



INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC RECRUITMENT FOR 2025

Dear Parent/Guardian

The Instrumental Music Program is a comprehensive tuition program in which students learn either a woodwind, brass, percussion or string instrument. The Instrumental Program seeks to extend a student's experience in music through group lessons and through participation in either the Concert Band or String Ensemble while at primary school.

At Calliope SS Instrumental Music begins for **Strings only in Year 3. Woodwind, Brass and Percussion** commence in **Year 4.**

Overview of Instrumental Music Program

1. Lessons are in groups ranging in size from 2-6 students of varying ages but similar ability.
2. Lessons are held for 30 minutes during school time by a qualified instrumental music teacher.
3. Lessons are free; however, all students must be willing to purchase a tutor book, music stand and some disposable items (e.g. reeds, rosin).
4. Some students will need to purchase their own instrument to commence lessons – some may access a school instrument for a short period of time. Most will be required to purchase after the first year. **Please do not purchase an instrument until after consultation with the instrumental music teacher.**
5. Unlike private lessons, the focus of the Department of Education's Instrumental Music Program is to develop ensemble musicians rather than soloists.
6. *Once students commence instruction on a particular instrument (e.g. strings) they may not switch to another (e.g. brass).* If they are unsure or you are unsure, it is best to wait until the child is older to make a more informed decision. The final decision on whether or not a student can change to a different program will be made by the school principal in collaboration with the instrumental music staff.
7. Students must commit to the program for the duration of being at Calliope SS.

With your child now at an eligible stage, we invite you to consider their participation in the Instrumental Music Program for the **2025** school year. Unsuccessful applicants will be placed on a waiting list and contacted if vacancies arise during 2025. Any students who miss out during this round of recruiting may re-apply next year.

A list of instruments is attached, including pictures and approximate costs of a **quality student model instrument**. Many larger music stores have interest free payment plans and "hire-to-buy" schemes. *Please note that while cheaper brands are available, as with anything, "You get what you pay for."* Many cheaper instruments (e.g. Artiste, Fontaine, Livingston etc.) are made in China/India from inferior materials, with poorer workmanship. The lower quality affects not only the resale value of the instrument, but increases the ongoing repair/upkeep costs. Their lack of precision mechanisms also make them **more difficult for beginner's to play**.

Schools have a limited number and range of **instruments available for hire**. Hire costs through the school is **\$150 per school year**. The hire fee must be paid before the student can receive their instrument; any damage or lost parts will be repaired or replaced through the school with the hirer being responsible for costs. For the majority of instruments hired from the school, parents are encouraged to purchase their own instrument after the first year. Larger, more expensive instruments (e.g. Euphonium, Tenor Saxophone, Bass Clarinet, Double Bass etc.) are usually hired from the school for longer periods.

As places are limited and other students may miss out, it is asked that those wishing to join the Instrumental Music Program carefully consider the commitment required.



CALLIOPE STATE SCHOOL

Dawson Highway, Calliope 4680
P.O. Box 232, Calliope 4680
Phone - (07) 49758 333
Fax - (07) 4975 6437

Email - admin@calliope.ss.Department.edu.au

Students are expected to:





1. **Practice at home** between their weekly lessons. Learning is done at school, reinforcing this learning is done at home with the encouragement of family.
2. **Attend lessons** with their equipment at school each week.
3. **Attend school ensemble rehearsals.** Once students reach a particular playing level, they will be asked to join the school's larger ensemble.
4. Attend any **Music Workshops** offered.
5. Take part in all **Larger Ensemble** performances as part of the Instrumental Music Program.

The success of your child depends on the **practice** schedule you encourage at home, as well as your child's **regular attendance** at lessons and rehearsals. Your encouragement of your child is sought, and will always be appreciated.

The number of positions available on any given instrument is determined by existing vacancies within the program, and the need to maintain a balance between instrumental sections. Please **rank order ALL instruments they might like to play**, with number 1 being their first preference. You may number as many, or as few as you like. Parents are also asked to **indicate which instruments they will be willing to purchase**, and to include an additional information which may assist in determining which student plays which instrument (e.g. already owning a certain instrument).

All students will be tested on all instruments within the program they are applying (strings or woodwind/brass/percussion). There may be an instrument that they haven't considered, for which they have ideal physical attributes (e.g. hand size, arm length, height, lip shape etc.). Please choose instruments which you are interested in, but be prepared for an offer on an instrument which you may not have considered.

