



**EASTERN HILLS**  
*Senior High School*

LEARNING EXCELLENCE EQUITY CARE

Eastern Hills Senior High School  
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## Welcome to the Music Program at Eastern Hills SHS!

You are now a member of a long-established music program that has developed a fantastic reputation throughout the state over the past 30 years. Our success at producing students every year who are accepted into a university music course has resulted in this program being recognised as an “Approved Specialist Music Program” by the Department of Education and Training.

The journey that you are about to take has produced some outstanding individual musicians but more importantly the experiences gained from this course will help you to continue along your pathway to become a great contributor to and member of the community.

The staff at Eastern Hills SHS is committed to assisting you in ANY way to be successful and reach the goals that you set for yourself. The Music staff in particular understands the challenges of being a “muso” and we have a vested interest in helping you overcome these challenges to become the best musician and best student that you possibly can. Please speak to us if you need any advice or assistance – don’t allow a small problem to develop into a large one!

This package provides a brief overview of what is involved in the Specialist Music Program at Eastern Hills SHS and we hope that the information is useful to both students and parents.

We welcome you to our musical “family” here at Eastern Hills SHS and we look forward with great interest to working with you over the next four years (and hopefully beyond!) to help develop your musical and academic abilities.

Justin Lynam	Teacher in Charge of Music (Class, Guitar and Intermediate Band)
Maurice Bourgault	Class (Yr 8,10 & 11), Percussion, Senior Band Director
Elizabeth Lyon	Class (Yr 7), Percussion, Junior Concert Band Director
Steve Searle	Brass, Clarinet, Saxophone
Kay Payne	Flute
Michaela Steels	Voice and Vocal Ensemble

**If you have any further questions now or in the future, please contact us on the school phone number above**

# THE COURSES

## Class Music (Yr 7 → 10)

- This is our specialist music course designed to prepare all students for studying Music in Yr 11 and 12
- It is in this course where you will be able to spend more time understanding how to read, write and appreciate a whole range of music and is designed to complement your instrumental lesson
- All students who are part of the Instrumental Music School Services (IMSS) program are required to enrol in this course in order to receive their weekly FREE instrumental lesson. In addition, any student who is interested in becoming a better musician is also advised to enrol in this course.
- This course must be taken in both semesters each year.

## Piano Keyboard (Yr 7 → 10)

- In this course, students will learn how to read and write music at a basic level through learning how to play keyboard/piano. The emphasis however is on playing the keyboard in our keyboard laboratory and most class time will be spent practicing performance skills.
- This course is a semester course and requires no prerequisites.
- Students work at their own level whether they have played keyboard/piano for 10 years or whether they have had no musical background.
- You can take this as one of your “option” subjects at any time in Yrs 8 → 10.

## Upper School Music (Yr 11 – ATAR 1&2 and Yr 12 – ATAR 3 & 4)

- All students who wish to continue receiving a free instrumental music lesson in Yr 11 and 12 through the IMSS program must enrol in this course.
- The course is the most appropriate course to take in preparation for studying music as a career as a performer, composer, teacher or musical research.
- This course is also ideal for those students who simply enjoy playing an instrument and would like to challenge themselves to continue to perform at a high level before leaving school
- In order to enrol in this course, students must have completed Yr 10 Class Music (or equivalent level of theoretical knowledge) and must also have reached a satisfactory performance level on a chosen instrument(s)
- Students will develop skills in listening, composing, history of music and performance

# INSTRUMENTAL LESSONS

The WA Education Department provides an absolutely fantastic and unique opportunity for specially selected Government school students to receive FREE instrumental music lessons.

Specially selected students start lessons in Yr 5 (some earlier) and are expected to continue on until the end of Year 10. At this stage, students have taken part in a wide range of musical activities and are able to make an informed and experienced decision to either continue their musical studies into Yr 11 and 12 or to reduce / cease their involvement in music.

At the high school level, all students who have taken the opportunity to get involved in this wonderful program are required to enrol in Class Music and perform in an Ensemble/Band. These courses provide a great supplement to their instrumental lessons and provide an all-rounded musical education.

