



Music Programs for Primary Schools

**Soar Music delivers a comprehensive, professional and balanced music program tailored to the needs of your school and your child. On site, on time and great value!**

### **Our Vision**

Soar Music's vision is to help Catholic parish primary schools, who are struggling to deliver quality music education, create thriving and robust instrumental/music programs so they gain the benefits that other schools already enjoy. We believe all children deserve the chance to learn how to play an instrument, as musical skills are proven to be extraordinarily valuable in learning development, social and emotional skills and ongoing academic success.

Over 30 years' professional experience and expertise in developing successful school music programs will be placed at the service of your school and its students.

### **About the Soar Music program**

A vibrant arts and cultural education helps young children makes sense of their lives and the world they live in. Soar Music instrumental program is a part of this process, contributing to a balanced and holistic education.

Culture is so important to enrich and pass on to each generation. Soar Music will encourage students in Catholic schools to participate through music in the celebration of the Holy Mass and liturgical feasts as they develop their skills.

For St Oliver Plunkett School, we aim to enhance the *Beyond the Classroom* program already in place.

### **Music recruitment**

Open from Year 3 onwards. Demonstrations of instruments and information about the program will be provided for the children during school hours. A specific process of testing will be conducted to assess each child's preference, current aural skills aptitude and physical suitability for the various instruments, initially from woodwind, brass and percussion. Instrument selection is very important to create the best conditions for success by the student in their initial musical studies. We also consider the bigger picture of creating a balanced band for the school with a suitable variety of instruments to play together.

### **Information sessions for parents**

Two Information sessions for parents have been scheduled for St Oliver Plunkett School:

**Thursday 8 September at 6.30pm–7.30pm**

**Monday 12 September from 8.35am–9.35am**

You are welcome and encouraged to attend either session.

We explain why and how your child will be selected and demonstrate what each instrument sounds like. We discuss the value of learning an instrument, where and how to access an instrument through reputable music stores, the commitment involved to participate in the school program, our fees and sign-up process.

### **How will I know if my child has been successful in testing for an instrument?**

An *Acceptance Letter* and *Student Contract* will be emailed to you or sent home. If your child is ready to start, an instrument will be nominated. This will be an instrument that your child was most successful on and with a balanced band in mind. If for some reason your child really does not want to play the instrument selected, please **contact** us for an alternative suitable option for your child. Usually there are several options available that will work for your child.

### **Instruments purchase and program sign up**

The enrolment and billing process for tuition will be available through our website after you receive an acceptance letter.

Parents are responsible for providing their child's instrument. We facilitate contact with reputable music stores who have hire and/or purchase plans available. However, we do not take a commission from these transactions. They are entirely separate. We do however, happily provide advice about obtaining a quality instrument. Years of experience have given us confidence in our instrument selection advice.

Music stores will generally be available for consultation at our Information sessions and from links provided on our website. This facilitates a smooth start to establishing the ensemble / band program from day one.

### **Annual commitment**

Once students have enrolled it is expected that they honour their commitment for the full school year. This is because learning an instrument takes *at least* a full year to see significant results.

### **About the Lessons**

- Small group lessons are provided for enrolled students from Years 3 to 6, with a view to offering optional private lessons for Year 5 & 6 students in the future.
- It is expected that students will receive a minimum of eight lessons per term – 32 from a possible 36 lessons offered throughout the school year. This allows

classroom teachers at least one week of no disruptions for assessment and exam schedules.

- Students who miss their minimum of 8 term lessons due to illness or school activity, will be able to schedule make up lessons in the last week of each term. Make up lessons are only for illness or school activity interruptions. An email must be sent notifying of student absence. 24hrs notice is required to qualify for a make up lesson.
- A term's notice will be required if circumstances change and the student is not able to continue.

### Rehearsals for band / ensemble

Rehearsals are additional and run for 39 weeks of the school year. It is expected that students attend regular rehearsals. If another commitment (eg: sport training) is held at the same time as the rehearsal, we are happy for the student to alternate rehearsals. However, this will not allow for a fee reduction.

### Concerts and Music Festivals

Performance is a vital part of the program and a fantastic occasion to celebrate the achievements of the students and various ensembles. Performances include but are **not limited** to:

- Beginner Band Day concluding with Debut Concert (equates to four lessons and two/three band rehearsals during the day)
- School Fete performance
- End-of-Term: Autumn, Winter, Spring, Christmas
- Queensland Catholic Music Festival (QCMF)

### Reports

- Semester reports are sent to parents. This will allow you to see the progression of your child and areas to be addressed.
- Reports will consider your child's progress in the areas of note and rhythm recognition, posture, punctuality to lessons, bringing the correct equipment (book, instrument) and practice habits.

### News and updates

You will receive regular email newsletters and the ability to log in to view information specific to your school's program experience.

### Practice expectations

Initially, your child should practise at least five minutes x five days each week.

This is critical for a number of reasons:

- to develop the muscles around the face to produce the necessary sound;

- to improve finger coordination;
- to improve note and rhythm recognition;
- to achieve a sense of success and further learning;
- to set up a pattern and habit of practice.

Practice is expected to increase over time. Attending a weekly rehearsal and lesson will naturally develop the student's skill. The question becomes, 'How good do you want to be?'

### Fee Structure

Fees are to be paid *at the start of each term* for student enrolment. These fees cover costs:

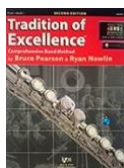
- to pay teachers
- for program administration
- to build shared resources for the school music program (\$200 per student is allocated from the overall fees paid)

All billing is handled securely through our website [soarmusic.com.au](http://soarmusic.com.au) once you receive a Letter of Offer.

32 lessons taught from a possible 36. Make up lessons in the last week of term are only for illness or school activity interruptions. An email must be sent notifying of student absence. 24hrs notice is required for student absence to qualify for a make up lesson.

### Tuition Fees

Lessons + Rehearsals	Annual	Per term
30-minute small group lessons plus rehearsals	\$895.00 + GST \$89.50	\$223.75 + GST \$22.38
TOTAL for Term 4, 2022	\$246.13 includes GST	



### Band Method Book

*Tradition of Excellence Book 1* for your child's selected instrument. Available from music bookstores.

We are very excited to work with the St Oliver Plunkett Catholic Primary School community. Please feel free to contact us at any stage with questions about enrolment, your child's progress or individual needs.

Mrs Catherine Esbensen (Director)  
0422 852 552

Phone contact is best at the following times: Mon, Tues, Wed 3pm–6pm; Thursday 9am–5pm; Friday 3pm–5pm.

You can also email at any time via the website.

[soarmusic.com.au](http://soarmusic.com.au)