



MOUNT HAWTHORN PRIMARY SCHOOL

TOGETHER TOWARDS THE FUTURE

INSTRUMENTAL OPPORTUNITIES AT MOUNT HAWTHORN PRIMARY SCHOOL

During Term 3 each year, all year 2-4 students at Mount Hawthorn Primary School will be completing a Music Aptitude Indicator as part of the assessment process to select instrumental students who will be offered music tuition via Instrumental Music School Services (IMSS).

Those selected will have instrumental lessons beginning the following year and will be expected to join either band or orchestra to further expand their skill and have opportunities to perform as an ensemble.

Selected students will be offered places in:

- violin/viola (Year 3)
- cello (Year 4)
- flute, clarinet, brass, double bass and percussion (Year 5)

How many places are offered each year?

In year three, eight places in violin/viola are offered. Viola is offered every alternate year to achieve a balanced sound in the orchestra. In year four, three places in cello are offered. In year five, the following number of places are offered: flute (5 places), clarinet (5 places), brass (10 places including trumpet, trombone and baritone), percussion (4 places) and double bass (2 places).

How are students selected?

The major part of the assessment is the Music Aptitude Indicator from IMSS which is a listening test with written answers. The three components of this are pitch, rhythm and tunes. All students will be completing activities in music classes to help them understand the way the test is run and how to complete the answer sheet. While this forms the major component of selection, other aspects will be considered such as effort in class music activities, enthusiasm, interest in music and the ability to commit to learning an instrument while being able to keep up with other subjects. In making the decision to select students, there is much consideration but unfortunately, not all children are able to be offered instruments. If you are not offered a place but are keen to learn an instrument, private tuition is another avenue of joining our school band or orchestra.

What if my child is absent on the testing day?

If your child is away on the day of testing, a catch up day will be organised so that all students have the opportunity to participate.



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Band, Orchestra and Choir

Orchestra

Students who have been learning violin and viola are expected to begin orchestra from the start of year 4, cello students from the beginning of year 5 and double bass students from semester two of year 5. Students who learn string instruments privately are also encouraged to play in our school orchestra.

Band

Students who learn flute, clarinet, brass, double bass and percussion are expected to begin band from semester two of year 5. Students who have been learning any of these instruments privately for six months or more are encouraged to audition and become a part of our school band. Students from other schools in the area are also a part of the Mount Hawthorn Area Band.

Choir

Year 5 and 6 students are invited to join the school choir, The Hawthorn Hummers. No audition is required, just a love for singing. Notes to sign up for choir will be given to students in music class at the beginning of each year.

If you have any further questions, please visit or email your query.

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