



Annandale Public School
MUSIC PROGRAM

2025 MUSIC HANDBOOK

APS MUSIC HANDBOOK

Welcome to the Annandale Public School 2025 Music Program!

Annandale Public School has a vibrant music program. Our students are enthusiastic, supportive, and committed. Students can participate in a range of performing ensembles and are proud representatives of our school. Each year we offer a beginner program for band, string, and choir, as well as options for more developed musicians and vocalists. Our program has continued to grow and thrive year on year under the guidance of highly skilled tutors and the support of the APS community. In 2024 our Senior String Ensemble, Recorder Ensemble and Senior Choir participated in performances at Sydney Opera House and Sydney Town Hall. Our Senior Concert Band and Jazz Band performed on the Enmore Theatre stage. Each year we run fun and educational events for our students, including Music Camp and our annual music performance night, Big Night Out.

Our Objectives

- All children enjoy making and learning music
- All children develop their playing skills
- All children have an opportunity to perform in a music ensemble
- All children develop a sense of personal worth and pride through successful experiences in music
- Continue to expand our music ensembles

In 2025, we will be running the following extra-curricular music ensembles:

Ensemble Type		Notes
String Ensemble	Junior Strings	For beginners and early intermediate students from years 2 - 6. All enrolled students are also expected to attend private tuition on their instrument.
	Senior Strings	For experienced players, by invitation.
Concert Band	Junior Band	For beginners who are starting private tuition from years 3-6.
	Intermediate Band	For students who have completed 1 year of band.
	Senior Band	For experienced year 4-6 students to continue playing brass, wind, and percussion instruments
	Jazz Band	For selected students only who are also members of Senior Band or Senior Strings.
Recorder	Recorder Consort	Years 3-6. Year 2 students can start after doing 1 term of recorder lessons as part of their Classroom Music Program.
Choir	Junior Choir	For all singers in years K - 2
	Senior Choir	For all singers in years 3 - 6

** Piano players can be part of our percussion group in Junior, Intermediate and Senior Concert Band.

** Guitar and Ukulele lessons are offered by tutors who teach group guitar and ukulele lessons here at school. Please see our Music Tutor list for their details.

Private Tuition Requirements

All students joining Concert Bands or String Ensembles are required to have **private tuition** on their chosen instrument. This is due to the complex physical requirements of these instruments and to ensure quality in our program. We have a list of *Endorsed Private Music Tutors* in our handbook, but you may choose to use any tutor. **Students who play percussion in band may either have piano or percussion lessons.**

Music Fees, Hire Fees and Associated Costs

Music membership can add up to a significant amount over the year. With this in mind, we charge on a term-by-term basis. However, there are some initial upfront costs.

Fees:

- **Membership Fees (all non-refundable):**

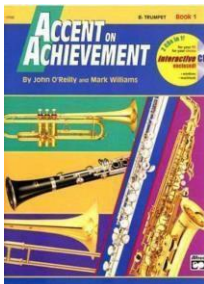
- Concert Band (Junior, Intermediate, Senior) - \$120 per term.
- String Ensemble (Junior, Intermediate, Senior) - \$120 per term
- Recorder Ensemble- Excursion fees may apply
- Choir – Excursion fees may apply
- Jazz Band Levy - \$100 annual fee - to be paid at the start of the year. Please note that Jazz Band students **MUST** play in Senior Concert Band.

Ensemble Fees MUST be paid at the start of each term in order for students to participate. Login to your Schoolbytes account to make a payment.

NOTE: If a student plays in both a Concert Band and a String Ensemble, they only pay one set of fees per term, i.e. \$120 per term to cover both ensembles.

- **Equipment Fees**

- Music Books and instrument equipment needed for private tuition (approx. \$20 – 60)
- **Junior Concert Band** members are required to purchase *Accent on Achievement Book 1* for their instrument. This is available online.
- **Intermediate Band** members need to purchase *Accent on Achievement Book 2*.



- **Tutor Fees**

- Determined by individual tutors

- **Uniform (Concert Bands, Jazz Band, String Ensembles and Senior Choir)**

- APS Music T-shirt. Available through the P&C
<https://apspc.square.site/product/APSMusicTShirt/6?cp=true&sa=true&sbp=false&q=false>
- Neat black pants and black leather shoes

- **Uniform (Junior Choir)**

- Throughout the year we may have accessories for our costumes, but basic blacks are required.

- **Music Camp (Years 3 – 6 only)**
 - Approximately \$250
 - 2025 dates: Thursday 29th May – Friday 30th May.

- **Instrument Hire** (if required and we have an available instrument)
 - \$220 per year
 - Hire instruments **SHOULD** be serviced annually and **MUST be serviced** prior to returning to the school. Servicing is at the expense of the hirer.
 - You may hire externally or purchase your own instrument. Purchasing your own instrument is often a financially better choice when hire fees for more than 2 years are considered.

All music fees are used to cover the cost of music scores, instrument purchases and repairs, photocopying, copyright licenses, entry into various festivals and events, auditions, and the fees for our conductors.

In 2025 we will be providing limited scholarships that give the recipients reduced ensemble and lesson fees. Please check school communications for the application form. Successful applicants will be notified late in Term 4 2024.

