



**ST MARY'S
COLLEGE**

EST. 1869

MUSIC AT ST MARY'S
INSTRUMENTAL AND VOCAL PROGRAM



Community • Justice • Growth

INSTRUMENTAL AND VOCAL MUSIC

AT ST MARY'S COLLEGE

At St Mary's College, we believe that music plays an integral role in a child's growth and development. Being part of Music at St Mary's fosters key abilities and skills that will serve students in becoming and being empowered women within wider community.

On an academic level, music develops discipline, resilience, literacy skills and community. Studies show students who study music excel in their other academic pursuits. On a pastoral level, music allows students to discover and connect with the gift within and develop the courage to engage with the wider world with confidence.

The College's focus on learning, relationships and innovation is actively present in our Music Program. As teachers, tutors, and directors, we encourage students to engage fully in the community life of the College through the learning, understanding and creation of music. We recognise that musically minded students come to St Mary's College with a preference for an instrument and we support them as they pursue their music passion. Additionally, we strongly encourage students with an interest in music to extend their experience of instrumental and ensemble learning. This may mean joining a vocal ensemble or learning an additional instrument suited to the ensembles offered at the College. The Music Department will always work to support, in whatever means we can, students immersing themselves in their music learning.

The community building that takes place through your child's involvement in Instrumental, Vocal and Ensemble Music is essential to the life of all students at St Mary's. We encourage all students to further themselves as young adults and embrace music in their lives.

Importantly, you do not have to be a musician to be a part of music at St Mary's College, you just need to want to connect and grow.

St Mary's College offers music tuition with a specialist instrumental tutor on the following instruments. If required, hire is also available on these instruments.

Instruments currently taught at St Mary's include:

- Flute
- Clarinet
- Oboe
- Saxophone
- Violin
- Viola
- Cello
- Guitar
- Bass
- Drums
- Piano
- Trumpet
- Trombone
- Tuba
- French Horn
- Voice

Students undertake lessons through a rotational timetable structure. This ensures the students are not absent from the same class each week. Lessons will be scheduled at 30-minute intervals throughout the school day. Please note that specific lesson time requests will be considered, although we cannot guarantee that specific requests will be granted. Most students will be required to occasionally have lessons over recess and lunch breaks (some students request this).

Lesson times can be found on the student's individual SEQTA timetables. Each day lessons are released onto SEQTA and a notification is sent to students to remind them of their lesson times.

Students from Reception to Year 4 will be collected and walked to and from class by their tutor.

[Instrumental and Vocal Program Registration and Agreement Form 2026](#)



“Music is a more potent instrument than any other for education because rhythm and harmony find their way into the inward places of the soul.”
- Plato

IMPORTANT CONSIDERATIONS

INSTRUMENTAL AND VOCAL PROGRAM

Absence from an Instrumental/Vocal Lesson

If a student misses a lesson without prior notice to the tutor (no later than 8.00am the day of the lesson), the lesson will be forfeited.

If sufficient notice of expected absence is provided by students or parents/guardians, tutors are recommended to either reschedule or reimburse at the discretion of the instrumental tutor. The student will be expected to accommodate any reasonable offer made by the tutor. This could include two 45-minute lessons over 2 weeks or 2 lessons on the same day.

For excused absences (such as school excursions), students or parents/guardians must notify the Tutor at least 1 week in advance. The Tutor will either arrange an alternative lesson or subtract the fee from the next term's account. The Tutor will not be obliged to make up the lesson if they are not notified at least a week in advance.

Students and parents/guardians should be mindful of College events that may conflict with lessons. St Mary's cannot guarantee that lessons will not clash with specific group events, but whole-College events, such as Sports Day, will be avoided.

If a tutor is absent, they will notify students and parents/guardians directly and either make up the lesson or subtract the fees from the next term's account (at the Instrumental Tutor's discretion).

Student Instrumental Reports

All Instrumental and Vocal Tutors use SEQTA Direct Message to report on their progress weekly. At the end of each semester, tutors will provide a detailed summary of student's progress. Parents/guardians are encouraged to contact their instrumental tutor through SEQTA with any queries.

