

11 February 2021

## CARLTON PUBLIC SCHOOL BAND

### INFORMATION FOR PROSPECTIVE BAND MEMBERS AND PARENTS

Welcome to our School Band Program.

The children of Carlton are provided with opportunities to experience the rewards of Band membership. Participation in Band provides not only the acquisition of instrumental skills, but the wonderful experience of co-operative music making and the confidence of shared performance. In fact, as research continues to show, the benefits gained from participation in a Band program greatly exceed those intrinsic to the discipline of music alone, with participants displaying increased self-esteem, self-discipline, individual and group management skills and team spirit. The program also provides the children with a positive focus and a worthwhile pursuit as members of our society.

The Band Program, which requires a **minimum of one full year's continued commitment**, is structured as follows:

- Performing Band Rehearsals in the school hall at 7:30am -8:30am on Tuesday morning followed by our Training Band from 8:30-9:15am.
- Weekly small group sectional tutorials for 30 minutes after school on Monday. (Between 3:15-4:15)

#### **HOW TO JOIN THE BAND**

Extensive research has shown that for a student to have the best chance of success, they need to be enthusiastic about their instrument choice. While there are certain physical limitations for some instruments (arm length for trombone, finger span for saxophone, etc.), the key factor to being successful when learning an instrument is commitment to practice, and for that to happen they need to **want** to play what is in their hands.

Mr Robinson held an information session for the students demonstrating various band instruments so they will have a bit of an idea of what is involved. The next step is for them to familiarise themselves more at home. We have set up a website, linked below, where you can all access some great examples of the band instruments offered. Sometimes there are misconceptions or a lack of understanding of some of the less common instruments available which this should make a bit clearer. Please take some time to go through these links with your child to get an idea of what they might like to play.

<http://www.theshirebands.com/instruments.html>

Accompanying this information letter will be a Band Application, which will include a section on instrument preferences. The students will be asked to list their 3 favourite instruments from what they have seen and listened to, as well as a short sentence or two to express what they liked about each. There is also a section to describe past musical experience and current instrumental learning if any.

**Please note that you do not need to already play an instrument to join the band. In training band, we will always start at step 1 and learn everything needed together.**

Following the return of applications, Mr Robinson will meet with the students to discuss their participation and make a final instrument selection. If they already play an instrument they will be asked to bring it along. If they already play an instrument but would like to learn something new that is also totally okay.

Please complete the Band Application and return it to Mr Omar by **Thursday 18 February**.

### **HOW THE PROGRAM WORKS**

- Submit your application to be considered for a position in the 2021 CPS Training Band.
- Upon being offered a place, return the acceptance, along with the signed Contract of Commitment.
- Students will receive their instruments and equipment in our band start-up session (date TBA).
- Weekly full band rehearsals will be held on Tuesday mornings. Performing Band in the school hall at 7:30am -8:30am on Tuesday morning followed by our Training Band from 8:30-9:15am.
- Weekly small group sectional tutorials will be held for 30 minutes after school on Mondays.
- To assist with home practice the students are all given access to '*Essential Elements Online*'. This offers many resources such as a recording studio and practice log. There is also a parent portal access so you can keep up with what they are learning and ask any questions you may have.
- There will be regular tasks set using the online portal to keep track of student progress.

### **RESPONSIBILITIES OF BAND MEMBERS:**

#### **Commitment:**

- signed contract of commitment (12 months minimum);
- regular and punctual payment of fees;
- regular and punctual attendance at band rehearsals/performances;
- regular and punctual attendance at tutorials (after school);
- regular home practice – minimum of 60 minutes per week for Training Band;
- co-operation – being a **team** member;
- remembering that while band is a privilege and a serious undertaking, class work remains a priority;
- should a band member fail to comply with the conditions of the signed contract then his/her position in the band will be reviewed.

#### **Instrument Care:**

- signed musical instrument loan agreement;
- responsibility for care and cleaning during the year.

