



# MUSIC TUITION 2026

For Abbotsleigh students, parents and  
friends in the wider community

**AbbSchool**



# CONTENTS

Music at Abbotsleigh	4
Music tuition program	6
Fees	8
Musicianship	9
Enrolments	11
External students and adult lessons	12
Tutors and instruments	13
Meet some of our teachers	15
Ensembles	23



## CONTACTS

### Junior School Music Administrator

Mrs Melissa Ryan

02 9473 7791

[jsmusic@abbotsleigh.nsw.edu.au](mailto:jsmusic@abbotsleigh.nsw.edu.au)

### Senior School Music Administrator

Ms Gina Hetherington

02 9473 7781

[musicadmin@abbotsleigh.nsw.edu.au](mailto:musicadmin@abbotsleigh.nsw.edu.au)

### Head of Strings

Ms Louise Keller BMusEd LTCLATCLAMusA

02 9473 7782

[kellerl@abbotsleigh.nsw.edu.au](mailto:kellerl@abbotsleigh.nsw.edu.au)

### Head of Junior School Music

Mrs Libby Cuza BMusEd

02 9473 7700

[cuzal@abbotsleigh.nsw.edu.au](mailto:cuzal@abbotsleigh.nsw.edu.au)

### Head of Senior School Music

Mrs Lynette Clarke BMusEd(Hons)

02 9473 7780

[clarkel@abbotsleigh.nsw.edu.au](mailto:clarkel@abbotsleigh.nsw.edu.au)

# MUSIC AT ABBOTSLEIGH

Abbotsleigh's Music programs are some of the most acclaimed, dynamic and vibrant programs in Sydney.

They comprise three core areas:

1. Classroom
2. Ensemble
3. Instrumental (private music tuition is available to Abbotsleigh students as well as adult and external students).

## Why learn an instrument?

**Studies show that learning an instrument has huge benefits to the development of children and adults.**

Learning an instrument:

- Improves cognitive processes including recall, abstract reasoning and language decoding
- Fosters creativity in concrete and abstract forms
- Develops social skills and fosters friendships outside age-specific groups
- Helps regulate emotions, relieve stress and build self-confidence
- Teaches patience and long-term goal setting, discipline and time management
- Gives a voice to personal expression and aesthetic
- Is fun!

## Why choose Abbotsleigh Music?

There are many pathways a student can take when deciding to learn an instrument. What is special about learning an instrument at Abbotsleigh?

- **Great teachers** who are world-class musicians and acclaimed experts in their field, who care deeply about the education of every music student.
- **Holistic programs** that develop music literacy, style and genre appreciation as well as solo and ensemble skills.
- **Integrated learning pathways and performance opportunities** that feed seamlessly into the ensemble and classroom programs.
- **Excellent outcomes** including top HSC Music and AMEB exam results
- **Convenience** of lessons during the school day (selected lessons can take place before school, after school or on Saturdays) and instrument hire.





# MUSIC TUITION DATES

**Term 1** 2 February to 1 April

**Term 2** 21 April to 25 June

**Term 3** 21 July to 24 September

**Term 4** 13 October to 27 November

# MUSIC TUITION PROGRAM

## Lessons

1. Learning an instrument is a long-term goal. Students are expected to commit to lessons for the whole calendar year.
2. Lessons are taught throughout the day on a rotational basis to ensure that students do not miss the same classes each week.
3. Junior School students are offered 30-minute lessons only.
4. Senior School students may enrol in 30-minute, 45-minute or 60-minute lessons, depending on the student's level and teacher's recommendation.
5. Fixed lesson times must be approved by the Head of Junior School Music or the Head of Senior School Music and apply in the following circumstances:
  - When a student is learning multiple instruments, one instrument is scheduled during class time and the remaining lessons are fixed.
  - Junior School students approved for 45-minute lessons are scheduled at a fixed time outside school hours (only considered for students doing AMEB Grade 4 and above).
  - Senior School students approved for 60-minute lessons are scheduled at a fixed time outside of school hours.
  - Year 12 students are given a fixed lesson time.
  - In special circumstances the academic learning needs of a student requires music lessons to be scheduled outside class time.

