



***Narrabeen Lakes Public
School***

Band Programme



Information Booklet

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The Band Program

Narrabeen Lakes Public School offers students the opportunity to participate in a high quality and engaging band program.

Playing a musical instrument has many benefits. Playing in a band adds a further dimension to a student's musical education, promoting team and social skills, fostering a sense of responsibility and pride and exposing students to the art of performance.

The Bands

Our bands are what are generally called concert bands made up of woodwind, brass, percussion, keyboards and bass guitar.

The band program currently includes a Training Band and a Senior Band.

The Training Band, as the name suggests, is for those students with little or no musical experience. Entry into the Training Band is open for all students in Year 3 and above. Students normally spend a year in the Training Band before moving up to the Senior Band.

The Senior Band is for students that have moved beyond beginner level. Members of this band are expected to be able to play more difficult musical pieces and have sound music reading skills.

Our Band Director

Jennifer Power's musical journey begun at her local primary school on recorder at the age of 7. She then went on to join her school band on clarinet under the tutelage of Helen Oberg and the baton of the late Darryl Mann, later performing in state-wide band competitions, music camps, and on international tours. Jennifer successfully graduated from the Sydney Conservatorium of Music with a Bachelor of Music Education degree. As a passionate and experienced music educator, Jennifer has conducted concert bands, jazz ensembles, string ensembles, recorder groups, choirs and a variety of instrumental ensembles at primary, secondary and tertiary levels. Jennifer has been involved in the inner workings of State music camps over the years, moving from tutor, to co-ordinator, and most recently conductor. Outside of her school commitments, Jennifer is also involved in many other ensembles, including as clarinet tutor for Arts unit ensemble "*Symphonic Wind Orchestra*", founder and director of the Northern Beaches Symphonic Youth Band, and member of the Great Gatsby Orchestra, the Northside Big Band, as well as the Northern Beaches Symphonic Wind Ensemble. She performs regularly at Jazz festivals and clubs around New South Wales as well as competing in State and National band championships. Jennifer has recorded with both concert band and jazz orchestras, her most recent being "Jubilee Stomp" with The Great Gatsby Orchestra. Jennifer has studied conducting with leading nationally and internationally recognised conductors including; Stephan Williams, Jerry Nowak, Dr. John Lynch, Dr. Martin Hardy, Dr. Steven Capaldo and Prof Larry Curtis, participating in courses and conferences in Australia and overseas. Jennifer is the specialist music teacher at Narrabeen Lake Public School as well directing the Senior Band, Training Band, recorder ensemble and choirs.

Commitment to the Band Program

Before enrolling in the band program, please note there are a number of commitments in both costs and time required of band members and / or their parents. These are detailed in this information booklet, which should be read carefully.

Key commitments:

- all band fees and instrument hire fees must be paid by the due date;
- band members must provide their own instrument or hire an instrument from the school;
- band members must attend private music lessons of half an hour weekly;
- band members must practice regularly;
- band members must attend all rehearsals;
- band members must attend all band performances and the annual band workshop; and
- band members must commit to membership of the band program for the whole calendar year.

Students should only join the band if these commitments can be met.

Band Performances

Performances are a key part of the band program. The bands perform at various school and community events and participate in festivals and competitions throughout the year. Some events may be held on evenings and at weekends. Band members are expected to attend all performances.

Band Workshop

One weekend, non-residential workshop for all band members will be held each year. The workshop is a concentrated set of tutorials and rehearsals designed to improve the bands' performance in preparation for upcoming performances. All band members are encouraged to attend.

Band Uniforms

Band uniform consists of a black band polo shirt with NLPS band logo, black pants, black socks and shoes.

Each band member will be provided with a polo shirt to keep for the year. If a new size is needed, it can be exchanged. A \$25 replacement fee will be charged for lost shirts.

Band members must provide their own pants, socks and shoes.

Uniform is compulsory for all band performances.

Rehearsals

Both bands rehearse twice per week.

Rehearsal times are:

Training band	Monday and Wednesday	8:00 – 9:00am
Senior band	Tuesday 8:00 – 9:00 am and Thursday	8:30 – 9:00am.

All band members are expected to arrive promptly.

Attendance by all students at all rehearsals is compulsory, as it is essential for the progress of each band. If your child is unable due to sickness or special circumstances, please contact the Band Co-ordinator in advance.

There are no rehearsals on pupil free days or public holidays.

Behaviour

The high standards of behaviour expected of students throughout their time at Narrabeen Lakes Public School apply equally to students when attending band rehearsals and performances. Students must be respectful and courteous to the Band Director and parent volunteers, listen and follow directions, help set up and clear up at rehearsals and take care of and responsibility for their instruments and music. The school's discipline policy also applies.

Private Tuition

All band students are required to obtain private music tuition. Tuition is essential to progress with learning an instrument and to keep up with the band program. The Northern Beaches area is fortunate to have a good selection of private tutors across a wide range of instruments. Tutors range in price from \$25-\$40 per half hour session, depending on the instrument and experience of the tutor. Some tutors are self-employed and work from their own homes, whilst others are part of a teaching business like Mona Vale or Mall Music (Teaching Services Australia). Some tutors hold lessons on the school premises.

Please note that arranging for and payment of private tutors is the parent's responsibility. However, a tutor list will be made available to new band members. Contact with tutors should begin once your child has been allocated an instrument and you have enrolled in band so that the first private lesson can occur in W1, Term 1.