#### **Organisation of Equipment:**

- instrument;
- necessary instrument equipment e.g., reeds, oil etc.
- tutor book **Essential Elements** Book 1.
- access to the internet (this can be through an iPad) to utilise the full features of the **Essential Elements** program;
- A4 display book, band and practice folder which stores sheet music and practice pages.

**PARENTS: PLEASE NOTE BEFORE CONSIDERING PURCHASING PRIVATELY .....**

Parents are advised that should the private purchase of an instrument be considered that they await advice on instrument suitability, student’s aptitude and interest prior to making a purchase. Consultation with our Band Director would also be required to ensure that this instrument, newly purchased, would contribute to the overall balance of the band’s instrumentation. The local music stores and internet shops, while often offering reputable brands, also generally have several much lower quality, cheaper instrument brands available. These instruments are usually more difficult to play and easily broken leading to expensive repair costs. With musical instruments you usually get what you pay for. If you purchase a second-hand instrument please ensure that it has been fully serviced by a reputable repairer to give your child the best opportunity for a great start in band.

**FEES:** The band program is a voluntary extra-curricular activity. It is **essential** that you pay fees if you would like your child to participate in the program.

This is the fee structure for 2021:

**CPS BAND FEES**

Band Tutor Book	<b>\$20 (for the year)</b>
Sturdy foldable Music Stand (required for home practice)	<b>\$40 – one off purchase (if required)</b>
Band Fee	<b>\$280 (per semester)</b>
Band Shirt	<b>\$20</b>

**Please note:**

- Band fees are calculated on a *YEARLY basis* but are payable in *2 semester instalments*.
- *Unfortunately due to this being an extra curricular activity, there is no student financial assistance available for the band program.*
- Invoices will be posted home each term and prompt payment is *essential*.

**A NOTE TO CONCLUDE**

Our school has been extremely proud of the development of its bands over the past few years. Band members in 2021 will continue to gain skills which reach far beyond the boundaries of music to enhance learning across the curriculum and which will serve the students for many years into the future.

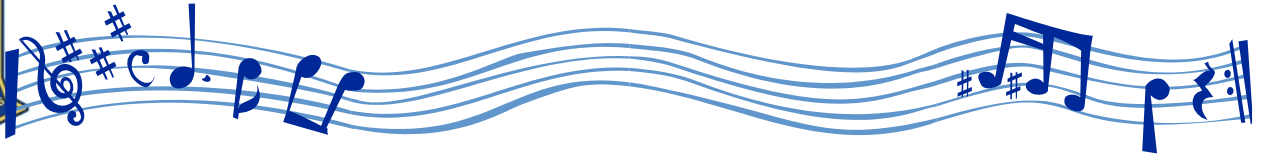
Thank you for your anticipated support. Support and encouragement are vital for our bands’ progress and your children’s success.

We look forward to the exciting continuation of achievement in music and performance. If you have any questions regarding the program please speak to Mr Omar, Mrs Matthews or Mr Beardsley.

Bassim Omar, Janet Matthews, Jackson Beardsley  
Band Coordinators

Adam Robinson  
Band Director

Steve Mead  
Principal



# Carlton Public School Band Program

## *Contract of Commitment*

Name of Student: \_\_\_\_\_ Current Class: \_\_\_\_\_

### **Expectations of Students:**

1. I will care for and maintain my instrument.
2. I will commit to attend rehearsals and tutorials for a minimum of one year.
3. I will practice at least 60-90 minutes per week. Recommended to be split across a minimum of 4 days.
4. I will bring all my equipment (tutor book, pencil, music folder and instrument), and arrive on time, to all lessons and rehearsals.
5. I will support, encourage and respect my fellow band members.

### **Parent Responsibilities:**

1. I will show an interest in, support & encourage my child's instrumental study and progress.
2. I will provide a suitable time and place for my child to practice at home.
3. I will ensure that my child attends all lessons, rehearsals and performances, providing notice if not attending.