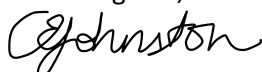
Have a listen to our instruments here:

| | | | |
|---|---|--|---|
|  |  |  |  |
| Dallas Symphony Orchestra | String Instrument Demo | Band Instrument Demo | Be Part of the Music |

In accordance with Department regulations, your child can not be tested for instrument suitability without a signed consent form. Testing will begin in Week 10, Term 3. Successful applicants will receive information in Term 4. Unsuccessful applicants will be placed on a waiting list. An application form is attached and should be returned to the school office as soon as possible to ensure they are considered for selection.

The closing date for applications is 06/09/2024.

Kind regards,



Christine Johnston
Deputy Principal
Calliope State School



Grace Rackemann
Instrumental Music Teacher
(Strings)



Debbie Dingle
Instrumental Music Teacher
(Woodwind, Brass, Percussion)



CALLIOPE STATE SCHOOL

Dawson Highway, Calliope 4680

P.O. Box 232, Calliope 4680

Phone - (07) 49758 333

Fax - (07) 4975 6437

Email - admin@calliope.ss.Department.edu.au

2025 - YEAR 4 ONWARDS

Instruments available through the Instrumental Music Program

WOODWIND:

Flute (\$650)



Oboe (\$2000)



Clarinet (\$695)



Bass Clarinet (\$3200)



Alto Saxophone (\$1400)



Tenor Saxophone (\$1500)



BRASS:

Trumpet (\$650)



French Horn (\$3850)



Trombone (\$900)



Baritone Horn (\$2700)



Euphonium (\$2800)



Tuba (\$4000)



PERCUSSION: *(Students learn **both** xylophone **and** drums)*

Xylophone (\$430)



Drum Practice Pad (\$72)



1 position only

Bass Guitar & Amp



2025 - YEAR 3 ONWARDS

Instruments available through the Instrumental Music Program

Violin

- Comes in four main sizes: $\frac{1}{4}$, $\frac{1}{2}$, $\frac{3}{4}$ and full size
- Highest pitched instrument of the string family
- Approximate cost new: \$300



Viola

- Comes in various sizes, measured in inches
- Slightly lower in pitch and bigger than the violin
- Approximate cost new: \$350



Double Bass

- Comes in various sizes for students of all ages: $\frac{1}{12}$, $\frac{1}{8}$, $\frac{1}{4}$, $\frac{1}{2}$, $\frac{3}{4}$
- Lowest pitched instrument of the string family
- Schools usually have these instruments available for hire.
- Parents must have a large car for transportation
- Approximate cost new: \$2300



Cello

- Low pitched instrument – lower than viola, not as low as the Double Bass
- Comes in four main sizes $\frac{1}{4}$, $\frac{1}{2}$, $\frac{3}{4}$ and full size
- Schools usually have these instruments available for hire for maximum 2 years before the student must purchase their own.
- Parents must have a large car for transportation
- Approximate cost new: \$1300





CALLIOPE STATE SCHOOL

Dawson Highway, Calliope 4680
 P.O. Box 232, Calliope 4680
 Phone - (07) 49758 333
 Fax - (07) 4975 6437

Email - admin@calliope.ss.Department.edu.au

2025 APPLICATION FORM - INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC PROGRAM

Student Name: _____ Current Class: _____

Current Class Teacher: _____

Any previous musical experience: (e.g. piano) _____

Do you currently own an instrument: Yes / No If yes, please specify: _____

PLEASE NOTE:

Students will be directed to the instrument they are most suited to based on physical and aural characteristics of the child, and vacancies in the programs. However, we would like an indication of your order of preference. If a student in Year 2 (2024) wishes to apply for a Woodwind, Brass or Percussion Instrument they must wait until recruitment for 2025.

| Instruments Available Students in Year 2-5 (2024) /Years 3-6(2025) | | Preference Ranking 1, 2, 3... | \$ (Willing to purchase) |
|--|-------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Strings | Violin | | |
| | Viola | | |
| | Cello | | |
| | Double Bass | | |

| Instruments Available Students in years 3-5(2024) /Year 4-6 (2025) | | Preference Ranking 1,2,3... | \$ (Willing/able to purchase/rent from non-school sources) |
|--|-----------------|--------------------------------|---|
| Woodwind | Flute | | |
| | Oboe | | |
| | Clarinet | | |
| | Bass Clarinet | | |
| | Alto Saxophone | | |
| | Tenor Saxophone | | |
| Brass | Trumpet | | |
| | French Horn | | |
| | Trombone | | |
| | Euphonium | | |
| | Tuba | | |
| Percussion | Percussion | | |

Parent/Caregiver Signature: _____

Date: _____

Day time Contact Number: _____

THIS FORM IS DUE TO THE SCHOOL OFFICE BY 6th September, 2024.