



Cammeraygal High School has a growing Music Program for all students to enjoy.

We currently run 4 ensembles, which perform at school (assemblies, music nights etc.) and in the community.

- The **Concert Band** consists of students playing a diverse range of woodwind, brass and percussion instruments (and even some strings!). The Concert Band is conducted by Gavin Staines OAM, who built Chatswood High's highly regarded music program. The Band participates in a music camp in Term 1, with a tour in Term 4. Both beginner and experienced musicians can join, and you do not need to have played in concert bands in primary school to be involved. If a student is beginning an instrument when they join, they are required to attend private tuition on your instrument in order to learn how to play their instrument. Experienced students are given opportunities to improve their playing through more complex parts, or solo sections.
- Our **Vocal Ensemble**, led by Mr McGirr, is an open, non-selective, group that performs vocal pieces for assemblies, eisteddfods and represent the school in the community. The Vocal Ensemble performs a range of repertoire, focusing on contemporary music, and with an aim of providing an exciting, engaging performance opportunity for all students.
- Robert Oetomo leads our **Percussion Ensemble**. This ensemble is open to all students willing to learn how to play a range of percussion instruments, in a group setting. Students perform drum line patterns, and a range of rhythms from genres such as rock and jazz, as well as Latin-influenced music.
- The **Guitar Ensemble** is open to beginner guitarists and is led by Mr McGirr. Students will be playing a range of music, from contemporary rock to Spanish Flamenco, building guitar skills and ensemble awareness, as well as having fun.

We intend to extend the range of ensembles offered to suit student interests. In 2017 we are hoping to offer:

- Jazz Ensemble
- Senior Guitar Ensemble
- Senior Vocal Ensemble
- String Ensemble

## REHEARSAL TIMES for 2016

All ensembles rehearse in the Performance Arts Theatre. Students need to bring their instrument with any related accessories (e.g. extra reeds, valve oil etc.), music (where applicable), and enthusiasm!

Ensemble	Day	Time
Vocal Ensemble	Wednesday	7:45 – 8:45 am
Percussion Ensemble	Wednesday	3:00 – 4:00 pm
Concert Band	Thursday	3:30 – 4:45 pm
Guitar Ensemble	Friday	7:45- 8:45 am

## EXPECTATIONS

To ensure the success of our ensembles, it is important to view membership as a year-long commitment. Being part of a music ensemble means being part of a team that is working together to produce a quality

musical performance. **Students need to demonstrate their respect of the conductor and of their fellow ensemble members by**

- Attending all rehearsals on time
- Bringing **all** the required equipment to **every** rehearsal and performance.
- Having a high level of self-discipline to listen to instructions
- Attending all performances and the annual band camp (as applicable)
- Practicing regularly and preparing for each rehearsal and tutorial
- Assisting with the setting up and packing up of ensemble equipment as required

Inappropriate behaviour will not be accepted. The School Discipline Policy applies to the Music Program.

## UNIFORM

All ensembles perform in the Cammeraygal Music Ensemble uniform:

- Cammeraygal music ensemble black polo shirt\* (provided by the school)
- Neat plain black trousers or jeans (no ripped, torn or faded jeans, only plain black)
- Black school shoes with black socks
- Black belt as needed
- School jumper as needed

\*The music ensemble shirt will be provided by the school each year. At the end of the school year it must be returned in good condition. Shirts not returned in good condition will incur a \$35 fee.

## TUTORIALS & PRACTICE

In addition to the ensemble rehearsals, all students playing an instrument are strongly encouraged to have a weekly private lesson. If you need assistance finding a suitable tutor, please contact [music@cammeraygalpandc.org.au](mailto:music@cammeraygalpandc.org.au). Ensemble members (and in particular Concert Band members) are expected to practice a minimum of at least 4 sessions of 20 minutes each per week. Each session should include technical work (scales) and practice of ensemble pieces. Students are encouraged to sit AMEB exams.

## INSTRUMENTS

In general, it is expected that ensemble members will source their own instrument. For rarer instruments, the P&C and school can often assist in sourcing. Percussion and keyboard players will use school instruments for rehearsals and performances, but are expected to bring their own drum sticks. Percussion students are encouraged to purchase a practice pad for home practice, if a drum kit is not available. The Music Committee can assist with sourcing rental instruments if needed. For the future, we are considering purchasing instruments to hire, particularly the 'rarer' and more expensive instruments.

## SHEET MUSIC

Where needed, sheet music for is provided for the music ensembles. Practice copies are provided for home use.

## REPERTOIRE

The music ensembles perform a variety of styles and also consider requests for songs. If you wish to sponsor a song, please contact [music@cammeraygalpandc.org.au](mailto:music@cammeraygalpandc.org.au).

## FEES

In 2017, music program fees are as follows:

- First Ensemble - \$250
- Additional Ensembles - \$100 per ensemble

Students may be requested to cover costs associated with transportation to ensemble events (e.g. eisteddfods, performances etc.)

Additionally, Concert Band participation involves a number of other costs that parents need to be aware of:

- Band camps and tours (approx. \$250-\$300 per event depending on duration and location)
- Instrument purchase or hire
- Instrument maintenance
- Tutorials (estimated at \$35 - \$40 per half hour lesson)

Families who require financial assistance are encouraged to contact the Music Committee to discuss payment plans for each ensemble.

## **PAYMENT DETAILS**

**For fees for all music ensembles:**

*Account Name:* Cammeraygal High School P&C Association  
*Branch number:* 032199  
*Account Number:* 312605

Please use the reference format "**<Ensemble name> <student first initial> <student first name>**" to help us track down payments. For example: "*Band J. Smith*" OR "*Guitar W. Smith*" OR "*Percussion F. Smith*". **Payment instructions for specific events** will be sent as appropriate.

## **MUSIC PROGRAM MANAGEMENT**

The Cammeraygal Music Program is collaboratively managed by the P&C Music Committee and the school music teacher, Mr Anthony McGirr. The Music Committee is made up of parent volunteers, with the convener being elected at the P&C AGM. New parent volunteers are welcome!

## **CONTACT INFORMATION**

Contact the Music Committee via [music@cammeraygalpandc.org.au](mailto:music@cammeraygalpandc.org.au)  
Contact Mr McGirr via [cammeraygal-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:cammeraygal-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au)

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