- Fixed lessons take place before school, after school or at lunchtime.
- Fixed lessons are subject to teacher availability.

## Fees

1. Lessons are charged in packages of eight per term. This allows music teachers the flexibility to schedule lessons around a student's timetable (excursions, school camps, assessments etc) as well as illness and medical appointments. As a result, students will sometimes not have a music lesson every week of the school term.
2. We aim for students to receive 32 lessons per year. After reaching a total of 32 lessons, there is an opportunity for extra lessons, if requested.
3. Fees are charged to your school account and must be paid at the start of each term.

## Discontinuations

1. All discontinuations require email notification to the Music Administrator: [musicadmin@abbotsleigh.nsw.edu.au](mailto:musicadmin@abbotsleigh.nsw.edu.au)
2. Lessons automatically roll over from term to term and year to year unless the Music Administrator is notified in writing that lessons are to be discontinued.
3. Cancellation of lessons is to be made four weeks prior to lessons stopping.
4. If notice is less than four weeks, a cancellation fee to the value of four lessons will be charged.
5. There is no refund of term fees.

## Absences

1. At least 24 hours' notice must be given to the music tutor if non-attendance at a lesson is to occur due to:
  - Illness
  - School activity or event
  - Assessment
2. Notice must be given via email.
3. Make-up lessons are not provided for any other absence or if notice was given within 24 hours.

## Instruments

1. Students receiving private music lessons at school and/or playing in a school ensemble are eligible to hire an instrument from the school.
2. Requests for a hired instrument are to be emailed to the Music Administrator: [musicadmin@abbotsleigh.nsw.edu.au](mailto:musicadmin@abbotsleigh.nsw.edu.au)
3. The school's instrument loan agreement form must be signed and returned to the Music Administrator before an instrument can be released.
4. After two years of instrument hire, parents are expected to purchase an instrument for their daughter.



## Junior School lessons and instrument hire

Instrument	Years	Lesson fees	Instrument hire
Cello	Years K-6	<p>\$480 per term</p> <p><b>Eight 30 minute lessons</b></p>	<p><b>\$120 per term</b></p> <p>Instruments with a tick ☑ are <b>available for hire</b></p> <p><i>The instrument hire fee does not apply to girls in Years 2 and 3 as their instruments are allocated through the classroom instrumental program</i></p>
Clarinet	Years 3-6		
Double Bass	Years 3-6		
Euphonium	Years 3-6		
Flute	Years 2-6		
French Horn	Years 3-6		
Oboe	Years 4-6		
Percussion	Years K-6		
Piano	Years K-6		
Saxophone	Years 3-6		
Trombone	Years 3-6		
Trumpet	Years 3-6		
Viola	Years 1-6		
Violin	Years K-6		

## Senior School lessons and instrument hire

Instrument	Lesson fees			Instrument hire
Bassoon	<p><b>\$480</b> per term</p> <p><b>Eight 30 minute lessons</b></p>	<p><b>\$720</b> per term</p> <p><b>Eight 45 minute lessons</b></p>	<p><b>\$960</b> per term</p> <p><b>Eight 60 minute lessons</b></p>	<p><b>\$120 per term</b></p> <p>Instruments with a tick ☑ are <b>available for hire</b></p>
Cello				
Clarinet				
Double Bass				
Euphonium				
Flute				
French Horn				
Guitar				
Oboe				
Percussion				
Piano				
Recorder				
Saxophone				
Singing				
Trombone				
Trumpet				
Tuba				
Viola				
Violin				



# MUSICIANSHIP

1. Musicianship lessons are offered to students in Senior School and are recommended to those playing an instrument.
2. Both group and private lessons are offered.
3. Group lessons comprise 3-6 students. If the minimum number is not reached to form a class, students will need to have private lessons.
4. Students wishing to enrol midway through a term may not be accommodated into group lessons and will need to enrol in private lessons.
5. To enrol in Grade 1 musicianship, the student must be preparing for Grade 3 (or above) in their practical work.
6. To enrol for Grades 2-6 musicianship lessons, students must provide evidence of completion of the previous grade as a prerequisite of enrolment.
7. Musicianship courses generally run in packages of 16 lessons (two eight-lesson blocks per semester).
8. Students sit the AMEB examination online. Please note that examination

fees incur a separate charge as per the AMEB guidelines/fees.

