Robertson Public School

Parents and Citizens Association

Committed to helping our children and teaching staff

Robertson Public School Music Program

***“****Children's involvement in musical activity has a profound effect on the development of the child's general learning. It is now proven beyond doubt that children who are engaged in arts activities, especially music, have advantages in all areas of learning.****”***

***Richard Gill, Musical Educator and Maestro, 9 Feb 2011***

**Welcome**

Welcome to the Robertson Public School Band Program.

Students in Years K to 6 are invited to join this very successful extra-curricular program at Robertson Public School.

The program has been operating since 1995 and has established a tradition of excellence, achievement and enormous fun for the participating students, as well as having earned a notable reputation throughout our wider community.

This handbook is designed to provide information about our musical instrument hire program as well as to answer some of your queries.

**Special Note to Parents**

For your child to gain the most from our musical program, please remember:

* You are as much a part of the Band and music tuition program as your child;
* To encourage your child with their practice and the acknowledge the challenges they will face when they are learning to play an instrument;
* To ensure your child attends music lessons each week unless unwell;
* To help your child attend band rehearsals each week once they join our band;

**Objectives:**

The Music Program aims to:

* Provide an opportunity for any Robertson student to learn to play a musical instrument for their own and other's enjoyment;
* Build confidence and self-esteem through public performance;
* Learn to play solo and in groups to develop an appreciation for music;
* Perform in our Band to encourage team spirit and represent the school;
* Achieve competent or higher levels of musicianship for all participating students; and
* Do so, on an equitable basis without imposing excessive cost on families.

**Obligations:**

We cannot achieve these objectives without certain obligations on students, parents and the school:

* Students are expected to practise regularly and to commit to the band program for the full year.
* Students are required to undertake music lessons in addition to attending band practices;
* Parents must notify our Band Coordinator, Mrs Haworth or Music Co-ordinator, Mrs Horton if their child is unable to make a practice or lesson;
* Parents commit to support their child's participation by way of instrument hire or purchase and payment of music tuition costs.
* The school facilitates the music and band program by:
* The provision of the rehearsal and tuition space required and
* Allowing the music program to co-exist collaboratively with other school activities.

**Administration**

**Music Committee**

The Music and Band Program at Robertson Public School is run by our School Band Coordinator, school Music Tutors and School Principal in conjunction with the supportive P&C Association.

**Tuition**

Our school sources private, qualified music tutors in various instruments who visit our school throughout the week to tutor interested students during school time.

Providing overall musical direction and coordination for the Band program, is Assistant Principal Mrs Amber Haworth and Music Tutor Mrs Kirrily Horton, who does this as a highly regarded volunteer.

**Parent Involvement**

Our Music Program is very successful as allparents support their child/children by ensuring they regularly practice playing their instrument at home.

**Absences**

It is the parent’s responsibility to please notify our school if their child is unable to attend a music lesson.

**Music Lessons**

The aim of in-school music tuition is to provide music lessons for interested and keen students during school time, and provide the students an opportunity to demonstrate their developing musical skills by joining and performing in our School Band.

Our Music Program offers private lessons and some shared lessons.

Instruments available for students to learn include flute, clarinet, saxophone, trumpet, euphonium, violin, cello, keyboard, drums and guitar.

Private lessons are from $15 for 20 minutes and from $25 for 30 minutes. Kinder duo lessons are from $10 for 20 minutes.

All enquiries regarding music lessons should be made to our school Office, who will then pass this request on to Mrs Horton on behalf of our visiting music tutors.

Parents may also arrange to have their own music lessons with our music tutors.

**Fees**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Band fees per year | Free |
| Weekly Lessons with a Music Tutor (paid directly to tutor) | $18-$30 lesson |
| Instrument Hire (cost per term depends on P&C owned or planning to own) | $30-$50  Term |
| Instrument Bond (if hiring instrument from P&C) | $50 |

**Appendix A:**

**2012 Robertson Public School Music Program Application Form**

**Student’s Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Class: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Parent/Carer1** | **Parent/Carer2** |
| **Name** |  |  |
| **Email Address** |  |  |
| **Mobile phone** |  |  |
| **Home phone** |  |  |

Please note all communication about the Music Program, including invoices, **is via email**.

Has the applicant had previous musical experience? Yes / No

If so, please give details:

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Does your child already own an instrument? Yes / No

Please give details:

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

The instruments available for tuition and then to play in our Band once a student is capable, are as follows:

Percussion (drums etc), keyboard, guitar, trombone, French horn, trumpet, saxophone, euphonium, tuba, bass clarinet, clarinet, flute, violin, cello

Please list your child’s first three (3) preferences below.

*Your child will almost always get their first choice, but it is always advisable to keep an open mind to avoid disappointment*.

**1. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**2. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**3. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

We understand and acknowledge that in order to have a musically balanced band our child’s preferred instrument may not be granted.

*Student’s signature:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*

*Parent/Guardian’s signature:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*

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

**Appendix B:**

**Robertson Public School Music Program Student Commitment**

Student to sign and return to School along with application form

I, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_(student’s name) agree

to the following conditions.

* To practise my instrument regularly, ideally 20 minutes per day, 4 days a week.
* To attend my weekly music lessons as scheduled.
* To attend weekly Band practices, when I join the Band, and remember to bring my instrument to school on this day
* To look after my instrument and keep it clean
* To keep my instrument in its protective case when I am not practising
* To commit to the Band Program for one school year (once I join the band)

I have read the above and agree to these conditions,

Student’s name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Signature:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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