



Band Program Information Booklet



2022

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Welcome

The North Ryde Public School Band Program is one way that our children immerse themselves in school life. Our Band Program is open to students from Years 3 to 6. It is a co-operative project involving students, parents, the school and Key Music Australia.

The Band Program is managed by Key Music Australia (KMA). KMA is an external provider contracted by North Ryde Public School. Their staff attend the school for instrument tuitions and band rehearsals. Imelda Crimmins is the Band Conductor.

Contact details for Key Music Australia:

Key Music Australia Director	Matt Dalziel
Phone	1300 13 18 52
Website	https://www.myschoolband.com.au/
Email	office@keymusicaustralia.com.au

The complete list of Key Music Australia Student Terms and Conditions can be downloaded from their website: https://www.keymusicaustralia.com.au/docs/kma_student_terms_and_conditions.pdf

Thank you for supporting your child's musical education through this band experience.

Aim of the Band Program

Being part of our Band Program offers students the opportunity to:

- learn to play a musical instrument in an ensemble
- develop an appreciation and understanding of a wide range of musical styles
- perform at the school and other venues
- develop teamwork and leadership skills
- build a sense of responsibility and commitment

Being a part of the music program is a wonderful opportunity for all students

Our Band Program is challenging, satisfying and fun. Learning to play a musical instrument improves thinking skills for learning and study. It builds self-confidence and self-esteem. Students learn lifelong skills such as discipline, patience, taking turns, and coping with challenges. Students develop social connections that would not have been created if they were not learning a musical instrument.

Introducing our bands

The North Ryde Public School bands have a variety of instruments. These include, but are not limited to flute, clarinet, saxophone, trumpet, trombone, keyboard, and percussion instruments.



North Ryde Public School has three bands:

- Training: students who are learning a new instrument for the first time. This group is usually year 3 students. No previous musical experience is required.
- Concert: students have completed one year in the Training Band.
- Performance: students who have been competent in Concert Band.

Who can join?

Students in Years 3 to 6 are eligible to participate in the Band Program. Most students would join the Training Band initially and progress to the Concert Band after one year. Students who wish to join the band program during the year will be assessed for a suitable placement in one of the bands.

Enrolment

Enrolments are conducted through Key Music Australia. If your child is interested in joining the Band Program, they can sign up to be assessed for an instrument via the Key Music Australia website <https://www.myschoolband.com.au/enrol/nrps-new-enrolment-form/>

What's involved in the Band Program?

The North Ryde Public School Band Program has the following key elements:

1. [Performances](#)
2. [Band rehearsals](#)
3. [Instrumental tuition](#)
4. [Home practice](#)
5. [Instrument hire and repair](#)
6. [Fees and other costs](#)
7. [Band uniform](#)
8. [Music and band folders](#)
9. [Student commitment](#)
10. [Communication](#)
11. [Who is involved in the Band Program?](#)

Performances

The students have many performance opportunities throughout the year, including assembly items, band workshops, community events and eisteddfods. Please ensure you read the school newsletter for specific dates.

Band Rehearsals

Band	Training Band	Concert Band	Performance Band
When do rehearsals start?	Approximately Term 1, week 8	Approximately Term 1, week 3	Approximately Term 1, week 3
Day/ time	Tuesday before school 7.50 - 9.00am	Wednesday after school 3.10 - 4.10pm	Wednesday before school 7.50 - 9.00am
Location	School hall	School hall	School hall
Drop off/ pick up	The boom gate does not open to parents to drive into the school. Students will need to walk into the school.	Students to be collected promptly. Parents wait outside the school hall or students walk to OOSH.	The boom gate does not open to parents to drive into the school. Students will need to walk into the school.



What to bring?	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Instrument- Tuition book and/or band folders to every rehearsal- Students should always have on hand their instrument's accessories such as cork grease, valve oil, spare reeds and cleaning equipment
Notes	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Students should be prompt to band rehearsals- Students assist with setting up and packing away music stands and chairs- Students are responsible for following North Ryde Public School and Band 'Code of Conduct'- Students must remember to bring instruments on their band rehearsal day and instrument tuition lesson on Fridays- Rehearsals will occur even on the first day of term or on an event day (e.g. athletics carnival) unless informed otherwise- If there is some reason to cancel a Band Rehearsal, parents/carers will be notified in most cases with 24 hours' notice

Instrument Tuition

All students are required to have a weekly instrument tutorial. Key Music Australia (KMA) tutors can provide these sessions during school time. Currently these tutorials occur on Fridays. Key Music Australia notifies parents of students' lessons via email. Parents are notified by KMA of changes or cancellations of lessons via email or text message.

If your child is sick, away from school or unable to attend a lesson, email the [Key Music Australia's office](#). This includes if a student is attending a school event or excursion. Key Music Australia will notify you if the tutor or band conductor is away. Refer to [KMA terms and conditions](#) for full details about make up lessons.

If parents would like feedback or a report about their child's progress with their instrument, an email should be sent to Key Music Australia.