9. In the case of non-attendance at a scheduled group lesson, it is the responsibility of the student to cover the missed content in their own time. There are no catch-up lessons offered for a missed group lesson.

## **The following Musicianship grades are required to receive an AMEB certificate:**

Grade 6 Practical - Grade 2 Musicianship

Grade 7 Practical - Grade 3 Musicianship

Grade 8 Practical - Grade 4 Musicianship

AMusA Practical - Grade 5 Musicianship

LMusA Practical - Grade 6 Musicianship

<b>Musicianship grade</b>	<b>Group 8 lessons per term</b>	<b>Private 8 lessons per term</b>
Grade 1	\$248 (30 minutes)	\$480 (30 minutes)
Grade 2	\$248 (30 minutes)	\$480 (30 minutes)
Grade 3	\$256 (45 minutes)	\$480 (30 minutes)
Grade 4	\$392 (60 minutes)	\$720 (45 minutes)
Grade 5	\$392 (60 minutes)	\$720 (45 minutes)
Grade 6	\$392 (60 minutes)	\$720 (45 minutes)



# ENROLMENTS

1. To enrol your daughter in private music lessons, email your request to [musicadmin@abbotsleigh.nsw.edu.au](mailto:musicadmin@abbotsleigh.nsw.edu.au)
  2. Your enrolment request will be assessed by the Music Administrator and a tutor will be allocated according to availability and the best fit for your daughter. You will be notified by email if your daughter has been placed on a waiting list.
  3. Your child's instrumental teacher will contact you to arrange lesson times.
  4. Hire instruments will be distributed at the first lesson with your tutor.
  5. Ongoing lessons are timetabled by the instrumental tutor each week. Timetables are emailed to students (or parents in Junior School), written in the student's Gold Book and posted on the Music Department noticeboard.
- Students are expected to:**
- Bring their instrument, music and Gold Book to each lesson
  - Check their lesson time against their school commitments (excursions, assessments etc)
  - Email their instrumental tutor if there are any issues with their weekly lesson time.





# EXTERNAL STUDENTS AND ADULT LESSONS

**Are you an adult who has always wanted to learn an instrument? Now is the time to take the plunge!**

Research has shown that learning an instrument as a mature student has significant benefits, including:

- Improved reaction time
- Enhanced short-term memory
- Increased grey matter and brain functionality
- Stress relief
- Energy boost
- Release of endorphins
- Social interaction.

Learning an instrument as a mature or external student at Abbotsleigh offers many opportunities, including:

- Lessons are available at fixed times throughout the weekday or Saturday
- You can opt to learn with a buddy, which shares the costs and is a great motivator
- Instrument hire is available.





# TUTORS AND INSTRUMENTS

## Brass

### French horn

- Tina Brain (JS and SS)

### Trombone, tuba and euphonium

- Elina Suuronen (JS and SS)

### Trumpet

- Shannon Taplin (JS and SS)

## Guitar

- Peter de Monchaux (SS)

## Musicianship

- Jimin Lim (SS)
- Robin Ruys (SS)
- Shannon Taplin (SS)

## Organ

- Kurt Ison (SS)

## Percussion

- Kaylie Dunstan (JS and SS)
- Chris Haigh, drum kit (SS)

## Piano

- Sarah Jeffrey (JS and SS)
- Jimin Lim (SS)
- Genia McDonald (JS and SS)
- Belinda McGlynn (JS and SS)
- Amy Putt (JS and SS)
- Lise Rider (JS)
- Joshua Tsai (SS)

