

KEW EAST PRIMARY SCHOOL

BAND POLICY

Page 1 of 1

PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to provide guidelines for the provision of an extensive Concert Band program at Kew East Primary School.

POLICY GUIDELINES

- The KEPS band program was established in the 1930's when the school was a central school P-8.
- The band program consists of students of students in Years 3-6 and is structured into, beginning (Year 3), social band (Year 4) and concert band (Years 5-6).
- A comprehensive band program is implemented by sessional instrumental tutors and led by the band director.
- Students receive tuition on an instrument from the wind / reed / brass or percussion families.
- Instruments for the band program are hired either from KEPS or Musicorp but students may own instruments. The school organises the hire of instruments in bulk.
- Students experience enjoyment of their instrument through participation in group tutorials with others playing the same instrument.
- Fundamental music skills are addressed in a practical way with a view to extending natural talent and musicality from all band members.
- The band program provides members with the opportunity to develop their musical skills in learning an instrument and reading music.
- The band program provides experiences with small and large ensemble performances.
- Students have opportunities to play music in jazz, rock, classical and contemporary styles.
- Participation in regular band rehearsals in a balanced ensemble fosters further engagement, leading to public performances in a variety of arenas.
- The SACE (Social Awareness & Community Engagement) Concert provides the opportunity for the school's band program to reach out to various local community groups and acts as a rehearsal opportunity prior to the end of year annual Soiree.
- The band director has overall responsibility for the band program but has administrative support from a music teacher and office staff.

PROGRAM IMPLEMENTATION

- All Year 4-6 band members receive 16 tutorial sessions of 25 minutes duration each semester.
- Year 3 students join the band program in semester 2 following a Recruitment Information Evening and a selection process where an instrument is chosen in consultation with student, parent and band director.
- In considering selection of instruments, the band director needs to consider a balanced choice of instruments for future social and concert band.
- Year 4 members of the band program become members of the social band, participating at one weekly lunchtime band rehearsal for 50 minutes.
- Year 5 and 6 students in the band program become members of the concert band. In Year 5, students progress from the smaller social band of Year 4 to become members of the larger concert band. They participate in one weekly lunchtime band rehearsal for 50 minutes.
- Social band performs at school assembly once per term and are involved in a minor role in end of year Soiree.
- Concert band performs at school assembly once per term, plays at school functions, community performances (annual SACE concert), Recruitment Information Evening as well as participating in external adjudicated competitions (Victorian School Music Festival).
- Concert band students provide the bulk of the entertainment at the annual end of year Soiree.
- Year 5 and 6 students are invited to perform solos at the Recruitment Information Evening. All band students are encouraged to play solos, duets and small ensemble pieces regularly in class, at school assemblies, at the annual SACE concert and as foyer items at the annual end of year Soiree.
- Social band, concert band and students from Years 3-6 perform at the annual end of year Soiree where they formally showcase their repertoire to a large audience of staff, family and friends.

KEW EAST PRIMARY SCHOOL

BAND POLICY

Page 2 Of 2

- Students are evaluated through tutorials, rehearsals and performances
- Tutors, in collaboration with the band director, will issue progress reports to all band students each semester, coinciding with June and December school reporting.
- Tutors assess band students and provide written reports each semester, co signed by the band director.
- The band director is responsible for drawing up term timetables, choice of band music, conducting separate weekly band rehearsals for social band and concert band, replacement of tutors, organisation of biennial music intensive / internal workshop program, annual Soiree, annual Victorian School Music Festival participation and other internal performances such as school assemblies, SACE (Social Awareness & Community Engagement) Concert, Recruitment Information Evening, overseeing instrument selection to ensure a balanced band program.
- The band director is responsible for keeping parents informed of events through the School Newsletter.
- The band director and music staff member shall liaise with parents and staff to seek voluntary assistance when required for such things as uniform distribution and maintenance, Soiree supper, BBQ helpers for Band Intensive days, organisation of SACE (Social Awareness & Community Engagement) concert and others as required.
- Additional administrative support is provided by a music staff member to assist with supervision of band rehearsals, uniform allocation, maintaining records of instrument allocation and provide administrative assistance for biennial music intensive workshop, Soiree and other performances.

EVALUATION:

This policy will be reviewed on a cyclical basis in accordance with the School Council Policy review schedule or if required earlier at the discretion of the School Council

Program:
Teaching and Learning

Ratified School Council:
November 2015

Next Review:
November 2019