Home Practice

Students who keep up regular practice at home experience the most success. Parents are requested to supervise practice at home to establish good routines and techniques, especially when starting to learn a new instrument. Start with small amounts of regular practice and gradually build to longer periods. An example of a good music routine would be 15-20 minutes, 3 -4 times a week.

Instrument Hire

Instruments can be hired through our school or independent supplier. The instrument supplied to each student is their responsibility for the duration of the hire period. Students receive an 'Instrument Hire Agreement'. This document outlines the conditions of hire and must be signed and returned before the instrument is issued.

Payment for instrument hire is through 'My School Connect' (MSC). This is North Ryde Public School's P&C's online payment portal (<https://myschoolconnect.com.au>). Download the MSC app. ([MySchoolConnect](#)). A payment is requested at the start of each term via an email at the start of each term to let you know that a payment is due.

Instruments are hired until the end of the year and must be returned to the school for servicing on request.

If you are uncertain how to navigate to where the fees are paid on MSC app. or have any questions, please contact the Band Coordinator northrydepsband@gmail.com or your Band Parent Liaison.

Instrument Repair

Where an issue is identified with an instrument, your child should approach the band conductor in the first instance with the instrument, or the Band Liaison Parent where the band conductor is not available. Where possible, a temporary replacement instrument will be provided. The cost of repairing an instrument that has been damaged or needs repair due to misuse will be charged to the parent.



Care of Instruments

Important instructions of regular care and cleaning of instruments is provided with the hire agreement.

Fees and Other Costs

Participation in the Band Program has several costs.

- **Band rehearsal fees** – invoiced directly to parents by Key Music Australia at the start of each term. Please note that there is a standard fee for all members of any of our bands.
- **Instrument tutorial fees** (where applicable) – invoiced directly to parents by Key Music Australia at the start of each term.
- **Instrument hire** (where applicable) – NRPS P&C email a request for payment at the start of each term. The North Ryde Public School Online Band Shop is accessed via [MySchoolConnect](https://myschoolconnect.com.au/) (MSC on-line platform). Information about this payment system can accessed via <https://myschoolconnect.com.au/>
- **Tutorial book for training band** – included in the first invoice of the year from Key Music Australia.

Other costs

- Instrument care kit – available from local music stores (e.g., 'Icon Music' at West Ryde, 'Mall Music' at Macquarie Centre)
- Consumables, such as reeds, valve oil and cork grease – available from local music stores as above
- Band bag for music folders – available from the Uniform Shop (optional)
- Band workshops – all band students are expected to attend
- Occasionally there may be additional charges for performances outside school

Band Uniform

Band students are expected to wear the NRPS school uniform of jade (green) polo shirts for performances. Full school uniform involving navy school trousers or skorts (with navy stockings) can be worn for performances.

Music and Band Folders

Copies of music are issued to band members in accordance with copyright legislation. These copies remain the property of North Ryde Public School and making further copies of issued music is prohibited.

Training Band members commence learning their instrument and playing in band using a band method book.

As the band develops, students will be issued with a band folder to hold music. Folders should be retained and replaced by parents if they fall into disrepair.

Student Commitment

Parents are expected to discuss with their child the Band 'Code of Conduct'. Each student is required to sign the document which must then be co-signed by a parent and returned to school.



Communication

Instrument Tutorials - absences and make up lessons

Please ensure you notify Key Music Australia of all absences. Make up lessons may be available for private lessons cancelled with 24-hour notice. There is no refund or make up lesson if KMA is not advised of an absence. There is no provision for make up lessons or credit of fees for group activities such as rehearsals and group lessons. If group lessons are cancelled because the tutor is away, a make up lesson will be arranged. See [KMA terms and conditions](#) for full details on make up lessons.

Student's Contact details

Please notify both KMA and North Ryde Public School of any changes of email or phone numbers.

How we communicate with you

- Email and SMS from the Key Music Australia and /or Band Committee
 - It is vital that parents register an email address that is checked regularly, including day and evening, as messages can be sent at any time.
 - Please ensure you check that these emails do not go to your spam folder.
- Your child's Band Parent Liaison is your representative and contact person on the NRPS Band Committee. Please do not hesitate to contact them.
- Fortnightly NRPS newsletter
 - To subscribe to the eNewsletter go to: www.northrydeps.schoolzineplus.com/subscribe
- Skoolbag App
 - Be sure to select which band you want to receive push notifications about (go to the 'more' option)
- The Key Music Australia portal <https://www.myschoolband.com.au/myband/nrps/> that also includes information specific to North Ryde Public School

Who is involved in the band program?

Role of North Ryde Public School P&C

North Ryde Public School P&C oversees the coordination of the band program and provides regular financial support and advice to the Band Committee. The Band Committee is a sub-committee of the P&C.

Role of the NRPS P&C Band Committee:

The role of the NRPS P&C Band Committee is to work together with the school to coordinate the band program in liaison with Key Music Australia.

The committee is made up of parent volunteers that are members of the School's P&C, representatives from the school and representatives from Key Music Australia (KMA). It usually meets once or twice a term. If you are interested in joining the band committee, please speak to your band liaison parent or a P&C representative.