## Singing

- Josephine Brereton (SS)
- Sam Walton (SS)

## Strings

### Cello

- Charlotte He (JS and SS)
- Sarah Jeffrey (JS and SS)

### Double bass

- Jenny Druery (JS and SS)

### Viola

- Nicole Forsyth (JS and SS)
- Olena Zaporozhets (JS and SS)

### Violin

- Genia McDonald (JS and SS)
- Kerry Martin (JS and SS)
- Anthea Taylor (JS)
- Olena Zaporozhets (JS and SS)

## Woodwind

### Bassoon

- Gillian Hansen (JS and SS)

### Clarinet

- Mark Cropton (JS and SS)
- Emma Hosogoe (JS and SS)

### Flute

- Melissa Hoile (JS and SS)
- Jude Huxtable (JS and SS)
- Jessica Lee (SS)

### Oboe

- Rie Tamaru (SS)

### Saxophone

- Mark Cropton (JS and SS)
- Emma Hosogoe (JS and SS)



# MEET SOME OF OUR TEACHERS

**Our teachers are graduates from conservatoires and are all highly experienced teachers and performers. Read about some of our teachers here.**



## **Violin and viola Olena Zaporozhets**

- Born in Kyiv, Ukraine
- Attended Pyryatyns'ka Shkola Estetychnoho Vykhovannya (formerly Pyryatyn Music School)
- Followed by Kyiv's'kyy Derzhavnyy Muzychnyy Litsey imeni M.V.Lysenka (formerly Kiev Secondary Special Music School)
- Graduated from Ukrainian National Tchaikovsky Academy of Music with triple degree: Orchestra Performance Artist, Chamber Music Performance Artist, Teacher
- Completed postgraduate studies at the University of Melbourne, graduating with Master's in Music Performance by Research (VCA)
- Attended short courses and masterclasses by prominent European teachers and performers from Italy, Germany and France
- At 19 became full-time employee of Ukrainian National Symphony Orchestra
- Performed extensively in Europe and Australia as a soloist, orchestra and ensemble artist
- Teaching positions include Melbourne University (VCA), Australian Institute of Music and University of Newcastle
- Fully accredited Proficient Teacher (NSW Education Standards Authority)





**Brass (Lower)**  
**Elina Suuronen**

- Graduated with a Master of Music in Performing Arts/Trombone at the Sibelius Academy in Finland
- Studied as an exchange student in Gothenburg University, Sweden (1994), and Conservatoire National Supérieur de Musique, Lyon, France (1997)
- Completed a Diploma of Music Education in 2007
- Became principal trombonist of Finland's Oulu Philharmonic Orchestra in 1995
- Co-principal trombone of the Finnish National Opera Orchestra from 1996-2008
- Held co-principal trombone position in Tampere Philharmonic Orchestra from 2001-2002
- Performed with all major Finnish symphony orchestras, and as a chamber musician and recording artist with many ensembles
- Moved to Sydney in 2008 and plays with many groups and orchestras, including the Australian Opera Orchestra
- Teaches trombone, euphonium and tuba, and has been the low brass tutor at Abbotsleigh since 2014



**French horn**  
**Tina Brain**

- Has been playing the horn and teaching brass instruments for more than 30 years in England, Hong Kong and Australia
- Fifth member of her family to play horn professionally, a tradition started by her great grandfather in the 1890s
- Performed with Hong Kong Philharmonic Orchestra for 11 years
- Passionate about teaching the French horn and helping her students to excel on the instrument
- AMEB examiner since 2003
- Recipient of the AMEB Teaching Excellence award for Preliminary to Grade 6 for 2019, 2022, 2023





## **Bassoon** **Gillian Hansen**

- A graduate of Perth Modern School, with choral and bassoon scholarships
- Postgraduate study at the University of the Arts, Berlin
- Has performed with Deutsche Oper am Rhein, Germany, and Opera Australia Orchestra
- Toured and tutored with the Australian Youth Orchestra and Jeunesses Musicales World Orchestra
- Regularly performs with major symphony orchestras around Australia and New Zealand
- Has recorded for ABC Classic, and film and television
- AMEB woodwind examiner



