



## *Presbyterian Ladies' College*

MELBOURNE

# Pipes & Drums Tuition

### PLEASE RETAIN THIS SHEET FOR REFERENCE

The PLC Pipes and Drums ensemble was established in 2004 and is celebrated as a unique extension to the music program that acknowledges the college's Scottish heritage.

The Pipes and Drums perform a variety of traditional and modern pipe band music. The band features at a myriad of prestigious events during the year. Highlights on the Pipes and Drums calendar include representing PLC at the Anzac Day Parade in the Melbourne CBD as well as performing at the esteemed Senior School Gala Celebration in Hamer Hall, together with many more events at school.

#### LESSONS

PLC offers free lessons on either bagpipes or drums for a period of one year for students from Year 4 and up, including students in Senior School. These beginner lessons 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.

Lesson times may be viewed on Wyse. Students and parents can check when lessons are scheduled by using the Music tile on Wyse – for parents, this is located in Parent Neighbourhood; for students, this will appear in their Commonroom.

Students wishing to learn bagpipes begin their tuition on a chanter and would usually move to bagpipes after approximately 12 months.

Drummers begin by learning drumming patterns on a drum pad before moving onto the drums. Within the Pipes and Drums there are a bass drum, tenor drums and side drums, each of which play an important role within the structure of the band.

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

#### JOINING THE PIPES AND DRUMS

It is expected that students will join the Pipes and Drums when they have reached the appropriate standard. It takes at least 18 months of tuition before a student reaches the necessary level of skill and proficiency to become a band member. Students join the Pipes and Drums at the recommendation of their teacher.

Pipes and Drums rehearse each Tuesday after school and also during Friday lunchtimes. Extra rehearsals may be scheduled from time to time, depending on the band's commitments.

## FEES

There is no charge for hiring bagpipes or chanters. Drumming students are expected to purchase a drum pad and sticks and details about these items will be provided at the first lesson.

Following one year's free tuition, fees are charged at \$775 per semester (16 lessons). Tuition fees are charged on school fee instalments in May and October of each year.

If a student is recommended to join the Pipes and Drums a one-off cost of \$300 is charged to cover provision and cleaning of uniforms. The PLC Pipes and Drums uniform consists of a glengarry (cap), jacket, sporran, hose, and a kilt of specially-designed PLC tartan. The uniform must be worn at all official band functions. Further information regarding the Pipes and Drums will be provided when your daughter has reached the required standard on her instrument.

## 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 her progress and development.

### Contacting the Music Department

Parents are requested to email 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](mailto: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.

## DISCONTINUING

Notice in writing should be given to the Music Administrator [music@plc.vic.edu.au](mailto: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 chanter, or may sound like she is drumming without any sense of rhythm, 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 10 - 15 minutes per session. The teacher will advise when this needs to be increased.



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## Application for Pipes & Drums Lessons

Student's Name

(First name)

(Family name)

Year Level in 2022

Parent's Name

Mobile

Email

\*Please indicate which instrument your daughter is interested in learning:

Bagpipes

Drums

Either

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

Please note that students in the Junior School may learn a maximum of two instruments, or one instrument plus Speech lessons, at school.

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

Please return the completed application form to [music@plc.vic.edu.au](mailto:music@plc.vic.edu.au) or to the PAC Music Office.

**OFFICE USE ONLY**

Student Number

Date received

Allocated to teacher

Entered on Synergetic

Date started

Entered on Accounts