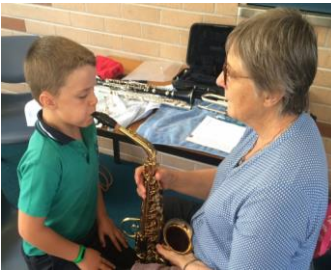
Role of parents/carers

The band program is a co-operative project and cannot function without the parent/carer support. A commitment of parental help is a condition of your child's acceptance into the band program. We ask that every parent assists in a way that best fits with their other commitments. There are a range of tasks - big and small. This may take the form a rewarding committee position, or assisting with band rehearsal set-up and supervision, photocopying music, transporting equipment to performances, or supporting various band events.

If you would like to know more about how you can help, contact NRPS Band Coordinator northrydepsband@gmail.com



Frequently Asked Questions

1	<p>When does the Band Program start?</p> <p><u>Enrolment</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Year 2 students wanting to join the training band in Year 3 are asked to enrol in Term 4. Existing students' enrolment will be rolled over into the next year. If you do not wish your child to continue the following year, please notify <u>Key Music Australia</u>.
2	<p>Which instrument should my child play?</p> <p>When your child applies for the training band, they will be asked to indicate their instrument choice. The conductor will test the student's aptitude and recommend the most suitable instrument for your child and one that meets the needs of the band.</p> 
3	<p>My child already learns an instrument and has lessons outside the school. Will they be able to play this same instrument in the band? Do they need to receive lessons from Key Music Australia at the school?</p> <p>Students who already undertake music lessons (external to the school) should make an appointment with the Band Conductor to discuss options.</p>
4	<p>My child wants to join the band program and it's the middle of the year!</p> <p>For students who wish to join the band program during the year, please make an appointment with the Band Conductor.</p>
5	<p>Do I need to notify Key Music Australia if my child is going to be absent from an instrument tutorial or band rehearsal?</p> <p>Yes, go to the My School Band Portal for Students & Parents of Key Music Australia <u>https://www.myschoolband.com.au/contact-us/absentee-notification/</u></p>
6	<p>Are make up lessons available if my child misses a tutorial?</p> <p>Make up lessons may be available for private lessons where at least 24 hours' notice is provided. They are not available for group tutorials or band rehearsals. See <u>KMA terms and conditions</u> for full details on make up lessons.</p>
7	<p>My child's tutor was absent. When do make up tutorials occur and how will I find out?</p> <p>If a tutor is absent for a private tutorial, a make up session will be organised by KMA or a credit will automatically be added to the student's next invoice. See <u>KMA terms and conditions</u> for full details.</p>
8	<p>Is band on even if it is the first day of term or there is a school event (e.g., athletics carnival)?</p> <p>Yes, band will continue as normal, unless notified by the school or your Band Liaison Parent.</p>
9	<p>My child no longer wants to play the instrument?</p> <p>Please talk to the Band Conductor. Then contact KMA to withdraw your child from the band program.</p> <p>A student may only cease tuition at the end of a school term. Two weeks' notice must be given to the Key Music Australia Office prior to the end of the current school term. Tuition and band rehearsal fees are charged by KMA per school term. See <u>KMA terms and conditions</u> for full details. NRPS Instrument hire fees are also charged per school term. If your child withdraws from the band program during the school term, fees cannot be reimbursed.</p>



10	<p>How do I seek feedback about my child's progress?</p> <p>If parents would like feedback or a report about their child's progress with their instrument, an email request should be sent to Key Music Australia.</p>
11	<p>When are we billed for instrument tuition, band rehearsals and instrument hire?</p> <p>Instrument tuition and band rehearsal fees will be invoiced directly to parents by Key Music Australia. Instrument hire payments are made to North Ryde Public School P&C. NRPS Online Band Shop is accessed via MySchoolConnect (MSC on-line platform). See fees and other costs for more details.</p>
12	<p>How do I make a payment?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• to Key Music Australia (for band fees and tutorials): KMA will invoice you directly• to the Band Committee (for instrument hire, special events): payment is made via MySchoolConnect, on-line payment platform.
13	<p>I have questions or concerns about fees, who can I talk to?</p> <p>Please contact Key Music Australia (office@keymusicaustralia.com.au)</p>
14	<p>What if the hire instrument is faulty or does not work properly?</p> <p>Your child should approach the band conductor in the first instance with the instrument, or the Band Parent Liaison where the band conductor is not available. See instrument hire section for more details.</p>
14	<p>How do I find out about what's happening with the Band Program?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Keep up-to-date with the Band Program by reading emails from the P&C Band Committee, School Newsletter and alerts via SkoolBag app.• Contact your Band Parent Liaison• Email NRPS Band Coordinator NorthRydePSband@gmail.com
15	<p>How do I know what music my child is playing?</p> <p>Key Music Australia (KMA) will provide music as it is required. This must be kept in your child's band folder. Please note this music remains the property of KMA and must not be photocopied due to copyright laws. See music section for more details.</p>

We look forward to sharing a musical journey with you and your child.

Please contact the Band Program Committee at NorthRydePSband@gmail.com or the school at northryde-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au if you have any further questions.



Band Photos



Band Workshop photos



