



Mercy Catholic College

Music Information

2021



Music at Mercy is offered in two strands:

Classroom Music and Co – Curricular Music

Classroom Music

All girls study the mandatory course in Years 7 and 8. At the end of Year 8 students may choose Music as an elective subject for Years 9 and 10. Music is also offered in Year 11 and 12 including both the Music 1 and Music 2 courses.

The classroom Music Staff for 2021 consists of:

Ms Kathryn McGreal
Mr Matthew Robertson
Ms Joy Lee

Co – Curricular Music

Any interested students are encouraged to become involved in the wide range of optional musical activities at Mercy College. Girls who are studying Elective Music in Years 9, 10, 11 and 12 are expected to be involved in at least one co-curricular music group.

Private Tuition

Many instruments are available for individual study. A list of these instruments is outlined on page 6.



Mercy College Co-curricular Music Program 2021

Small Ensembles Program

String Ensemble – Director: Mrs Vardouniotis



The String Ensemble rehearses every Thursday morning in C34 from 7.30am – 8.30am. Any student who plays violin, viola, cello or double bass is encouraged to join.



Guitar Ensemble – Director: Mr Coombs

The Guitar Ensemble rehearses each Thursday morning in C35 from 7.30am – 8.30am. Any student who plays guitar, bass or ukulele is encouraged to join.



Small Ensemble Fees:

Ensemble programs run for 9 weeks of every term. Ensemble fees cover the costs of external tutors who direct and manage the ensemble, sheet music, eisteddfod entry fees and external accompanists. **The 2021 fee for each ensemble is \$180 per Semester, paid using Qkr!** Fees are not refundable, as girls are expected to remain in their ensembles for the Semester.

Large Ensembles Program

*****The large ensemble program is currently on hiatus due to COVID restrictions – we are looking to resume in Term 2*****

Concert Band – Director: Mr Strykowski

The College Concert Band rehearses each Tuesday morning at 7.20am in the Flex and represents the school at a variety of functions throughout the year. Girls in the Concert Band must be receiving lessons on their instrument (either through the College or outside the College). At Mercy, band members have access to private tuition on a variety of instruments.



Band Fees:

Concert Band fees will be confirmed when the ensemble resumes – for reference the 2019 & 2020 annual fee was \$160 (paid via Qkr!)

Choral Program

*****The choral program is currently on hiatus due to COVID restrictions – we are looking to resume in Term 2*****

The College offers two types of vocal ensemble – the Pop Choir and Chamber Choir.

Pop Choir – Director: Mr Robertson



The Pop Choir requires a brief audition to determine students' voice types. All students are encouraged from Years 7 – 12 to join. The Pop Choir rehearses each Monday at lunch in C35. It is expected that all girls who are in the Pop Choir are committed to the weekly rehearsals, Mass and events.

Chamber Choir – Director: Ms McGreal

Membership to the Chamber Choir is by audition. Students sing a range of choral repertoire at an advanced level. This group also works towards public performances and choral competitions. Rehearsal is Wednesday in C34 morning from 7.30am.



Choir Fees:

The Choir fee will be confirmed when they resume – for reference the 2019 & 2020 annual fee was \$60 (paid via Qkr!)

Music Camp

Planning is underway for a Music Camp in Term 2 that meets COVID guidelines. Further details will be given at the end of Term 1.

Ensemble Commitment

Mercy offers students the opportunity to develop as a musician through a range of school-based ensembles. Some of these ensembles are directed by the music staff and others are co-ordinated by external music tutors which come into the college on a weekly basis.



Students must honour the commitment to their chosen ensemble for a Semester. However, it is hoped that students will remain in the ensemble for the year. Year 7 students will be provided with a free introductory ensemble session during Term 1 to ascertain interest. A formal commitment will then be made from students wishing to continue in the ensemble program.