Music Rehearsal Commitments

Rehearsal times are as follows, commencing **Week 3 of Term 1**.

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Before School	Jazz Band HALL 7:50 – 8:50am	Senior Concert Band HALL 7:50 – 8:50am Guitar & Ukulele 6/5W 8:00 – 8:50am	Intermediate Concert Band HALL 7:50 – 8:50am Senior Strings LIBRARY 8:00 – 8:50am	Junior Concert Band HALL 7:50 – 8:50am	
Lunch		Recorder Ensemble 3/2K CLASSROOM	Junior Choir HALL Senior Choir KR CLASSROOM 2 nd half lunch		
Afternoon		Junior & Intermediate Strings KD & KS 3:00 – 3:50pm			

- *RECORDER CONSORT & JUNIOR STRINGS: Rehearsal time to be advised*

It is expected that students attend rehearsals every week.

If your child will be absent for any reason (e.g. illness), please send a note to the school. If a student is repeatedly absent with no communication, they may lose their position in the ensemble.

NB: Students are expected to attend every performance. If there is an unavoidable clash, a parent must email the school ASAP.

Communication

Payment invoices and all notifications will be sent out via **School Bytes** in 2025. Please log into your account to view all invoices and make payments.

Music coordinators may also communicate information via email. As such, it is **VERY IMPORTANT** you provide us with a regularly checked and accessible email address. Without this we cannot keep you up to date with rehearsal changes, venue changes and other information.



Annandale Public School
Permissions & Payments

- ✓ Complete permission notes
- ✓ Submit payments
- ✓ Check outstanding payments

...all in one platform!

School Bytes

ANNANDALE PS
STRENGTH THROUGH WISDOM

Cartoon owl mascot



School Bytes
Parent App
Available now!
Download on the App Store or Google Play by clicking the image below.

Key Features

- Get real time push notifications from your school
- Stay signed in and save your card for secure payments for fees and excursions
- Give consent, sign forms and respond to attendance alerts
- View the school calendar and news

Download on the App Store
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Instrument Hire

We have a small selection of instruments that are available to hire from the school. There is an annual fee for hiring of \$220. If you choose to hire a school instrument, the commitment is for the whole year. No refund will be given for early returns.

You are required to maintain your hire instrument with regular servicing, and the

Due care of the hired instrument is required, and full responsibility must be taken by the band member and their parents/carers. You are required to maintain your hire instrument with regular servicing, and the instrument should be professionally serviced before returning. The cost for damaged or lost instruments will be incurred by the parent/carer.

Parents/carers are responsible for organising and paying insurance for the instrument.

Please make sure you label the hire instrument with your child's name, child's class, and a contact telephone number.

If you have any questions regarding instrument hire and maintenance, please contact Ms Hashambhoy.

Instrument Hire Outside of School

Sydney Strings Centre
314 High Street Chatswood NSW 2067
Ph: 9417 2611
W: <https://www.violins.com.au/>

Sydney Band Instruments
286 Victoria Road, Gladesville, New South Wales 2111
Ph: (02) 8958 4537
W: <https://www.sydneybandinstruments.com.au/>
The Yamaha and Jupiter student models are extremely high-quality instruments and are highly recommended.

The NSW Arts Unit
W: <https://www.artsunit.nsw.edu.au/instrument-hire>

Music Tutor List

The list below contains contact information for tutors who teach onsite at APS before and after school, AND local tutors who have their own studio. These tutors are highly endorsed by our conductors. You do not need to learn from a tutor on this list to participate in the APS Music Program.

Instrument	Tutor	Contact details
Violin & Viola	Carolina Cuenca	042 511 2199 carocuencac@gmail.com
Violin and Viola	Sarah Qiu (Strathfield)	0423 042 812 Sarah.qiu97@gmail.com
Violin	Bridget Hall	0421657781 Bridget.g.hall@gmail.com
Violin	Natalia Beos (local area)	0411 082 255 nataliabach140@gmail.com
Violin & Viola	Alison Eom	0410413404 alisonsehee@gmail.com
Cello	Paul Smith	0415238275 paulsmithx@gmail.com
Cello	Ruby Brailer (Summer Hill)	0480417145 cellist.rubyb@gmail.com
Voice	Pru Powyer	0438192943 prupowyer@gmail.com
Saxophone	James Watson	0468378374 jamesstj1999@gmail.com
Saxophone & Clarinet	Joern Harris	0425 262 613 joern.harris@gmail.com
Clarinet & Voice	Austin O'Toole	0458 822 353 Austin.OToole42@gmail.com
Flute & Piano	Alison Suter	0411031725 alison_suter2904@yahoo.com
Trombone, Trumpet	Slide McBride	0415 104 238 slidemcbride@gmail.com
Baritone, Trombone, Euphonium	Cathy Chan	0417 271 228
Trumpet	Arkie Moore	0458 505 358 Arkie.moore@gmail.com
Trumpet	Charles Casson	0432 428 635 charles.casson1@gmail.com
Piano	Sophie Spargo	0408 340 104 Sophiespargo2020@gmail.com
Piano	Ranka Ilicic	0410 359 663 rankailicic@gmail.com
Guitar	Kees Stein	csteen@optusnet.com.au
Percussion	Holly Conner (Summer Hill)	0404 158 206 holly.conner@hotmail.com
Guitar: private lessons and Guitar & Ukulele ensemble (privately run)	Justin Gover	0433205342 jigover@gmail.com
Electronic Dance Music Band & DJ club (externally run)	Stuart Ridley	0413 456 242 stuart@stuartridley.com