Withdrawal from the Program

It is expected that all students who enrol in instrumental tuition will commit to a full year of lessons. If a student needs to withdraw from lessons, an online termination form, found on the Music Department SEQTA portal page, must

be completed, and the instrumental or vocal tutor must be notified by Friday of Week 8 in the respective term.

Fees and Payment of Accounts

Instrumental tutors are recommended to issue an account at the beginning of each term. This is payable in advance, generally within 14 days. If special circumstances prevent any family meeting this deadline, then parents/guardians are requested to negotiate directly with the Instrumental Tutor concerned. Students will not be able to continue lessons if the fees are outstanding. No more than two consecutive lessons will be provided without the payment of fees. Please attend to the fee payment or negotiation promptly.

Individual lesson fees are between \$37 to \$38 per half hour. The option of shared lessons is also available for select instruments. The fee for shared lessons is \$26 per half an hour. Shared lessons are not encouraged from Year 7 to 12.

Unless arranged directly with the Instrumental Tutor, all students will take private lessons once per week and will undertake a minimum 16 lessons for the semester (7 to 10 lessons per term). Under no circumstances are parents/guardians or students permitted to alter any details on the accounts given.

Any queries related to an account are to be addressed directly to the Instrumental Tutor concerned. Parents/guardians are welcome to contact the Tutor directly by telephone or email. When making your payments, the amount must either be posted directly to the Tutor, given personally to the Tutor by the student or parents/guardians, or paid by direct deposit as negotiated with the Instrumental Tutor. Students and/or parents are, without exception, not to leave the payment with a St Mary's College staff member. The College will not be held responsible for any fees related to the Instrumental Program.

Nature of Relationship

All Music Tutors undergo rigorous screening, induction and safeguard training before

commencing at the College. Music Tutors are not employed by St Mary's College and the role of the College is restricted to:

- Provision of a tuition room under agreement with the Music Tutor.
- Programming and communication of regular lesson times in conjunction with tutors.
- Facilitation of communication between the Parent and the Music Tutor.

Instrument Hire

The College can arrange most instruments for hire through DB Music Solutions.

Payment for hire instruments will need to be finalised on initial registration for instrumental/vocal lessons.

As students' progress, it is advisable that the parent/guardian consider the viability of purchasing an instrument.

INSTRUMENTAL HIRE FEES	
Flute/Clarinet/Trumpet/Trombone	\$170/semester
Alto/Tenor Saxophone	\$280/semester
French Horne/Oboe	\$250/semester
Violin	\$120/semester
Double Bass/Cello	\$230/semester
Acoustic Guitar	\$110/semester
Electric Guitar/Bass Guitar + Amp	\$160/semester

If a student discontinues lessons or changes instruments, the original instrument must be returned to the Music Technology and Administration ESO immediately. A record of instrument return will then be sent to parents/guardians confirming the return of the instrument.

Instruments must be returned by the end of the semester or the next semester's fee may apply.

The Music Department will not cancel or alter the hiring arrangement unless the procedure outlined in the hire agreement has been followed.

Students and parents/guardians are reminded that they are responsible for the safekeeping of instruments during the hire period. If an instrument is lost or damaged, please inform the Head of Music promptly to ensure appropriate action can be taken. Music and books should not be stored in instrument cases as this can damage music and instruments.

Instrumental tutors have been asked to periodically check the condition and cleanliness of instruments. Urgent repairs are undertaken during the term, otherwise general maintenance will take place at a suitable time. Students are expected to clean instruments regularly and should seek the assistance of instrumental staff in this matter. All students must take their instruments home over the holidays and are asked to take particular care when transporting instruments.

The College covers the cost of general maintenance of instruments. However, parents/guardians will be expected to pay for excessive damage and neglect, or replacement if the instrument is lost. College instruments in need of repair are to be given to a member of the Music Department. Parents/guardians and students are requested not to undertake their own repairs or make their own arrangements for the repair of instruments.

Contact Details

Mr Hamish Buckley
Head of Music
Hamish.Buckley@stmarys.sa.edu.au

Ms Alexandra Mantis
Music Technology and Music Administration ESO
Alexandra.Mantis@stmarys.sa.edu.au



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253 Franklin Street, Adelaide, SA 5000
Tel 08 8216 5700
enrolments@stmarys.sa.edu.au
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