The WHS Vocal Program

The study of music fosters intellectual, physical and emotional development. In addition to teaching students vocal techniques, the study of singing develops teamwork, commitment and study skills, bestowing upon students a unique musical experience which they will remember for the rest of their lives.

‘Music nurtures the soul...’

Williamstown High School provides students with an excellent Instrumental Music Program that has been developed over many years. The program enables students to develop skills and expertise across a range of fields, providing a valuable co-curricular experience across both campuses.

Voice lessons:

Students can learn vocal technique through exploring a wide variety of styles and repertoire; including rock/pop, folk, blues, classical, jazz and more. Students will develop song-writing and performance skills, whilst developing improvisational and aural skills. Students of any ability/experience level are encouraged to join – from beginner to advanced. Many students may choose to continue with vocal studies through to VCE Music Performance.

Lesson schedule:

Music students attend weekly lessons with our teacher. Lessons are held individually or in groups of up to three students. These lessons are held during school hours, and times are alternated weekly to ensure that students are not repeatedly missing the same class. Regular home practice is expected to ensure maximum skill development.

Vocal Ensemble:

Ensemble is compulsory for Bayview students and is offered to all vocal students as part of the Vocal Program. This rehearsal takes place once a week during lunchtime at the Bayview campus in the main music room. These rehearsals are an essential component of the program, as they provide students with group performance skills and opportunities.

Performances:

Our students enjoy regular performances throughout the year. Musical items are often required for school assemblies, open days, local community events and special activities. The big events of the year are the Warchild charity rock concert, the annual Spring Concert at the Williamstown Town Hall and the Spring Soiree in the Bayview Atrium. Each event is a highlight for parents, students and the local community. Other performance activities may include performance day tours to local primary schools, school concerts and local festivals.

Fees:

The total cost per semester for enrolment in the Vocal Program is $950 for individual lessons and $475 for groups of two or three students. This includes Vocal Ensemble rehearsals.
How to Participate in the WHS Vocal Program:

All WHS students have the opportunity to participate in the Vocal Program. If you would like your child to be part of this, please complete the Vocal Program Application/Agreement Form and return it to the main office. For students commencing lessons in semester one, this form and relevant payment must be submitted by the end of week two, term one (Friday February 6th). For students commencing lessons in semester two, this form and relevant payment must be submitted before the last week of term two (Friday June 1st). Once your form and payment have been received the vocal teacher will contact parents and students directly to issue a timetable and to answer any queries about the Vocal Program.

Please note:

Payment of the music subscription fee entitles students to participate in the Vocal Program, which includes having lessons and participating in a weekly ensemble rehearsal. There will be no lessons held during the first and final two weeks of the school year.

Please notify the vocal teacher at least 24 hours beforehand if you are unable to make a scheduled lesson. Music staff will endeavor to avoid timetabling conflicts with other subjects, however there will inevitably be instances where the student is unable to attend lessons through no fault of their own (e.g. sport or excursion days). Whilst every effort will be made to make up lessons where there are extenuating circumstances, please be advised that subscription to the Vocal Program does not guarantee that the student will receive a lesson every week of the school year.

Please note that we will accommodate as many students as possible. As places are limited, a place in the Vocal Program cannot be guaranteed and a refund will be made if necessary.

What We Require of Vocal Students:

- Students undertaking vocal lessons are expected to attend lessons each week on a rotational basis ensuring that the same class is not missed very often.

- Bayview vocal students must also attend Vocal Ensemble rehearsal each week.

- Students must take responsibility for attendance and for checking lesson times.

- Establishing and maintaining regular home practise routine is expected.

- Classroom teachers understand that students must attend music lessons and performances on occasion, as scheduled during class time. Students must take note of class work missed and take responsibility for work missed as needed.

- Please note: We encourage students to learn for at least one year to gain a realistic picture of their capabilities/interest level.

Further information:

If you have any general queries about the Vocal Program please contact the Director of Music:

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<tr>
<th>Campus</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Email</th>
<th>Phone</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bayview</td>
<td>Jamila Brogan</td>
<td><a href="mailto:brogan.jamila.r@edumail.vic.gov.au">brogan.jamila.r@edumail.vic.gov.au</a></td>
<td>9399 9228</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pasco</td>
<td>James Rust</td>
<td><a href="mailto:rust.james.j@edumail.vic.gov.au">rust.james.j@edumail.vic.gov.au</a></td>
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Jamila Brogan
Director of Music (Bayview Campus)

Gino Catalano
College Principal
VOCAL PROGRAM APPLICATION/AGREEMENT FORM

Student name: …………………………………………………………….. Home Group: …

Previous musical experience and/or reasons for wanting to learn:
…………………………………………………………………………………………………….

Parent’s name: …………………………………………………………………………

Parent’s phone number(s)……………………………………………………………………

Parent’s Email …………………………………………………………………………

Please note:
• As there are limited positions available in the Vocal Program, preference may go to those who return their forms earlier.
• It is a requirement of participation that Bayview students attend Vocal Ensemble rehearsals. This not only ensures exposure to other musicians but maximum development of musicianship.
• The Vocal Program fee must be paid to the office upon submission of this form.
• If a student wishes to withdraw from the Vocal Program, they must first submit a letter signed by parents. **Please be aware that upon receipt of this agreement you will still be charged for one semester if your child decides to withdraw from the program.** For example; a student who withdraws after three weeks or twelve weeks will be charged the same amount. The maximum refund will be for one semester only. Refunds will only be considered for students who choose the year-long payment option and decide to discontinue after one semester. In this instance, a refund for a maximum of one semester may be granted.

Please tick the appropriate box:
My child would like to undertake the following:

- [ ] One semester individual lessons $ 900
- [ ] One semester group (up to three students) lessons $ 450
- [ ] Two semester yearly individual lessons $ 1800
- [ ] Two semester yearly group (up to three students) lessons $900

Vocal Program Agreement:
Please ensure that you have read the relevant information and sign below.

_I have read the information provided and give permission for my child _____________ to undertake vocal lessons. I understand that lessons will normally take place once a week during class time_
on a rotating basis and that weekly attendance at ensemble rehearsals is expected for Bayview students. I have included payment with this form. I agree to the WHS Music Department policy regarding refunds.

Please sign below if you have read and agree to the statement above. This form must be signed by a parent/legal guardian.

Student’s name:__________________________________________________________

Parent’s name:__________________________________________________________

Signature:______________________________________________________________ Date:______________________________

To do next:

1. Return this application/agreement form and payment to the main office by: **February 4th in semester one** or **June 20th** for semester two commencement.

2. Once your form and payment has been processed, the vocal teacher will contact parents directly to explain the format of lessons and to any to answer queries about the content of the program.

3. Students will be issued with a copy of the timetable and lessons will commence. A lesson timetable will also be posted on the music notice board – students will need to ensure that they check their lesson time before each lesson.

4. Enjoy the musical development of your child and come to our concerts to hear their progress!