## **Viola** **Nicole Forsyth**

- Passionate about music education as vital for everyone for an enriched Australian society and culture
- BMus (Performance, Viola) and PhD Candidate (2021), Sydney Conservatorium of Music
- Casual lecturer in Historical Performance and modern viola teacher in 'Rising Stars' program at Sydney Conservatorium of Music
- Orchestral tutor for NSW Department of Education, The Arts Unit; Sydney Youth Orchestras, Australian Youth Orchestra
- Assisted in developing junior string program for ACO, based in Suzuki, Kodaly and Orff pedagogies
- Students have gained various private school music/academic scholarships, and university (BMus) students have graduated to post graduate specialisms in the UK, Netherlands, Germany and France
- 25 year freelance career in performance as Principal Viola with leading historical performance organisations, in addition to new music works and modern viola orchestral performances



## **Double bass Jennifer Druery**

- Graduate of NSW Conservatorium of Music
- Teaches double bass at private and public schools across Sydney, and tutors the Sydney Youth Orchestra
- Held rank and file position in Melbourne Symphony Orchestra for 10 years, Acting Associate Principal for 18 months of this time
- Former member of Australian Chamber Soloists, a chamber music group comprising principals from the Melbourne Symphony Orchestra
- Has toured internationally, supporting artists such as Elton John, John Farnham and Frank Sinatra
- Currently a freelance musician, working with the Australian Opera and Ballet Orchestra, Sydney Symphony Orchestra, Australian Brandenburg Orchestra, Halcyon, the Australian Baroque Brass and the Sydney Philharmonia
- Has recorded for movie/television/video game soundtracks



### **Flute and recorder Jude Huxtable**

- A passionate believer in lifelong learning and an Abbotsleigh Old Girl
- AMEB examiner
- Teaches students from beginner through to diploma level
- Began teaching flute while working towards an Arts Degree, majoring in Early and Medieval English Literature
- Currently plays flute with Sydney Wind Symphony and Ku-ring-gai Philharmonic Orchestra, and plays recorder with Consort 8, one of Sydney's wonderful Early Music Ensembles
- Is one of Sydney's most experienced teachers, having co-authored a book with Jocelyn Fazzone on flute teaching pedagogy
- Repeat guest education presenter at the Australian Flute Festival
- Regular tutor, master teacher and adjudicator with the NSW Flute Society and Sydney Society of Recorder Players



### **Flute Melissa Hoile**

- Graduate of Sydney Conservatorium of Music BMusPerf
- Received a BBM Youth Scholarship to the UK at the Royal College and the Guildhall
- Recipient of Helen Myers Scholarship
- AMEB examiner, awarded AMEB Shield for excellence in teaching
- Teaching spans young children to diploma and tertiary level plus UNSW Performance Majors in the BMus program
- Recital soloist, freelance orchestral and chamber musician in Sydney and regional NSW
- Television appearances on ABC Arts program as soloist, including a televised masterclass with James Galway
- Conductor and director of primary school bands, flute ensembles, state music camps, and Performing Arts Unit orchestral tutor for NSW Department of Education
- Recipient of the AMEB Teaching Excellence award for Preliminary to Grade 6, and Grade 7 to Licentiate for 2022, 2023 and 2024



**Piano  
Joshua Tsai**

- Trained as a concert pianist at the Peabody Institute of John Hopkins University, USA
- Collaborations as solo pianist with Sydney Symphony Orchestra, Cologne Academy Orchestra and SYO
- Performs widely as a chamber musician with recordings for ABC Classic
- Performs with his award-winning son, Bennet Tsai, at world-leading venues such as Sydney City Recital Hall and Shanghai Oriental Arts Centre
- Highly respected teacher at Abbotsleigh and the Sydney Conservatorium of Music for more than 30 years
- Fluent in English, Mandarin and Cantonese



