



Presbyterian Ladies' College

MELBOURNE

Free Introductory Scheme

PLEASE RETAIN THIS SHEET FOR REFERENCE

The Free Introductory Scheme (FIS) is a beginner program available to students from Year 2 to Year 6. Students are provided with free tuition for a period of one year provided that they have not previously had tuition on that instrument. If a student has FIS tuition in Year 2 (for example), she is not eligible to take up another FIS instrument in her later primary years.

LESSONS

Lessons are designed for beginners and are conducted in pairs or groups. Lessons are scheduled on a rotating basis during class time so that students are not missing the same class time each week.

Students should only have one teacher per instrument. If a student is also taking lessons outside of school on her FIS instrument her PLC lessons will be cancelled for that instrument.

At the end of 12 months, parents will be contacted by the Music Administrator regarding progression to ongoing tuition.

ENSEMBLES

A requirement of participation in the FIS is that students join an ensemble when they have reached proficiency on their instrument. Bandits (for instruments including flute, clarinet, oboe, bassoon, French horn, trumpet, trombone, euphonium, tuba, percussion) rehearses after school on Wednesdays. String Power (for instruments including violin, viola, cello and double bass) rehearses each Tuesday lunchtime. The instrumental teacher will advise when your daughter has reached the level of proficiency for ensemble playing and it is expected that she join the ensemble at that time.

FEES

Although tuition is free, a charge of \$175.00 per semester is made for instrument hire. Hire fees are charged on the school account in April and September.

Parents are requested to sign an Instrument Hire agreement which will be provided to the student at the first lesson. When the signed form is returned to the teacher at the following lesson, a school instrument will be provided to the student to take home.

INSTRUMENTAL TUITION OFFERED UNDER THE FREE INTRODUCTORY SCHEME

Instrument	Year level at which the instrument is offered
Bagpipes*	Year 4
Bassoon	Year 4
Cello	Year 2
Clarinet	Year 3
Double Bass	Year 2
Drums (Pipe Band Drumming)*	Year 4
Euphonium	Year 4
Flute	Year 3
French Horn	Year 5
Oboe	Year 5
Percussion	Year 4
Saxophone	Year 5
Trombone	Year 4
Trumpet	Year 3
Tuba	Year 5
Violin	Year 2
Viola	Year 2

* For bagpipes and drums applications, a separate form should be completed.

COMMUNICATION

Parent/Teacher Interviews

Parent/Teacher Interviews are held annually. These are an excellent opportunity for parents to meet their daughter's teacher and discuss their progress and development.

Contacting the Music Department

Parents are requested to contact the music teacher if their daughter is absent from school on the day of a scheduled lesson or ensemble rehearsal. Messages for teachers may also be left with the Music Administrator on 9805 7870, or by emailing music@plc.vic.edu.au

Music Record Book

All students are required to have a Music Record Book. The PLC Music Record Book will be provided at the first lesson and \$8 will be billed to your daughter's school account. Subsequent Music Record Books may be purchased from the PLC Shop.

Please note that only orchestral/band instruments are available under this scheme. This does not include piano, guitar and singing tuition. Places for some instruments such as violin, cello and flute are limited. Applications must include two preferences as your first choice may not be available.

DISCONTINUING

Notice in writing should be given to the Music Administrator music@plc.vic.edu.au by the end of Week 6 for a student to discontinue at the end of the term.

THE MUSICAL PARTNERSHIP

Music is a three-way partnership between the teacher, the student and her parents. Each member of the partnership has a responsibility. Most parents are eager to be active members of the partnership but may appreciate some guidance and definition.

Parents can help by providing:

Favourable Practice Conditions

1. Try to schedule a regular time for practice – mornings are best when children are mentally and physically fresh and receptive.
2. Help ensure the best environment – a quiet room without distractions, adequate lighting, ventilation and a comfortable temperature. Also, a music stand (if required).
3. Help your daughter keep a daily record of her practice in her music record book.

Encouragement

Please assist by reminding your daughter to do her daily practice! Praise work that is well done and encourage her in her progress, particularly in the beginning stages when progress may be slow.

Patience

Some things in music are learned easily, others require intensive and repeated application. Parental sympathy and understanding are important. Your daughter may begin by making squeaky sounds on a woodwind or brass instrument, or scratchy sounds on a stringed instrument, but it is only through practice that this will improve.

Common sense

Avoid undue stress regarding musical work. Beginner students should aim to practice 4 - 5 times a week for 15 minutes per session. The teacher will advise when this needs to be increased.



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JUNIOR SCHOOL Application for Free Introductory Scheme Lessons

Student's Name

(First name)

(Family name)

Year Level in 2021

Parent's Name

Mobile

Email

1st Preference: Requested instrument

Hire requested YES / NO

2nd Preference: Requested instrument:

Hire requested YES / NO

***Please note that applications must list two preferences**

You will be contacted by the Music Administrator to confirm which instrument will be offered to your daughter under the Free Introductory Scheme.

Does your daughter already learn a musical instrument? If so, please give details below.

I wish to apply for my daughter to undertake the requested tuition during her schooling. I have read the information provided and agree with all terms and conditions therein, including ensemble participation when my daughter reaches the appropriate standard. I understand that I am required to give notice in writing by the end of Week 6 to the Music Administrator should my daughter wish to discontinue tuition at any stage.

Parents Signature

Date

OFFICE USE ONLY

Student Number

Date received

Allocated to teacher

Entered on Synergetic

Date started

Entered on Accounts