



# EAGLE JUNCTION STATE SCHOOL

## Recruitment Process for the Instrumental Music Program 2024

At Eagle Junction State School, students have the opportunity to take part in the Instrumental Music Program from Year 3 to Year 6 (Strings) or Year 4 to Year 6 (Band - Woodwind, Brass & Percussion). Recruitment for each program takes place in Semester 2 of Year 2 (Strings) and Year 3 (Band).

The overarching purpose of the Instrumental Music Program is to provide children with the opportunity to experience the expressive qualities of music through learning to play a band or orchestral instrument and to participate in the concert bands or string ensembles.

As stated in Education Queensland's Instrumental Music Guidelines, recruitment depends on available time for tuition, spaces available in the program and instrumentation necessary for balanced ensembles. For this reason, a very small percentage of applicants are offered a position each year.

More information on the Instrumental Program at EJSS is provided in the **Instrumental Music Handbook**.

### *Expression of Interest*

There is an opportunity for parents to submit their child's **Expression of Interest** in the instrumental program via an online form. This form must be submitted by **11<sup>th</sup> August 2023**. Students who do not formally express an interest, but who demonstrate an aptitude for music, are still considered. Click on this link to access the online form:

### [Expression of Interest - Instrumental Music Program 2024](#)

Alternatively, scan the QR code on your device:



### *The Selection Process*

In choosing students for the instrumental program, the following processes are adhered to:

#### **Musical Aptitude Tests**

Musical Aptitude Tests are given to all students in Years 2 and 3. This tests a student's ability to discern differences in harmony, pitch, melody and rhythm.

#### **Liaison with Classroom Music Teacher**

The classroom music specialist gives a rating for progress in Music (subject), attitude/effort and participation in choir.

#### **Liaison with Classroom Teacher**

The classroom teacher gives a grade for homework completion, application to work, organisation, behaviour, academic progress and a general comment on the child's ability to cope with the demands of the program, including the possible impact on classroom learning.

### *Shortlisting*

Students are ranked according to the criteria listed above. Rankings are finalised in consultation with the Music Coordinator with careful and fair consideration of all students. The number shortlisted may vary from year to year depending on the number of spaces available. The final decision on selection is made by the Principal.

## Letter of Offer

Students who have been selected as suitable candidates will receive a **Letter of Offer** in an email to the parent/guardian. As part of this acceptance, students and their parents must return the **Acceptance of Offer** and attend an Information Evening held in Term 4. At this meeting, parents and students are informed of the instrument choices available as well as the expectations of students accepted into the program.

Students who are not offered a place in the program are also notified in an email to the parent/guardian. Students are automatically placed on a waitlist according to their ranking throughout the recruitment process. If more positions become available, a **second round of offers** are made.

## Allocation of Musical Instruments

After the Information Evening, students may submit an **Instrument Selection Form** indicating their preferred instrument. Whilst students' preference of instruments will be considered, students may not receive the instrument of their choice.

The Instrumental Music Teacher determines the most suitable instrument for the child based on the results of a **Physical Assessment** in late Term 4. In this test, physical attributes of the child are considered, such as height, size of hands and agility of fingers, and embouchure (braces, overbite) while providing them with opportunities to 'try out' various instruments.

The needs of the ensemble are also taken into consideration when allocating instruments to ensure the school can produce a balanced ensemble of string, woodwind, brass and percussion players.

## Notes

1. The process of ascertaining the rank order of students being offered a position is as thorough as possible.
2. If a vacancy occurs, the child next in the rank order may be offered an instrument and/or position in the program.
3. Students accepting a position in the String Program in Year 3 will not be eligible for the Band program in Year 4.
4. Students already in the String Program will not be offered a second position in the Band Program. Students cannot receive school tuition in two instruments.
5. If students are learning to play a second instrument through private tuition, they may be invited to participate in the Band or String Ensemble and attend rehearsals and performances.
6. Children who already play a string or band instrument upon enrolment at the school may be given a position in the program if a vacancy exists.

## Timeline *(shaded sections to be actioned by parents)*

<b>Term 2</b>	Week 9-10	All Year 2 and Year 3 students undergo <b>Music Aptitude Test</b> .
<b>Term 3</b>	Week 5 <i>Fri 11 Aug</i>	Due date for <b>Expression of Interest</b> . To be submitted via online form.
<b>Term 4</b>	Week 1-4	Shortlisted students undergo further music aptitude testing.
	Week 5	<b>Letter of Offer</b> emailed to parents.
	Week 6 <i>Fri 10 Nov</i>	Due date for <b>Acceptance of Offer</b> . To be submitted via online form.
	Week 7 <i>Thurs 16 Nov</i>	<b>Parent Information Evening</b>
	Week 8 <i>Fri 24 Nov</i>	Due date for <b>Instrument Selection Form</b> . To be submitted via online form.
	Week 9	<b>Physical Assessment</b> to determine instrument suitability. Administered by IM teachers.
	Week 10	Students notified of instrument via parent/guardian email