**Piano  
Jimin Lim**

- Graduate of Bachelor and Masters of Music Performance (Piano) at University of NSW
- Ryde Eisteddfod official accompanist since 2009
- Accompanist at private schools across Sydney
- Awarded numerous prizes in eisteddfods and competitions
- Awarded Distinction for L.Mus.A with solo performance at AMEB diploma graduation
- Toured in Korea and Japan as the accompanist for the Korean Philharmonic Choir and the Children's Choir
- Choral performances at the Sydney Town Hall, with CD recordings and live performances for annual Christmas concerts
- Participated in local and international masterclasses with internationally renowned pianists
- Teaches students from beginner through to diploma level
- Highly sought after accompanist for exams, auditions, competitions and concerts





## **Percussion**

### **Kaylie Dunstan**

- BMus Performance at both the Sydney Conservatorium and the School of Music and Performing Arts in Stuttgart, Germany, Performance diploma at the School of Music in Detmold, Germany, and MMus research, specialising in theatrical performances in percussion
- Passionate educator and performer, having studied percussion pedagogy and teaching techniques
- Extensive teaching experience in schools across Greater Sydney
- AMEB Examiner
- Participated in local and international masterclasses held by world-renowned artists
- Performed with Ensemble Offspring, Halcyon, The Metropolitan Orchestra and Sydney Dance Company
- Author of age-specific percussion method books



## **Voice**

### **Sam Walton**

- Holds a Bachelor of Music (Contemporary Performance – Voice) and Graduate Certificate in Music from the Australian Institute of Music, Sydney
- An experienced and versatile singer, keyboardist, arranger and composer
- Mentored in London by vocal coach Joshua Alamu (Little Mix, Joss Stone, The Voice UK)
- Has performed at numerous venues across the UK and Europe and was invited by Combined Services Entertainment (CSE) to entertain military personnel in Cyprus, Oman, Dubai, Jordan, Belize, Germany and Afghanistan
- Presented with an Operational Service Medal by Her Majesty's Armed Forces in 2014
- Currently also works as a primary Academic Lecturer at AIM Sydney, leading elite vocal ensembles and mentoring voice graduates as they prepare for their transition into the global music industry
- Founding member of vocal group Lyhra - composes, arranges and sings music that celebrates vocal harmony



‘We teach music because it is unique and good. We teach music so that children can make their own music. We teach music because it acts in a unique way on the heart, mind, soul and spirit of the child, stimulating thought and imagination in very special ways. Development of powers of concentration, together with the ability to listen with discrimination and heightened perception, have a profound impact on all learning in the life of a child.’

**Richard Gill AO**

*Australian conductor and music educator*

# SENIOR SCHOOL ENSEMBLES

## ENSEMBLES FOR STRINGS

### **String Ensemble**

Mid-to-large-sized chamber orchestra (30-40 players) that develops ensemble, instrumental and sight-reading skills performing intermediate arrangements of art music.

### **Sinfonietta – Intermediate**

Mid to large sized chamber orchestra (25-35 players) that develops ensemble, instrumental and sight reading skills to a high standard performing intermediate to advanced arrangements of art music.

### **Philharmonia Orchestra – Intermediate**

The Philharmonia Orchestra is a large orchestra which performs a range of repertoire from arrangements of popular and music theatre standards to art music (Classical to Contemporary compositions).

### **Camerata – Advanced**

Small to mid-sized chamber orchestra (20-30 players) that develops high level ensemble skills and performs a range

of advanced art music canon/repertoire ranging from Baroque to Contemporary compositions.

### **Symphony Orchestra – Advanced**

The Symphony Orchestra is Abbotsleigh’s flagship ensemble with entry by audition or invitation. String players must be involved in a string ensemble to be eligible for the Symphony Orchestra. The orchestra performs a range of repertoire from arrangements of popular and music theatre standards to the art music canon (Classical to Contemporary compositions).