The Co-Curricular Music Staff for 2021 consists of:

Mr Matthew Robertson	Music Teacher Co-curricular Music Co-ordinator & Pop Choir (COVID hiatus)
Ms Kathryn McGreal	Music Teacher Strings & Chamber Choir (COVID hiatus)
Ms Joy Lee	Music Teacher Liturgical Ensemble Director
Mrs Wendy Vardouniotis	String Ensemble – Violin & Viola Tutor
Mr Zac Coombs	Guitar Ensemble – Guitar & Bass Tutor
Mr Mark Strykowski	Concert Band Director & Brass Tutor (COVID hiatus)
Ms Patricia Amphlett	Singing Tutor
Ms Young Su Kim	Cello Tutor
Mr Mark Cropton	Clarinet & Saxophone Tutor
Mrs Rachel Herbert	Flute Tutor
Mari Wakaki	Piano Tutor



Private Instrumental Program

It is the school policy to facilitate private music lessons. All financial arrangements are made between the tutors, the students and their parents.

The following instruments are available for private tuition (subject to demand)

Piano	Flute	Clarinet
Voice	Trumpet	Saxophone
Guitar/Bass	Violin/Viola/Cello/Double Bass	

Lessons Fees:

Lessons are offered 1 x 30 minute lesson per week - the cost is \$40. Accounts for private music lessons will be issued by the tutor by Week 4 of each term.

Fees must be paid within 4 weeks of receiving the account. If fees have not been paid by the end of the term, students will not be allowed to continue lessons the following term. Lessons can be recommenced once the amount owed for the previous term has been paid.

The music tutor will sometimes order music books, etc. for the students. These costs are to be met by the parents and paid directly to the music tutor. Any students entering for practical examinations pay an entrance fee directly to the tutor who will organise details with the various Examinations Boards.

Please Note:

In the event of withdrawal before the examination, fees are not refundable from the Examination Boards. Music tuition fees are non-refundable.



Lesson Structure:

Lesson times are outlined to students at the commencement of term from the tutor. Tutors will email or message parents of the weekly lesson times. Weekly time tables of student lessons are also posted on the music notice board. It is the responsibility of students to check these times each week. Where possible seniors will be given lesson times outside of class time. For all other students, the tutor will rotate lesson times each week throughout the term so that students do not consistently miss the same classes. It is the responsibility of the student to catch up on any missed class work. All students must take their school diaries to every music lesson so that the tutor can sign the date and time of every lesson.

Missed Lessons

Students are required to give their music tutor ample notice (minimum of 48 hours) should they need to **reschedule a lesson – this includes school events e.g. excursions, exams, sports carnivals etc.** Students are responsible for informing their individual instrumental tutor. If the appropriate notice is received the lesson will be re-scheduled.

In the event of illness, parents are required to give the tutor as much notice as possible. If a student is absent from a lesson due to illness they will be expected to contact the tutor directly no later than 7.00am on the day of the lesson.

If a student leaves her instrument at home on the day of her lesson she must still attend the lesson. No student is to borrow another students' instrument.

Where a lesson is **missed with no explanation, the lesson will not be made up and the lesson fee will be charged.** Music tutors will contact parents informing them when lessons have been missed with no explanation.

Withdrawal from Program

If a student decides to withdraw from lessons, 4 weeks notice must be given in writing to the tutor and to Mr Matthew Robertson (Co-curricular Co-ordinator). Failure to do so will result in 4 weeks fees being payable.



For any further information and enquiries please contact Matthew Robertson

matthew.robertson@dbb.catholic.edu.au or (02) 9419 2890



MERCY COLLEGE CHATSWOOD - 2021

CO-CURRICULAR MUSIC CONSENT FORM

This form is to be filled out after reading The Music Information Booklet for 2021.

STUDENT NAME: _____

YEAR / TUTOR GROUP: _____

PARENT/CARER'S NAME: _____

PHONE NUMBER: _____

EMAIL: _____

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Please complete the relevant sections below:

* I would like **Private** lessons (30 min) _____ (name instrument/voice)

* I would like to join the **String Ensemble** _____ (name instrument)

* I would like to join the **Guitar Ensemble** _____ (name instrument)

* I would like to join the **Concert Band** _____ (resumes Term 2)

* I would like to join the **Pop Choir** _____ (resumes Term 2)

* I would like to join the **Chamber Choir** _____ (resumes Term 2)

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We have read the *Music Information Booklet* for 2021 and we fully understand the policies regarding co-curricular music and related fees and we agree to these conditions.

Student's Name: _____ **Student's Signature:** _____

Parent's Name: _____ **Parent's Signature:** _____

Date: _____

Tutor/Ensemble Director Signature: _____ **Co-curricular Co-ordinator Signature:** _____

Date: _____

Date: _____