

YEAR 4 STRING PROGRAM 2023



The Hillcrest String Program offers an opportunity for Year 4 students to learn violin, viola, cello or double bass in an exciting and educational environment. The program is designed to complement and run simultaneously with the classroom music program.

The String Program runs for two years (Years 4 and 5) with the only cost to parents approximately \$35 per year which purchases the method book that students will use. The program offers the foundations of string ensemble playing, which inevitably leads to future individual tuition and participation in the various College string ensembles.

Music is a means of self-expression and learning a string instrument develops coordination and fine motor skills. Through studying instruments children learn the importance of focus, dedication, and practice. It helps them to set goals and pursue excellence.

The aim of the program is to introduce students to a string instrument, developing basic string playing techniques. This will enable them to participate with other students in a string ensemble, which will begin in Year 5.

Students receive a weekly lesson in violin, viola, cello or double bass which is scheduled during classroom music time. The students work through a sequentially written student method book, with supplementary repertoire that may also be used to assist in the development of technique and music literacy.

COMMITMENT

Students wishing to join the String Program are required to study their selected string instrument for two years. This means that these students will not participate in the Year 5 'Band' program in 2024, as they will continue learning their string instrument and participate in the Year 5 string ensemble. There is also an expectation that regular, supervised practice occurs each week and a weekly practice schedule and record sheet will be provided for parents and students to follow and complete.

Performing is an important aspect of learning a musical instrument. It assists in the development of confidence and musicianship, as well as the sense of teamwork involved in being a member of an ensemble. Throughout the two years students will be given opportunities to perform at concerts and eisteddfods, as well as college and community events. These performances form a compulsory part of the program, and we ask parents and students to fulfil these commitments.

The College will provide an instrument to students free of charge for the two years of the String Program. When students enter Year 6, they will require their own instrument. Details about purchasing of instruments and hire options will be available closer to that time.

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES

Students will be responsible for the care of their instruments, and we request that guidelines for the care of their instrument be reinforced at home. Instruments are issued to students in excellent condition with the relevant accessories supplied (cleaning cloth, rosin, and shoulder rest). Accidents can happen and realistically with normal use we can expect to have some repairs over time. Should the instrument be damaged to the extent that it requires replacement, however, the replacement cost will be charged to the family.

It is also a requirement that students bring their instrument and relevant books to their lesson every week.

Students are expected to practice their instrument at home during the week to consolidate what is taught in lessons. As a guide, students in the String Program should practice approximately 15 minutes each day (minimum) five days a week.

ENROLMENT

Students and parents interested in joining the program are required to complete the enrolment form found

[CLICK HERE TO ENROL](#)

Interested students will be required to attend an instrument trial on the various string instruments to check for their suitability to the instrument and their natural aptitude for pitch and rhythm. Instrument preference is noted, however not guaranteed. There are limited places available, and students will be notified if they have been offered a place in the program.

Instruments and tutor books are issued during the first few weeks of the school year.

FURTHER INFORMATION

Further information regarding the program is available by contacting performingarts@hillcrest.qld.edu.au.