### **Tour String Orchestra – Extension**

Project based small chamber orchestra (20 players) that develops a full program of advanced repertoire for performance on a biannual overseas concert tour.

### **Chamber Ensembles – Extension**

In addition to large ensembles, intermediate and advanced students are invited to participate in a chamber ensemble, such as a string quartet or

piano trio. These ensembles focus on specific instrumental skills and study repertoire that requires each student to hold an individual part.

## **ENSEMBLES FOR WOODWIND, BRASS AND PERCUSSION**

### **Ensemble Class – Beginner**

Small group lessons which focus on consolidating basic instrumental skills, fundamentals of ensemble skills and sight-reading development.

### **Chamber Ensembles – Intermediate**

In addition to large ensembles, intermediate and advanced students are invited to participate in a chamber ensemble. These ensembles focus on specific instrumental skills and study repertoire that requires each student to hold an individual part. These include Flute Ensemble, Clarinet Ensemble, Saxophone Ensemble, Recorder Consort, Middle School Brass Belles, Senior Brass Ensemble, Percussion Ensemble, Rock Band, and Guitar Ensemble.

### **Senior School Concert Band – Intermediate**

A medium sized concert band which develops ensemble skills in an intermediate, multi-part repertoire, ranging across pop music, film music and art music.

### **Wind Band – Intermediate to advanced**

Mid to large concert band for advancing students, continuing to develop higher-level instrumental, ensemble and sight reading skills in varied styles of multi-part repertoire.

### **Jazz Band – Advanced**

Jazz big band (10-15 members) that develops high level ensemble skills in jazz repertoire including improvisation and chord realisation.

## **Symphonic Winds – Advanced**

Abbotsleigh's large symphonic concert band is an award-winning ensemble that develops high level ensemble skills in advanced repertoire (classical, chorales, marches and popular repertoire range). Students receive extensive performance opportunities both within and outside the School and represent Abbotsleigh at state and national levels.

### **Tour Band – Advanced**

A project based symphonic band that develops a full program of advanced repertoire for performance, musical exchange and band clinic on a biennial overseas concert tour.

### **Philharmonia Orchestra – Intermediate**

The Philharmonia Orchestra is a large orchestra which performs a range of repertoire from arrangements of popular and music theatre standards to art music (Classical to Contemporary compositions).

### **Symphony Orchestra – Advanced**

The Symphony Orchestra is Abbotsleigh's flagship ensemble with entry by audition or invitation. The orchestra performs a range of repertoire from arrangements of popular and music theatre standards to the art music canon (Classical to Contemporary compositions).

## **ENSEMBLES FOR VOCALISTS**

### **Senior School Choir**

Senior School Choir is Abbotsleigh's largest choir with more than 100 girls in attendance each year and is open to all girls from Years 7-12. The choir develops the ensemble skills, musical knowledge and performance skills of its members through a wide range of repertoire extending from Baroque to contemporary music.



### **Rock Band – Intermediate to advanced**

Abbotsleigh's Rock Band is an award winning ensemble that is driven by the students with expert staff facilitating key instrumental and technology skills, as well as performance opportunities. Musicians who are involved develop skills in acoustic guitar, electric guitar, bass guitar, keyboard, drumkit and vocals.

### **Vocal Ensemble – Advanced**

Vocal Ensemble is a small to medium choir (20-30 singers) open to girls in Years 7-9 with entry by audition or invitation. Its repertoire consists of musical theatre, jazz, a capella and contemporary music aimed towards building ensemble skills, vocal technique and performance skills.

### **Chamber Choir – Advanced**

Chamber Choir is a small to medium choir (20- 30 singers) open to girls in Years 10-12 with entry by audition or invitation. Its advanced range of repertoire is aimed towards building ensemble skills, vocal technique and performance skills, and includes both classical and contemporary styles.

### **Vox 12 – Extension**

A 12-voice a capella choir that offers advanced vocal students chamber and conducting opportunities. Students are coached to take on leadership roles within the group, choosing repertoire, taking rehearsals and conducting public performances.