While the Class Music course will appear in the normal school timetable twice each week, the Instrumental lesson and Ensemble/band rehearsal take place in addition to the normal school timetable.

Students will receive a 30 minute instrumental lesson once each week in a group of up to 6 members. The lesson will be held on a certain day of the week between 8:30am and 3:00pm (other times can also be negotiated).

Students will be required to miss 30-40 minutes of a subject that occurs on the normal timetable so that they can attend their instrumental lesson. All students will have the opportunity to return to their normal timetabled class on that day to catch up on missed work. In most cases this is a very small amount of class time that students will miss.

To ensure that all students miss a minimal amount of time out of classes, instrumental lessons are held on a ROTATING TIMETABLE. The rotating timetable simply means that each week your instrumental lesson is held on the same day but at a different time. The end result is that you should never miss the same class twice in two weeks and therefore attending your instrumental lesson should have hardly any effect on success in other subjects. In fact, most students find that studying music helps them keep organised and succeed in other subjects. A rotating timetable for each instrument is displayed on the Music Department Noticeboard in the corridor of the Music Department. Always be courteous and polite when leaving or arriving late to your scheduled classes and ensure that you catch up on any missed work as soon as possible.

Instrumental teachers are not always at Eastern Hills SHS and often they are only available on the day of your lesson. It is VITAL that you are punctual to your instrumental lesson and that you use your Instrumental Practice Journal to communicate with your teacher. You only receive a 30-minute lesson each week so make the most of it by being organised and on time and make as much progress at home each week in between each lesson.

Instrumental lessons are held in the Practice Rooms located in either the Music Department or the Music Centre. Students can leave their instrument and any musical equipment on the shelves in the corridor of the Music Department or in the Music Centre Instrument store. These are generally safe areas and often will be locked when no staff member is present. HOWEVER private instruments are NOT COVERED by any school insurance and it is highly recommended that your instrument is privately insured.

To attend your instrumental lesson, students are to:

1. Politely ask permission to leave your timetabled class to attend your instrumental lesson
2. Sign IN to Music at the Front Office of the school
3. Attend your lesson in the Music Centre or Music Department building
4. Sign OUT of Music at the Front Office of the school
5. Return to your timetabled class, knock on the door, apologise for being late due to attending your instrumental lesson, ask the teacher what work you need to catch up on.

Instrumental lessons start in Week 2 & 3. See the Music Department Noticeboard

# ENSEMBLE

All students who receive a FREE instrumental lesson are required to take part in at least ONE ensemble. "Ensemble" is a French word meaning "group" and playing in an ensemble is very different to solo playing. It is also through the ensembles where you will gain experience in performing for audiences, meeting new people, going on camps and tours.

Ensembles at Eastern Hills SHS include:

- **Eastern Hills and Districts *Junior* Concert Band**  
For Yr 6 Brass, Woodwind (Flute, Clarinet, Sax) and Percussion students  
Rehearsals are held every Wednesday 4:45 – 5:45pm  
Rehearsals start Term 1 Week 4
- **Eastern Hills and Districts *Intermediate* Concert Band**  
For Yr 7 and 8 Brass, Woodwind (Flute, Clarinet, Sax) and Percussion students  
Rehearsals are held every Wednesday 3:15 – 4:30pm  
Rehearsals start Term 1 Week 3
- **Eastern Hills SHS Classical Guitar Ensemble**  
For ALL Classical Guitar students Yr 7 - 12  
Rehearsals are held every Tuesday 3:15 – 4:30pm  
Rehearsals start Term 1 Week 3
- **Eastern Hills SHS Percussion Ensembles**  
For selected Percussion students  
Rehearsals are held every Wednesday 3:15 – 4:30pm  
Rehearsals start Term 1 Week 4
- **Eastern Hills SHS Vocal Ensemble**  
For Yr 7 → 12 Voice students (and any other interested students)  
Rehearsals are held after school Tuesdays 3:10 – 4:10pm  
Rehearsals start Term 1 Week 3
- **Eastern Hills and Districts *Senior* Concert Band**  
This is an audition-based band mainly for Yr 9 – Yr 12 students  
Rehearsals are held Thursdays 3:15 – 5pm  
Rehearsals start Term 1 Week 3

