



Ashdale  
Secondary College



"Achieving a Positive Future"

# ASHDALE SECONDARY COLLEGE MUSIC ACADEMY INFORMATION

# WELCOME

**Welcome and congratulations on choosing to be a part of the Ashdale Secondary College Music Academy.**

**For many music students in Year 7, this will be their first classroom or instrumental music experience and it is important that all parties understand the commitment and expectations of being part of the ASC Music Academy.**

## What are the expectations of a music student?

To be a successful music student and to have a successful music department in the school, a high level of commitment and dedication is required by all music students.

### Expectations include:

- Class Music twice per week (Music Academy stream)
- Weekly attendance at instrument/vocal lessons
- Weekly attendance at ensemble rehearsal
- Regular practice on your instrument/voice
- Attendance at performances throughout the year
- Self-motivation, independence and creativity
- Minimum two-year commitment in Music Academy (Year 7 and 8)

## IMSS Instrumental & Vocal Lessons - What to expect

All students enrolled in ASC Music Academy will be required to learn an instrument or voice, either privately or through the school. Beginners will be allocated an instrument based on personal preference, suitability to instrument and availability of instruments and positions.

Instrumental and voice lessons are run in conjunction with ASC Music Department and Instrumental Music School Services (IMSS). Each instrumental/voice teacher comes to the school on a designated day to give lessons as either a small group or individual, depending on the instrument and year level. Lesson times are usually between 20 - 30 minutes.



For ongoing IMSS instrumental students (i.e. you were already having IMSS lessons in primary school), lessons will commence in Week 2 of Term 1.

For beginning IMSS students (starting lessons through IMSS on a new instrument), lessons will commence in Week 3 of Term 1.

Keyed-Up Music keyboard students, please see separate note below.

IMSS lessons are run during school hours and are cycled on a rotating timetable. This means that during the period the IMSS teacher is in the school, the students' lessons will rotate times each week. This is done so that students will not miss the same subject class each week. In some instances, a fixed timetable may be used if the teacher deems it more beneficial or necessary. Senior School students are given priority times outside of scheduled class times such as before school, recess and lunch, so as to minimise the impact on their Senior School courses.

It is the student's own responsibility to check lesson times and to ensure they attend their lesson. Instrumental students will leave their class five minutes prior to their lesson

time and sign in to "Instrumental Music" at Student Services. At the completion of the music lesson, they will sign out of "Instrumental Music" and return to their timetabled class. All lessons are in the ASC Music Department.

Timetables are posted in the Music Department foyer to check and copies are made available for students to take. Your classroom teacher will show students where these are found during Week 1.

It is the responsibility of the music student to check with the subject teacher about any work/homework they may have missed during their lesson time.

Keyed-Up Music Students Only – Please note that students learning keyboard through Keyed-Up Music after school will need to follow the external payment options and enrolment options as outlined through Keyed-Up Music. Keyed-Up Music offers both small group and individual keyboard or piano lessons. Please enquire with Ms Ritchie.

## Do I need to purchase an instrument?

In most cases, ongoing students will already own their own instruments. This usually applies to classical guitars, flutes, clarinets and trumpets.

For beginner instrumentalists, you may be entitled to hire your instrument through IMSS. Instruments are usually loaned for one year only, but this may be extended in some situations. The hire fee per year is \$110.00.

Instruments for hire usually include:

- Trombone/Baritone/Euphonium (two years)
- Saxophone (two years)
- Oboe (unlimited)
- Bassoon (unlimited)

Instruments expected to be purchased include:

- All Guitars (inc. amps where applicable)
- Trumpet (ongoing)
- Flutes (ongoing)
- Clarinets (ongoing)
- Drums/Percussion (mallets, sticks & practice pad)\*

\*Full drum kit is desirable, but not required in the first 1-2 years of tuition. Recommended to purchase after two years if student is continuing.

In addition to this, consumables such as reeds, cork grease, guitar strings, picks, drum sticks and any tuition books will need to be purchased as requested by the teacher and as required throughout the year.

## What is a Practice Journal?

A practice journal is a book given to the student by the IMSS teacher for communication. This includes teacher-student and teacher-parent.

The teacher will ask students to write in the activities to be practised during the week as well as any other necessary information including assessments, requested purchase of a book, equipment, reeds etc. Students are to record their daily practice and then parents are to sign it each week.

This is the primary source of communication between all three parties and inside the front cover has various information about suggested practice regimes, expectations and contact numbers for IMSS. All parents and students should read this section.



## Do I play in an ensemble?

Yes! Every instrumental or vocal student will be required to join an ensemble when the teacher is satisfied the student is ready. For ongoing students, this will usually be immediately and for beginners this will usually be by the end of Semester 1 or once their progress is sufficient.

Ensemble playing develops a range of qualities including better musicianship, sense of belonging, increased self-esteem and leadership. We are very fortunate to have the following ensembles at ASC. Ensemble rehearsals operate out of school hours for 60 minutes.

Cluster Wind Ensemble (Junior)	Monday 3.30 - 4.30 pm
Contemporary Ensemble	Wednesday 7.30 - 8.30 am
Ashdale Wind Ensemble (Senior)	Wednesday 2.40 - 3.40 pm
Vocal Ensemble	Wednesday 2.40 – 3.40 pm
Classical Guitar Ensemble	Friday 7.40 – 8.40 am

## What do I do in classroom music?

Class Music (Music Academy stream) will be timetabled twice a week for the year as their Arts component. The classroom programs encompass both of the WA Curriculum Arts' strands 'Making' and 'Responding', allowing students to develop skills in music theory, aural training, composition, performance (group and solo), listening activities, music technology and music culture and history.

Music Academy students will also complete and be reported on one project (8 weeks) for Visual Art in both Year 7 and Year 8, as mandated in the WA Curriculum for The Arts.

Opportunities are provided for students to demonstrate creativity, collaboration and individual excellence.

Class Music does not include individual instruction of an instrument as this is the role of IMSS, Keyed-Up Music or private tutors.



## Any questions?

Please do not hesitate to email or call with any questions regarding music at Ashdale Secondary College on 6207 1300 or email [marisa.ritchie@education.wa.edu.au](mailto:marisa.ritchie@education.wa.edu.au)

We look forward to meeting you all!

Marisa Ritchie  
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