



# WGHS Music Ensembles 2022

**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'!** The **WGHS Music Program** supported by the P&C offers **SIX** ensembles directed by **professional conductors** and, for **one annual flat fee**, girls in **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 | to be confirmed |
| Year 7/8 Wind Ensemble     | Thursday 7:15am  | to be confirmed |
| 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  |

Note: We are currently advertising for a new band director for Jazz Ensemble and the Year 7/8 Wind Ensemble. Rehearsal days may be adjusted to accommodate the successful candidate.



## 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 on the next page).
- 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! The availability of this ensemble will be dependent on reaching a minimum number of students.

## 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 2022 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 register via the [Eventbrite link](#) (Also accessible via WGHS website). Once registered, you will be emailed updates and ensemble info.

**STEP 2: Music Info Night: Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> February 2022 @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! While Covid 19 has impacted on the tour program over the past few years, we were still able to run a very successful tour to regional NSW in 2021 with 70 of our students from the Chamber Ensemble and combined Wind Ensembles. We are currently looking at tour options for 2022 and 2023.

**YEAR-ROUND CALENDAR:** We are hoping that in 2022 there will be fewer impacts from Covid restrictions, and the WGHS musicians will be 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)**. We are hoping to have **performances** throughout the year, including 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 2022, and will be dependent on the status of Covid restrictions).

## 2022 KEY DATES:

### Rehearsals Start:

- Jazz Ensemble Wednesday 9 February
- 7/8 Wind Ensemble Thursday 10 February
- Chamber & SWE Ensembles Friday 11 February
- Accelerate & Percussion Ensembles Friday 18 February

### Music Info Night:

**Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> February @7pm**

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

- Jazz, Chamber and 7/8 Ensembles Sunday 27 February 9am (TBC)

### Open Night (Jazz/Chamber/SWE)

Wednesday 2 March (TBC)

### Chatswood RSL Music Spectacular Heat

Usually Mid-March (TBC)

**WGHS MUSIC COMMITTEE** [musicwghs@gmail.com](mailto: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 the WGHS music program. We work closely with the conductors and WGHS staff Mr Clem Burgmann and Ms Rachel Schroers to guarantee a fun, fulfilling and well-run music program. Each ensemble has a **coordinator** 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! It 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 in Week 2), and is joined by the Conductors and Music teachers. All parents are welcome to attend. Please contact the Convenor ([musicwghs@gmail.com](mailto:musicwghs@gmail.com)) if you are interested in joining the committee.

### WGHS Parent Music Committee Contacts:

Committee Convenor  
Committee Treasurer

Nick O'Brien  
Jacinta Oner

*We very much look forward to having fun helping our girls continue to enjoy their music!*



Ensembles Night 2021