French Horn
- Trombone
- Euphonium
- Tuba
- Percussion / Drums

Fees

There are various fees that keep the band program at MCSS running.

Levy	<u>Payable by ALL band members</u>
	This is a compulsory payment required to participate in the Band Program. This fee covers instrument hire and goes towards new music, photocopying, and more. In previous years, this fee has been approximately \$65 for the year.
Uniform	All students in band are encouraged to own the concert band uniform for any performances, which can also be worn as a school uniform. Information on how to purchase this will be sent in term 1.
Instrument Hire	This is included in the band program levy cost. There will be a separate instrument hire form. This covers this cost of hiring the instrument, as well as costs of servicing, repair, and maintenance.
Excursions	There may be additional costs throughout the year to cover excursions, eisteddfods, and other performance opportunities. Students and parents/guardians will be informed in advance and notes will be handed out for these as they come up.

Please note that these fees are only an indication based on previous years and is subject to change. Costs are dependent on COVID-19 restrictions for excursions.

Incidentals

Please be aware that some instruments require a few small 'extras' that will need to be purchased. Clarinets and Saxophones use single reeds, oboes use double reeds, and brass instruments use valve oil. Please don't hesitate to reach out if you need any assistance in locating products.

It is expected that students will dedicate time each day to practicing their chosen instrument outside of band rehearsals. 20 minutes a day, 5 days a week, will yield quick and promising results for each student.

It is important to make sure that your child takes care of the instrument and that you are aware that if it is lost, you will be liable for the cost to replace the instrument. If you own an instrument, and even with hiring one, it is recommended that you add the instrument to your home and contents insurance policy. Student responsibilities for instrument hire are set out on the Membership Form, to be issued early in semester 1.

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

If you are interested in enrolling your child in the school band, please fill out this expression of interest and return to the front office and/or email to helena.maher@ed.act.edu.au

Student full name:

Student year level in 2024:

Parent / Guardian Name:

Primary School in 2023:

Band(s):	Year 7 Beginner Band	Year 7 Intermediate Band	Year 8/9 Band
	Concert Band	Senior Band	

I require instrument hire:	Yes	No
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Please indicate with instrument(s) you would like to play:

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Flute | <input type="checkbox"/> Trumpet |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Oboe | <input type="checkbox"/> French Horn |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Clarinet | <input type="checkbox"/> Trombone |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bass Clarinet | <input type="checkbox"/> Euphonium |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Alto Saxophone | <input type="checkbox"/> Tuba |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Tenor Saxophone | <input type="checkbox"/> Percussion / Drums |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Baritone Saxophone | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: Please indicate, and we will advise you if this is possible |

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Do you have any further information that you would like us to know?

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