



CONCERT and STAGE BAND PROGRAM FAQs

What Grade do the School Concert and Stage bands perform at?

Our Junior and Senior School Concert Bands currently perform at Yamaha Festival Junior 2.5 and Senior 3.5 "B Grade" Concert Level. Training Concert Band performs Grade 0.5 to 1 repertoire

Our Junior and Senior Stage Bands perform medium "M" to advanced "A" Stage Band repertoire.

What festivals do they perform in and what is the repertoire?

Both Junior and Senior Concert Bands perform in the Yamaha Festival and have a balanced repertoire including chorales, marches, festival and popular music.

Stage Bands have the opportunity to perform at the Manly Jazz Festival and School and community events. Their repertoire includes Jazz, Swing, Latin, Rock, Ballads and Blues pieces with some including the use of solo vocalists.

Over the years we have won Yamaha with Gold and Command Performances with our Senior and Junior School Concert Bands

Does the band get filmed or recorded?

We have made CDs and DVDs of our Concert Bands, some of which can be found on our School YouTube channel. We also record in the C3 Oxford Falls Studios.

Are the bands and students graded?

Our bands are graded and students are encouraged to be of a Grade 4 or higher AMEB or Trinity level in the Senior Concert Band and Grade 2 or higher for Junior Concert Band.

Students of a lesser grade are catered to by being allocated second and third parts, which are of equal importance to the band.

What about exceptional students?

We currently have Grade 8 Trinity and AMEB students in the Senior Concert Band who still find the experience beneficial.

For exceptional students, we also have Band Leadership roles with accompanying badges. This gives the students the opportunity to grow their leadership skills along with their musical skills.

What is the band's philosophy on music?

We don't hold auditions as we believe music should be inclusive, not exclusive, even though we do play at a high level. Music plays a role in every area of our School life including sporting events, assemblies, praise and worship and Awards nights.

Are recognised music exams held on site?

We have been a music examination studio for both AMEB and Trinity exam systems for nine years and have put through hundreds of students in that time. We have a focus and interest in both jazz and classical music at the highest levels. We put through an average of 100 Trinity music exam students and 100 Rock School music exam students from Grades 1-8 each year. Students who reach Grade 8 are able to apply for bonus points on their ATAR.

We have 420 students in our music program meaning that almost half the students in our music program sit graded exams every 12 months. It also makes us one of the largest school music examination studios in Sydney.

Is Christian music performed?

We believe in performing Christian music and do so each year in Term 3 at the Thanksgiving Service. We also perform Hymns and Chorales annually at our ANZAC Services.

Are students encouraged to participate in external music ensembles?

We believe in supporting outside community extension ensembles and students regularly perform in them as well as maintaining their role in our School ensembles.

What do Music students do after the HSC with their skills?

Each year many of our students go on to study Bachelor of Music degrees.

Here is a quote from the Marketing Manager of the Australian Institute of Music about our graduates:

“It's great to hear our graduates are out there doing some good work. Thanks for your referrals to AIM. Your students are always of a great standard which is a true testament to your teaching and mentorship. You obviously instil a great passion and work ethic in your students which they bring with them to AIM.”