



Trafalgar High School Instrumental/Vocal Tuition Information

Parent/Guardian Information:

Changes to instrumental/vocal lessons in 2021

We have made some changes to the program for 2021 to help streamline our procedures and payments and to provide greater access to quality music lessons by making them more affordable for families. We believe that ALL students should have equal access to music lessons and as such **we have reduced term fees** by \$40 per student, per term, with all lesson fee payments now being made directly to the school from now on instead of to instrumental instructors. **Furthermore**, we have **increased all instrumental lessons to a standard 25 minutes per week, including combined vocal & piano lessons. ALL term fees are now a flat rate of \$150 per student, per term, per instrument** and students are guaranteed 38 lessons per year (there are 41 school weeks per year) which includes interruptions due to camps, excursions, public holidays. Make-up lessons will be conducted where possible for students that have lessons outstanding due to any of the aforementioned interruptions. Music tuition fees can be paid by the term, semester, whole year or in regular instalments as agreed upon with the Trafalgar High School Business Manager for eligible families. This is to allow for greater access to music lessons for ALL of the students and families at Trafalgar High School.

Instrumental Music lessons are taught by experienced instructors that are selected by our school to offer excellent learning opportunities for your children and to ensure that our school philosophy around enjoyable and engaging Music learning and teaching is supported. Our school has a focus on modern and engaging music and a 21st century approach to music education. Our music instructors have relevant experience, training and skills in their musical field. They all operate within our school's code of practice, Child Safe Policy and they comply with all relevant working with children checks and workplace practices to ensure the safety and wellbeing of the students.

Parents sign an agreement with the school to pay the required fees per instrumental lesson. Parents are responsible for payments being made directly to the school once invoices have been generated and fees have been charged to family accounts. The school offers heavily subsidized fees solely to students of Trafalgar High School, so that students can have fair and affordable access to Instrumental Music Tuition. Prompt payment of tuition fees ensures your child's place in the program and supports the sustainability of the program being offered at the school.

Instrumental lessons being offered at Trafalgar High School in 2021

Guitar (acoustic & electric), Bass Guitar, Piano, Drums, Singing, Piano/Singing (combined basic piano and vocal lesson – less formal), ukulele, Strings (violin, cello, viola), Woodwind (clarinet, flute, oboe, bassoon, recorder)

PLEASE NOTE: Some instrumental and singing lessons may be taught in groups or ensembles depending on individual students' skills and interest in playing in bands/groups as their skills progress. However; the vast majority of all lessons are individual unless otherwise stated by the instructor. Instructors will communicate with students and parents via Compass, email and or phone. It is the responsibility of the student to attend their lessons on time so that lessons are not missed and so that the most can be made out of the teaching and learning time provided each week.

Students will have the opportunity to showcase what they have learnt by participating in live performances when their skills are at a suitable level for performance! In lieu of performances, recording facilities are available where students can use studio equipment to record their music to share with families when it is ready to be performed.

Standard instrumental/vocal lessons will now only cost the flat rate of \$150 per term, per student for a 25min lesson

Music tuition fees can be paid by the term, semester, whole year or in regular instalments as agreed upon with the Trafalgar High School Business Manager for eligible families, so as to allow for greater access to music lessons for ALL of the students and families at Trafalgar High School. However, consistent payments must be made or lessons WILL be suspended and the time slot offered to students on waiting lists, so please ensure all payments are made as promptly as possible. If you have questions or concerns regarding payments, please contact the Trafalgar High School Office or Business Manager as soon as possible, so as to avoid any problems. Students can start lessons at anytime during a term if there are time slots available, however; places are strictly limited. Likewise, students can stop lessons at the end of a term; but please note that payment of outstanding fees is required and no refunds will be given for that term.

****Please note that the hire fee for Strings and Woodwind instruments is \$30 per term which includes the hire and servicing/maintenance of all Strings and Woodwind instruments, provision of sheet music, lesson book required for performances and rehearsals invoiced by and payable to Trafalgar High School at the beginning of each term****

EXPECTATIONS & EQUIPMENT:

