



WGHS Music Ensembles 2021

Music is a great leveller. It doesn't matter who you are, what your musical background is; if you love music, **come and join the WGHS Music Program and 'find your tribe'!** WGHS Music Program supported by the P&C offers **SIX** ensembles directed by **professional conductors** and, for **one annual flat fee**, girls **Years 7- 12** can play anything from violin to Euphonium in as MANY ensembles as they wish (see entry requirements). If **singing** is also your thing, there are various WGHS vocal ensembles to choose from.

There's something for everyone!

WEEKLY REHEARSAL TIMETABLE

Ensemble	Rehearsal	Conductor
Jazz Ensemble	Wednesday 7:30am	Mr Gerald Steinmann
Year 7/8 Wind Ensemble	Thursday 7:15am	Mr Gerald Steinmann
Senior Wind Ensemble	Friday 7:15am	Mr Jason Isaac
Chamber Ensemble (strings)	Friday 7:30am	Ms Lucy East
Accelerate Ensemble	Friday 3:30pm	Mr Jason Isaac
Percussion Ensemble	Friday 4:30pm	Mr Jason Isaac



ENSEMBLE Entry Requirements

- Accelerate Ensemble** is for those who are either **brand NEW to playing** OR wish to **CHANGE their instrument** in high school. This ensemble prepares girls to join other ensembles. Accelerate is particularly looking for girls interested in learning a new, 'targeted' instrument (see **Accelerate Scholarships** information below).
- Year 7/8 Wind Ensemble:** If you enjoyed band in primary school, you're going to love the fun and challenge of playing in the **Year 7/8 Wind Ensemble**. Girls are expected to stay in 7/8 Ensemble until the end of Year 8, even if they are invited to join the Senior Wind Ensemble.
- Senior Wind Ensemble (SWE):** Usually starting in Year 9, but more experienced musicians can be **'invited'** by conductors to join the **Senior Ensemble** earlier.
- Chamber Ensemble:** If your daughter plays any string instrument at any level, she is welcome!
- Jazz Ensemble:** Open to anyone currently playing in one of the Wind Ensembles. Jazz/Stage Band ALSO welcomes guitarists and pianists who are NOT currently in the other ensembles.
- Percussion Ensemble** is open to all interested students – no experience necessary!

WGHS School Vocal and Choir Program

There are very established vocal and choir ensembles run by the WGHS Music Department: These include:

- **Combined Choir** – no audition necessary.
- **Junior Vocal Ensemble** – by audition for Years 7-9.
- **Senior Vocal Ensemble** – by audition for Years 10-12.

ACCELERATE Instrument Hire Scholarships

WGHS is proud of this new program which encourages girls to try out a new instrument. Accelerate Instrument Hire Scholarships are for **'targeted instruments'** (unusual and often more expensive instruments. **See list below**). Scholarships cover the hire cost of the instrument for the first two years. This is a great opportunity for girls wish to challenge themselves with a new instrument in high school. **Targeted instruments for 2020 include:**

- Bassoon
- Euphonium
- French Horn
- Oboe
- Trombone
- Tuba
- Trumpet

HOW TO JOIN THE WGHS MUSIC PROGRAM

Sign up and follow these simple steps.

STEP 1: Register your interest: Please complete go to Eventbrite (see link. Also accessible via WGHS website). Once registered, you will be emailed updates and ensemble info.

STEP 2: Music Info Night: *Thursday 4th February @7pm* for new parents and students.

FEES: One ANNUAL flat membership fee of **(\$700)** covers your daughters' involvement in ANY or ALL music ensembles. WGHS tries to avoid collecting any extra money throughout the year! This cost covers payment of conductors' fees, purchase of sheet music, annual Intensive Band Workshop, buses where required and much more! **Note:** *Fees for Year 7 students are NOT due until early March, so your daughter can 'try out' the ensembles before committing to the whole year.*

INSTRUMENT Hire: It is expected that most girls provide their own instruments. Certain instruments may be available for hire, Subject to availability: **\$250 per year (plus \$100 bond)**. *Note: Fees are subject to review for instruments provided for hire by the Music Program, whether targeted or otherwise,*

BAND TOURS: International, Regional and local – WGHS is always going places! In 2014 WGHS debuted its international Music Tour program in Hong Kong. In 2016, 58 girls toured California USA, visiting schools and colleges from San Francisco to LA, performing at exciting venues such as Disneyland! In between these major international tours, regional tours are a fun way to see our own state and have fun while performing in rural towns across NSW. The next Regional Tour is planned for June 2021 and Year 7 students are more than welcome to join!

YEAR-ROUND CALENDAR: WGHS musicians are kept busy all year round with plenty of fun gigs. From festivals to band competitions to workshops! Band rehearsals start in the second week of Term 1 followed closely by the **Intensive Band Workshops (in-house band camp)**. **Performances** throughout the year are at the Sydney Opera House, Town Hall, Chatswood Concourse and Chatswood RSL and at community events such as Willoughby Spring Festival and the Northbridge Fireworks. **Band competitions** are held during Winter (Term 2 & 3) at UNSW and the Sydney Conservatorium of Music. (NB, all dates, events and performances TBC for 2021).

2021 Rehearsals start:

- Jazz Ensemble Wednesday 3 February
- 7/8 Wind Ensemble Thursday 4 February
- Chamber & SWE Ensembles Friday 5 February
- Accelerate & Percussion Ensembles Friday 19 February

Music Info Night:

Thursday 4th February @7pm

Intensive Workshops (in-house band camp / compulsory attendance)

- Jazz, Chamber and 7/8 Ensembles Sunday 21 February 9am (TBC)

Open Night (Jazz/Chamber/SWE)

Wednesday 3 March

Chatswood RSL Music Spectacular Heat

Sunday 14 March, 3pm

WGHS MUSIC COMMITTEE musicwghs@gmail.com

This small group of busy-bees is made up entirely of very enthusiastic parents, keen to see their daughters enjoy music and ensure the continued success of WGHS music program. We work closely with the conductors and WGHS Director of Music Mr Clem Burgmann to guarantee a fun, fulfilling and well-run music program. Each ensemble has a **coordinator** (list below) who is the liaison between conductors and the girls/parents. For any queries please email your coordinator for info.

NEW PARENTS welcome! Come along and join the fun! Doesn't matter what skills you have – we will use them! Be they accounting, fundraising, baking, transporting instruments to gigs - or just plain enthusiasm. Whatever you are prepared to offer, you'll be warmly welcomed! You will find that high school differs from primary school in that there is far less parent involvement, but not so in BAND! If you wish to stay involved – we always need armies of helpers for: snag sizzling, baking, selling raffle tickets – you name it – come and join the fun!

WGHS Music Committee meets each term, (usually week 2), and is joined by the Conductors and Music teachers. All parents are welcome to attend.

WGHS Parent Music Committee Members:

Committee Chair	Nick O'Brien
Committee Treasurer	Jacinta Oner
Committee Secretary	OPEN / SEEKING A KEEN PARENT NOW
Coordinator – Accelerate & Percussion Ensembles	OPEN / SEEKING A KEEN YEAR 7 PARENT NOW
Coordinator – 7/8 Wind Ensemble	Sarah Dandy
Coordinator – Senior Wind Ensemble (SWE)	Julia Taranto
Coordinator – Chamber Ensemble	Alex Tzannes
Coordinator – Jazz Ensemble	Danielle Haan
Instruments Coordinator	Rob Baxter
Media	Simone Stickles

The AGM is held every November when officers' roles re-open for enthusiastic new parents! **We very much look forward to having fun helping our girls continue to enjoy their music!**