If you cannot find a tutor from this list, you can try online directories such as <https://www.musicteacher.com.au/>

Information for New Beginners

Learning an instrument is a great way to express yourself, extend your learning and be a part of a team. At APS, we want to give all students the opportunity of joining a music ensemble and help them develop into passionate musicians.

New beginners can be a part of school-run ensembles listed in the table below. The table gives specific information for the instruments we offer. Please note that all students joining Concert Bands or String Ensembles are required to have private tuition on their chosen instrument. This is due to the complex physical requirements of these instruments and to ensure quality in our program.

Instrument	Ensemble for beginners	Age suitability	Does my beginner child need private lessons?
Recorder	Recorder Ensemble	Year 2 - 6	No
Voice/ Choir	Junior Choir/ Senior Choir	K – 6	No
Violin	Junior String Ensemble	Year 2 - 6	Yes
Viola	Junior String Ensemble	Year 2 - 6	Yes
Cello	Junior String Ensemble	Year 2 - 6	Yes
Double Bass	Junior String Ensemble	Year 3 - 6	Yes
Flute	Junior Concert Band	Year 3 - 6	Yes
Clarinet	Junior Concert Band	Year 3 - 6	Yes
Alto Saxophone	Junior Concert Band	Year 3 - 6	Yes
Tenor Saxophone	Junior Concert Band	Year 4 - 6	Yes
Trumpet	Junior Concert Band	Year 3 - 6	Yes
Trombone	Junior Concert Band	Year 3 - 6	Yes
Baritone	Junior Concert Band	Year 3 - 6	Yes
Tuba	Junior Concert Band	Year 4 - 6	Yes
Percussion	Junior Concert Band	Year 3 - 6	Yes
<p>** Piano players can be part of our percussion group in Junior, Intermediate and Senior Concert Band.</p> <p>** Guitar and Ukulele are not part of our school Music Program, but we have tutors who teach group guitar and ukulele lessons here at school. Please see our Music Tutor list for their details.</p>			

Expectations for Ensembles

1. Beginning students are expected to commit to an entire year of learning their instrument and participating in their ensemble.
2. Students are expected to attend all weekly rehearsals and be punctual. Each week they should arrive prepared with their music folder, instrument, and a pencil.
3. Students in all Concert Bands and String Ensembles MUST participate in private lessons on their instrument.
4. Students commit to practicing 3-6 times a week at home.
5. Respectful and responsible behaviour is always expected at rehearsals.
6. Fees must be paid promptly for each term. We charge \$120 per term for ensemble lessons and an annual fee of \$220 for instrument hire.

Practising at home

Your instrument tutor will give you lots of guidance about practicing at home. Before you begin an instrument, it is useful to know what practise involves and how you can incorporate it into your home life.

- You need to practise regularly. Three to four times a week is sufficient, but daily is even better! Beginners do not need to practise for lengthy periods of time, 10-20 minutes is sufficient.
- A special space: Find a space where you can practise. Set up a chair and a music stand. Ideally it should be a space that is quiet, and you can stay focused.
- Storage: Make sure you always pack your instrument away carefully. Store it away from heaters and out of the sun. Under the bed is a great place.
- Parent support: Encouraging your child to develop healthy practise habits is important. Help them set up a routine. Attending lessons is encouraged so that you can help them to practise at home. Listen to them play regularly and encourage them.
- Learning an instrument is challenging but rewarding! It takes patience, commitment, and time to progress. Many instruments are physically challenging, so make sure you do not push your body too hard. Like exercise, take breaks when you need and slowly build up stamina.

Private Tuition – the costs

All members of Junior Concert Band and Junior String Ensemble require private tuition. Most tutors charge between \$40 – 50 per ½ hour lesson. It is important to engage a tutor with a high level of musical training and instructional training.

The cost of tuition is a significant one for families. Please take this into account when choosing the right instrument or ensemble for your child. The Annandale P&C can offer some scholarships to assist with the costs of learning an instrument. Please contact the school for further information.

Performance Opportunities and Events

All members of APS music ensembles will be able to participate in performances at school. Our Senior Ensembles often represent our school in regional and state music events. Below are some of the exciting opportunities that our students can be a part of in 2024.

- Assembly performances (including special events such as ANZAC day and NAIDOC week)
- Preschool performances
- APS Showcase
- Iron Cove Performing Arts Festival
- Festival of Instrumental Music and Festival of Choral Music (NSW Arts Unit) (Year 3+)
- Music Camp
- State Music Camp (Year 5+)
- Fetes and Open Days
- Big Night Out – APS Music showcase

We look forward to having your child in our 2025 program!

If you have questions, please contact the school.

