



MUSIC INFORMATION for 2025

INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this document is to inform all new students and their parents/caregivers about the courses, instrumental program and co-curricular ensembles available through involvement in Music at Unley High School.

Studying music provides opportunities for the development of creativity, critical thinking, persistence, resilience, self-discipline, identity, connection and confidence. It also helps students to develop quality life skills such as organization, time management, patience, tolerance, communication, commitment, team work and leadership - skills transferrable across study, work and social environments. These are achieved through musical experiences that encourage collaboration and creative problem-solving, through the acquisition of skills, knowledge and musical understanding, and through the development of aesthetic awareness.

BELONGING, BEING and BECOMING

The music students at Unley are a very supportive group who enjoy each other's company and work hard to further their skills and the reputation of the school through music. Students are engaged and challenged in the classroom setting and many also join co-curricular ensembles to extend their learning. These include:

- Concert Band
- Vocal Ensemble
- Drumline
- String Ensemble
- Jazz Combo
- Rock Band

These ensembles provide musical and personal growth opportunities for Unley students and most commonly rehearse after school or during lunch time.

YEAR 7 MUSIC in 2025

This subject caters for both the beginning musician and those with prior musical knowledge and experience. It is designed for students who wish to commence or continue learning an instrument and **includes access to free, small-group instrumental lessons for the year.**

Students participate in class band rehearsals and performances, develop musical literacy, basic keyboard and composition skills, engage in music technology projects and explore musical styles and history through practical music-making activities.

YEAR 8, 9 and YEAR 10 MUSIC: Australian Curriculum

Students develop greater musical proficiency and instrumental skills by playing in class band and co-curricular ensembles whilst continuing with instrumental tuition. They also undertake composing, theory, aural and musical styles projects.

SACE MUSIC

In the senior years of secondary school, the various music courses offered within SACE such as Music Performance - Solo, Music Performance – Ensemble and Music Explorations, are designed and structured to suit specific interests and areas of study. Students select components that reflect their individual strengths and interests.

INSTRUMENT SELECTION

Students at Unley High School who undertake Music learn an ensemble instrument. The school can provide **free tuition** on the following instruments:

- Flute
- Reed (Clarinet, Alto and Tenor Saxophone)
- Brass (Trumpet and Trombone)
- Strings (Violin*, Viola* and Cello) *for continuing players only
- Percussion (includes drum kit, tuned and untuned percussion instruments)
- Electric Bass (limited numbers)
- Vocals

If you are unfamiliar with a particular instrument, please make contact with the Music staff so the instrument can be explained or demonstrated.

Year 7 students wishing to participate in Music need to complete a **Year 7 Musical Instrument Nomination Form 2025** which is included on the Music page of the school's online Curriculum Handbook. This need to be returned to the school by **Friday 27 September 2024**.

Students indicate instrument preferences on the Musical Instrument Nomination form and are generally assigned one of their preferred choices. Our allocation of instrumental lessons from the Department for Education's Instrumental Music service is limited however, so the balance and effectiveness of the ensemble program also has to be considered.

Year 7 students selecting Music will be involved in introductory music sessions at the beginning of Year 7. These sessions are useful in confirming students' instrumental preferences and often identify "instrument-specific" potential and suitability amongst some incoming students. Year 7 students intending to continue their current study of an instrument privately *can* choose to nominate the study of a different instrument at high school. Confirmation of instruments will be communicated around the midway point of Term 1 in the new school year.

Students benefit most from the school's music program by learning one of the instruments listed as ensemble playing constitutes a major focus of the Year 7, 8, 9 and 10 learning programs. Students can also join the school's co-curricular ensembles once they achieve a degree of technical proficiency and musical literacy.

New students' access to instrumental lessons and music at other year levels is by negotiation with the Arts Coordinator, Music teachers and the Wellbeing Leaders. Previous study of an instrument and note reading is generally required.

If students in Year 7 to 12 need to hire an instrument, they can do this privately or through the school. Instruments hired through the school are hired for a minimum of one term and will cost \$70 per term in 2025. Please see FAQ sheet for more information.

Any questions regarding the Musical Instrument Nomination Form or the Music Program at Unley HS can be addressed to the Arts Leader Kimberly Mullan – Kimberly.mullan272@schools.sa.edu.au