## MUSIC CAMPS AND TOURS

Students involved in most ensembles will have an opportunity to take part in a music camp early in the year. These camps enable the ensembles to make vital early progress on the new music that is to be learnt each year. In addition to developing music reading and performance skills, the camps also enable students to acquire teamwork, discipline and communication skills that are integral for success in music and in all high school studies.

Mid way through 2017, members of the Senior Concert Band, Jazz Band and Guitar Ensemble travelled to New Zealand on a 10-day Music tour. Students performed for schools, community groups and formal occasions as well as visiting some wonderful tourist destinations and activities and learning about the rich cultural heritage of New Zealand.

A tour of this kind is run every 2 or 3 years by the Eastern Hills SHS Music Department and for many students it is the highlight of their time in Music at this school. Previous Tours have been held in Sydney/Canberra, North West of WA, Adelaide, New Zealand, Tasmania and WA's South West. In Term 2 this year we are travelling to Singapore!! Taking part in a Music Tour is a great experience for all students and staff who take part. So start saving up and thinking about the possibility of going on tour in the near future!

## HOW TO SUCCEED AS A MUSIC STUDENT AT EASTERN HILLS SHS

- PRACTICE EVERY DAY** – most of your enjoyment in music will come from making regular WEEKLY improvement in your standard of playing. This is DIRECTLY linked to your practice routine.
  - Work out a 30 minute time in the day where you can do your best practice.  
Try and make it the same time each day and maybe slightly altered for weekends
  - You need a quiet area with a music stand, a desk and possibly a chair
  - You may need to negotiate with the rest of the family on the best time that suits everyone
  - Fill in your practice amount in your INSTRUMENTAL PRACTICE JOURNAL each day and bring it to your lesson each week
  - ORGANISE IT THIS WEEK!!!!
- Organise a **HOMEWORK/STUDY ROUTINE** for each day of the week (including weekends!) and remember work out this routine AROUND your instrumental practice.
  - finish off small bits of homework each day
  - start long term projects early so that you don't have to rush at the end
  - be aware that EVERY subject will require final preparations and final submission of work around the last few weeks of each term
  - ORGANISE IT THIS WEEK!!!
- Make use of your **SCHOOL DIARY** and write in your homework for each class
- LISTEN DURING FORM CLASS** for important daily notices and other information – particularly for notices regarding ensemble, camps and excursions.
- BE PREPARED AND BE ON TIME** – to all lessons, rehearsals, meetings etc. Purchase and use a watch with an alarm on it.
- CHECK THE MUSIC CENTRE NOTICEBOARD** EVERY MONDAY BEFORE FORM AND AGAIN WHENEVER YOU BRING IN YOUR INSTRUMENT. Check your lesson time for the week (remember this will be different each week) and any other pieces of information. Set your watch alarm to remind you when to attend your instrumental lesson.
- ASK QUESTIONS** – please speak to your teachers if there is anything you are unsure of. Often a problem can be sorted out quickly with little effort. When in doubt, act immediately!
- CHALLENGE YOURSELF** – don't do the minimum, don't do what is "good enough", AIM FOR HIGH STANDARDS IN EVERYTHING YOU DO
- ENSEMBLE NEWSLETTERS** – you will receive a newsletter regularly at your ensemble rehearsal and often by email. Make sure that this gets taken home to your family and displayed on the fridge. Take note of concert dates, meeting times etc.
- LISTEN TO LOTS OF MUSIC** AND ATTEND CONCERTS/EXCURSIONS – listening to music – especially live performances - can inspire your own playing and essential in helping you reach a high level of performance. Make the most of your opportunities to hear senior students and professional performances of any music wherever possible.