It is expected that students will have access at home to a minimum standard of instrument required for the lessons they are undertaking. For example; drum students are expected to have their own set of drumsticks and a rubber practice pad (minimum) for rehearsal at home BUT a drum kit is preferable and far more engaging (if noise is an issue, electric drum kits can be an excellent solution!). Piano students are expected to have a piano, small keyboard, organ or similar instrument. Likewise, guitar and bass students are expected to have a guitar/bass to practice with at home for their lessons but this can be electric or acoustic and there are some cheap student options out there if you shop around. The same applies for all other instruments such as; brass, woodwind and strings e.g. flute, clarinet, violin, trumpet, cello etc. Some hire instruments for woodwind and strings are available through Trafalgar High School as part of the Instrumental Music Tuition program and are available for term hire for a nominal fee, so please indicate on this form if a hire instrument is required. It is possible to find cheap guitars and keyboards for under \$150 at most music shops or online (eBay/Gumtree/Marketplace). A set of drum sticks and a practice pad generally costs no more than \$30-\$40 and a cheap used drum kit can be sourced for around \$200-\$300 sometimes cheaper!

This relatively small investment will ensure that your child has the best chance of learning, practising and developing their skills and enthusiasm in between lessons at home. Students will not improve and learn to the best of their ability if they don't have an instrument to practice on at home.

If you are unsure of what is required and/or where to find such practice items, please contact the Trafalgar High School Music Department at music@trafalgarhs.vic.edu.au or ask for a call back by phoning the Trafalgar High School main office on (03) 56331733.



Instrumental/Vocal Tuition Application Form

All students wishing to take part in our Instrumental Music program please complete this form and return it to the Music Coordinator, either in person (Music Room Office), through the main admin in the Trafalgar High School office or via email at music@trafalgarhs.vic.edu.au (this is the most direct). Lesson times will be provided once students have been allocated a lesson place and all lessons will occur during school hours.

Parents, PLEASE CLEARLY PRINT your full name, address and current phone number, as the school will send music tuition fee invoices and also contact parents using these details.

Lesson fees will be added to family accounts and payment options will be sent out at the beginning of the year or term when your student begins their lessons. Prompt payment is expected so that lessons can begin/continue for the following term. When making payments at the office or via online banking, please ensure that you check payment details carefully to avoid any payment issues and to make sure the payments are made on behalf of the correct student/family with the Student Name, Year Level and Instrumental Instructor's Name to ensure the payment is made to the right account. All invoices will be sent from Trafalgar High School, including any hire fees etc.

Any questions regarding payments should be directed to the school's Business Manager via the main office and any questions regarding lessons, instructors, instruments etc should be directed to the Music Coordinator via email at music@trafalgarhs.vic.edu.au.

If you need to hire an instrument for Brass/Woodwind or Strings lessons please circle "HIRE" in the relevant box.

Student Name: _____ Year Level: _____ Class : _____

Drums	Guitar (Both electric and acoustic)	Bass Guitar	Singing	Piano	Violin Hire: Y/N	Vocal/Piano Combined Lesson with a focus on vocals & piano accompaniment	French Horn Hire: Y/N
Flute Hire: Y/N	Cello (If wanting to learn the cello, Students must provide their own instrument)	Viola Hire: Y/N	Clarinet Hire: Y/N	Recorder Hire: Y/N	Oboe Hire: Y/N	Bassoon Hire: Y/N	Ukulele

Please CIRCLE the lesson/s you wish to undertake and write either **B** for beginning lessons or **C** for continuing lessons.

Previous instrumental instructor (If Applicable): _____

If you have any questions about the Instrumental Music Program, or, if you are unsure of what is required or you are not sure where to purchase instruments, please do not hesitate to contact the Instrumental Music Coordinator at music@trafalgarhs.vic.edu.au for helpful advice regarding the purchase of instruments or repair and/or suitability of musical instruments for students or call the main office on (03) 5633 1733 and request a call back.

PARENT / GUARDIAN ENDORSEMENT:

All lessons cost \$150 per term, per student for a standard 25 minute standard, individual and combined piano & vocal lesson. Students are guaranteed 38 lessons for the year (41 weeks of school per year) as some school events interrupt lessons. Instructors will do their best to accommodate catch up lessons if notified of an absence or due to school events out of their control. If you are having financial difficulties please contact the Main Trafalgar High School office to discuss payment options or if eligible and payment is to be made through Anglicare or DHHS etc please specify on the form. By signing this form you agree to pay all fees associated with your child's weekly lessons and also take responsibility for the safe keeping and use of any/all hire instruments if needed for lessons.

(PLEASE PRINT ALL DETAILS CLEARLY)

Parent/Guardian Name: _____

Address: _____ Post Code: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ Date: ____ / ____ / ____

Payments to be made by:

Parent/Guardian (Please circle)

OR

Outside Agency i.e. DHHS / Anglicare / Other _____ (Please circle)