Ballajura Community College

MUSIC
Excellence Program

Information guide for new students

RESPECT | EQUITY | ACHIEVEMENT | CARE | HEALTH

The Ballajura Community College Music Excellence Program is an exciting and progressive music program with specialist music instruction for students in Year Seven to Ten. The program includes class music, instrumental lessons, and ensemble performance. The program encourages students to enjoy making music through engaging fully in the practical and theoretical aspects of this subject. Students enjoy the benefits of performing alongside musically talented peers in a contemporary performing arts centre which is especially suited to instrumental music. It is expected that students commit to the program for years seven through to ten.

Students may apply to enrol in the program as:

- Continuing Instrumental - (continuing from the Instrumental Music School Services (IMSS) primary school program) on flute, clarinet, saxophone, trumpet, trombone, euphonium, electric guitar, bass guitar, percussion (drums), classical guitar or vocals.
- Beginning Instrumental - (places are offered according to availability and suitability via an aptitude test). Places may be offered in flute, clarinet, saxophone, trumpet, trombone, euphonium, electric guitar, bass guitar, percussion (drums), classical guitar or vocals.
- Private Instrumental - (enrolled in class music and ensemble only. This option is only for students who study an instrument outside of school with a qualified private tutor).

Students who are accepted into the music program will be offered free instrumental or vocal lessons. Specialised music teachers from the School of Instrumental Music Services visit the school once a week to teach each instrument or voice. Instrumental choice varies from year to year and both vocal and instrumental places are limited.

Typically, beginner classes are given for the following instruments:

- Clarinet
- Saxophone (not available every year)
- Trumpet
- French Horn (dependent on numbers)
- Trombone
- Percussion
- Electric Guitar
- Bass Guitar
- Voice

Ensembles

Ensemble involvement is an integral part of any student's musical education. Ballajura Community College offers a number of performing groups, including, Choir, Junior and Senior Contemporary Bands, Junior and Senior Concert Bands and a Classical Guitar Ensemble. Students enrolled in the music program are required to participate in at least one of these groups. Rehearsals are for one hour per week before or after school, and in some instances during a lunch break.

Instrumental music lessons (provided by IMSS) are free of charge and worth approximately $2000. Students are required to either hire an instrument for the first year (some instruments such as euphonium can be loaned for longer) or purchase their own ($110 for one year). Instruments including, electric guitars, electric and bass guitars cannot be hired and need to be purchased. This charge covers depreciation, routine maintenance, and repair of the instrument.

Classroom Music

Alongside their instrumental or vocal lesson, students are enrolled in a specialised music unit.

It is in these classes that students develop and gain skills in aural discrimination, notation, compositions and music technologies and appreciate and learn to critically analyse different genres and styles of music.

Selection Process

To gain a position in the music program at Ballajura Community College please complete the BCC Student Enrolment Form and tick "Music" under Program Applications on page 2 by the due date. Students will be notified when they will be required to complete a music aptitude test and a short interview.

Testing and interviews are conducted at the College and information on specific times and dates can be obtained from the College by phoning 9262 7777.

EARLY APTITUDE TESTING

In addition, in Term One, Year 6 students from local primary schools will have the opportunity to visit BCC with their schools for aptitude testing.

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