I understand that enrolment is for a minimum period of one year. Therefore, if my child withdraws from the program before this time, I understand that NO fees will be refunded. If difficulties arise, I will discuss these with either the school office or Miss Morrison.

Should a band member not abide by the above conditions of participation their position within the band may be reviewed by the Principal.

### **AGREEMENT TO CONDITIONS**

I hereby agree to the above conditions and accept full responsibility for my involvement in band at Carlton PS

Student's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Caregiver Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Bassim Omar Janet Matthews Jackson Beardsley  
Band Coordinators

Adam Robinson  
Band Director

Steve Mead  
Principal



# CPS TRAINING BAND APPLICATION

Child's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Class: \_\_\_\_\_

The following instruments are regularly offered as part of the Carlton PS Training Band:  
Flute, Clarinet, Bass Clarinet, Alto Saxophone, Tenor Saxophone, Trumpet, Trombone, Baritone, Electric Bass  
Guitar, Glockenspiel/Xylophone, Percussion, Keyboard.  
Instruments listed below are less commonly offered but we are happy to discuss this further if desired:  
Oboe, Bassoon, Baritone Saxophone, French Horn, Tuba

**Please list your favourite 3 instruments from the examples you have seen.**

1. Name of instrument \_\_\_\_\_  
What did you like?

\_\_\_\_\_

2. Name of instrument \_\_\_\_\_  
What did you like?

\_\_\_\_\_

3. Name of instrument \_\_\_\_\_  
What did you like?

\_\_\_\_\_

## **PLEASE COMPLETE:**

- I wish to make application for my child to be considered for the CPS Training Band, and if accepted I request (please tick):

To purchase / rent privately (advice available from Mr Robinson)

To use the musical instrument which I currently have.

***Musical Background*** (if any, this is not required for entry into the 2021 CPS Training Band)

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**We have discussed this as a family and understand the commitment and requirements involved.**

Parent Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Daytime Contact #: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

*Please return this form to Mr Omar by Thursday 18 February*



# CPS PERFORMING BAND APPLICATION

Child's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Instrument: \_\_\_\_\_ Class: \_\_\_\_\_

Our school has been extremely proud of the development of its bands. Band members in 2021 will continue to gain skills which reach far beyond the boundaries of music to enhance learning across the curriculum and which will serve the students for many years into the future.

2020 was a difficult year for music, and we're very thankful for those who continued taking part. We are hopeful in 2021 to be able to once again offer more of the performance and social aspects of band. Rehearsals will be taking place from 7:30am-8:30am Tuesday morning, beginning on 23 February. We ask that students arrive by 7.20am to assist with setting up, and to be ready to start playing promptly at 7:30am. We will provide supervision for these students from 8:30am until classes begin at 9am.

For anyone who may be concerned about their place in performing band (particularly those who started in Training Band last year) please get in touch to discuss. We are looking at several different options to assist those who, due to the circumstances, didn't have the best start musically to ensure they get every opportunity of success. It may require a short period of extra help, or they may want to try something completely new!

We look forward to the exciting continuation of achievement in music and performance. If you have any questions regarding the program please speak to Mr Omar, Mrs Matthews or Mr Beardsley.

### PLEASE COMPLETE:

- I wish to make application for my child to be join the CPS Performing Band, and with regard to our chosen instrument I request (please tick):

To purchase / rent privately (advice available from Mr Robinson)

To use the musical instrument which I currently own

**Musical Background** (this is required only if new to the school or program in 2021)

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**We have discussed this as a family and understand the commitment and requirements involved.**

Parent Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Daytime Contact #: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

*Please return this form to Mr Omar by Thursday February 18*

Bassim Omar Janet Matthews Jackson Beardsley  
Band Coordinators

Adam Robinson  
Band Director

Steve Mead  
Principal