### **Tour Choir – Extension**

This is a medium sized choir of approximately 40 girls that develops a full program of advanced repertoire for performance on a concert tour, with a focus on contemporary pieces by Australian composers. It offers extensive performance opportunities within Abbotsleigh, outside the School and abroad on concert tour, and significantly builds the ensemble and performance skills of participants. Entry to this choir is by audition or invitation.

For more information about the Senior School Music programs or a copy of the program overviews, please contact [musicadmin@abbotsleigh.nsw.edu.au](mailto:musicadmin@abbotsleigh.nsw.edu.au)



# JUNIOR SCHOOL ENSEMBLES

Girls wishing to join a Junior School ensemble must also take private lessons at school or externally and will be involved in an audition process to place them in a suitable ensemble.

## ENSEMBLES FOR STRINGS

### **Bambini Strings**

This ensemble is for string players in Years 1 and 2. Rehearsals focus on learning fundamental ensemble skills when performing with other string instruments. No audition is required, however, readiness for this ensemble will be assessed and confirmed by string staff.

### **Poole House Strings – Beginner**

In Poole House Strings, students are taught and encouraged to be more musically independent by performing repertoire in a string ensemble setting. There is an emphasis on the ability to sight read fluently and accurately while developing listening skills to play as a cohesive ensemble.

### **Robinson Strings – Intermediate**

This ensemble provides a platform for more experienced instrumentalists to continue to develop their ensemble playing skills. There is an emphasis on developing a strong tone, a range of dynamics, precise bowing and accurate rhythm and intonation.

### **Symphony Orchestra – Advanced**

This is the Junior School's advanced ensemble designed to refine individual and group skills. This orchestra provides a high-level performance opportunity to enable more advanced repertoire to be

performed with the aim of extending and developing musical independence.

### **Chamber Ensembles – Extension**

In addition to large ensembles, intermediate and advanced students may be invited to participate in a chamber string ensemble. These ensembles focus on specific instrumental skills and repertoire that require each student to confidently hold an individual part. Entry to these ensembles is by invitation and is based on ability as well as participation and contribution to one of the larger ensembles previously listed.

## ENSEMBLES FOR WOODWIND, BRASS AND PERCUSSION

### **Beginner Band**

This ensemble focuses on learning fundamental ensemble skills in how to work with other musicians in a concert band setting. All girls learning a band instrument are welcome to join Beginner Band. No audition is required to join this ensemble.

### **Bundarra Band – Intermediate**

Bundarra Band is an intermediate level ensemble which provides students with an opportunity to continue to develop and build their ensemble and musicianship skills.

### **Concert Band – Advanced**

Concert Band is the Junior School's advanced level band which aims to refine individual and group skills. This ensemble provides students with an opportunity to perform high level repertoire while continuing to develop ensemble and technical skills.

### **Symphony Orchestra – Advanced**

This is the Junior School's advanced ensemble designed to refine individual and group skills. This orchestra provides a high-level performance opportunity to enable more advanced repertoire to be performed with the aim of extending and developing musical independence.

### **Woodwind, brass and percussion ensembles - Extension**

In addition to large ensembles, intermediate and advanced students

are invited to participate in a small instrumental ensemble. These ensembles focus on specific instrumental skills and study repertoire that requires each student to hold an individual part. Entry to these ensembles is by invitation and is based on ability as well as participation and contribution to one of the larger ensembles listed previously.

For more information about Junior School ensembles, please contact  
[jsmusic@abbotsleigh.nsw.edu.au](mailto:jsmusic@abbotsleigh.nsw.edu.au)



# AbbSchool

Locked Bag 1666,  
Wahroonga NSW 2076

**02 9473 7827**

**[abbschool@abbotsleigh.nsw.edu.au](mailto:abbschool@abbotsleigh.nsw.edu.au)**

**[abbotsleigh.nsw.edu.au/abbschool](https://abbotsleigh.nsw.edu.au/abbschool)**

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