Music Examinations

Band members are encouraged to further their musical skills by sitting formal music examinations. Music examinations may be taken into account in assessing whether a student may join the Performance Band.

Organisations such as AMEB and Trinity run music examination programs for a wide variety of instruments and musical abilities. Most private tutors will be able to organise and prepare your child for the appropriate examination level. As with general tuition, it is the responsibility of the parents to arrange and meet the costs of music examinations.

Band Fees

The band program is an optional, extra-curricular activity that is not funded by the school. Band fees, including workshop fees and instrument hire fees, cover the cost to the school of the time of our Band Director in band rehearsals, the annual band workshop, costs of external

performances and competitions, music, folders, polo shirts, administrative costs and the costs of equipment maintenance and equipment and instrument purchases.

Instrument Hire Fee

For those students that wish to hire an instrument from NLPS, the annual instrument hire fee is \$100, payable in two instalments by the end of Week 2, Term 1 and the end of Week 2, Term 3.

Annual fees

The annual fee for all band members is \$360, plus a \$90 band workshop fee

This must be paid in the following instalments:

- \$320 (50% annual band fee plus workshop fee) plus, if applicable, \$50 (50% instrument hire fee) by the end of Week 2, Term 1;
- \$180 (balance of annual band fee) plus, if applicable, \$50 (balance of instrument hire fee), by the end of Week 2, Term 3.

Band fees are strictly non-refundable.

Payment Options

Payment plans may be offered in special circumstances. Please contact the Band Coordinator in advance of the due dates to discuss this option.

Otherwise, fees must be paid by the due dates detailed above. **Prompt payment of fees (or compliance with any agreed payment plan) is a condition of membership of the band.**

Payments by EFT are preferred, but may also be made by credit card or cash, as follows:

EFT Account Name: Narrabeen Lakes P&C Association*
 BSB: 062 144
 Account number: 0090 0031

Please reference as "BAND" and the student's full name.

*(*Please note P&C account details differ from those of school account.)*

Cash

Cash must be deposited in the BLACK BOX in the office in a sealed envelope marked with "BAND" and the student's full name.

Credit card

Payment can also be made by credit card by completing the "Non-Cash Payment Options" form and returning it to the BLACK BOX in the office.

Any queries in relation to fees should be directed to the Band Treasurer.

Instrument Hire

Most instruments are available for hire including flutes, clarinets, saxophones (alto and tenor), trumpets, trombones, French horns and baritones. Drum kits, bass guitars and amps are not available for hire.

Instruments must be checked at the end of Term 4 for any servicing required. Instruments will be re-issued to returning band members at the end of Term 4 (if no servicing is required) or early in Term 1. The costs of normal wear and tear and annual maintenance are covered by the instrument hire fee. However, parents must meet the costs of any damage caused by carelessness and the replacement costs of any lost instruments. If you have any problems with your instrument, please contact the Instrument Co-ordinator. Parents should not attempt to fix any instrument themselves.

Buying an Instrument

If parents wish to purchase an instrument, the table below shows indicative price ranges for new entry level (often referred to as student) instruments

Instrument	Entry Level Price
Clarinet	\$600 - \$850
Flute	\$600 - \$750
Saxophone (Alto)	\$1000 - \$2500
Saxophone (Tenor)	\$1800 - \$3000
Trumpet	\$550 - \$800
Trombone	\$750 - \$1200
French Horn	\$2500 - \$3000
Euphonium / Baritone Horn	\$1800-\$3000
Bass Guitar (with amp)	\$350 - \$500

Joining the Band

Any student in Years 3 - 6 can join the band. Normally students join the band through our annual intake process in Term 4 each year. Details of the recruitment process will be available at the beginning of Term 4 each year.

Continuing in the Band

All current band members wishing to continue in the band program in the following year will be required to re-enroll and book any instrument hire online at www.myschoolmusic.com.au/narrablksband by Week 8, Term 4.

All instruments hired from the school must be returned for checking in the last week of Term 4. Instruments will be re-issued to returning band members at the end of Term 4 (if no servicing is required) or early in Term 1.

Leaving the Band

It is noted that all Year 6 students will be leaving the band at the end of that year. Any other students who do not re-enroll will be assumed to be leaving the band at the end of that year.

Students who wish to leave the band program mid-year should contact the Band Co-ordinator. Band fees will not be refunded.

Please ensure that any outstanding fees are paid. If unsure, please contact the Band Co-ordinator for details.

All instruments hired from the school must be returned at the end of Term 4 or by arrangement with the Instrument Co-ordinator.

The Band Committee

The band program is run by the Band Committee, which is a sub-committee of the Narrabeen Lakes Public School P&C Association. Most of the administrative work is done by parent volunteers. The Band Director is also a non-voting member of the Band Committee. The band sub-committee policy is available on request.

Volunteering

The Band Committee would welcome additional members to help run the program. Please contact the Band Committee if you can assist.

All other parents are expected to assist with the band program, as and when they are able, whether that is assisting with setting up and packing up at performances or helping at fundraising events.

Communication

The Band Committee communicates with band parents via email, notes and the school newsletter. Please refer any queries to the Band Co-ordinator. Any musical issues can be discussed with the Band Director by prior appointment.