

**RINGWOOD  
SECONDARY  
COLLEGE**



**MUSIC  
HANDBOOK  
2026**

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# MUSIC

## RINGWOOD SECONDARY COLLEGE

Welcome to a new year of music making at Ringwood Secondary College.

Ringwood Secondary College is a Performing Arts School. We are proud of the outstanding reputation forged over many years in music participation and performance.

For new students to the College this Handbook serves as a guide to the Music Department and the opportunities it offers in classroom and instrumental music.

For continuing students, it is a reminder of important dates as well as the ongoing responsibilities to their teachers and ensembles.

Students have opportunities to:

- Perform at both State and National level in Competitions and Festivals
- Become part of the renowned School Production in August
- Participate in the Band Tour in October

I look forward to seeing and hearing all Music Students and Ensembles at the various performances we have planned for 2026.

***Ms. Janine Pero***  
***Director of Instrumental Music***



## **CLASSROOM MUSIC**

Classroom Music gives students access to:

- Performance
- Music Technology
- Composition

Solo and small group performance opportunities, such as evening concerts called Soirees, class time, lunchtimes, and school events, junior and senior music concerts.

In addition, senior elective Classroom Music students are expected to be involved in various programs.

### **Junior Classroom Music**

**Year 7:** 4 periods per cycle – *half year*

**Year 8:** 4 periods per cycle – *half year*

In Years 7 and 8, Classroom Music is compulsory. All students are introduced to the elements of music, the music of Australia and of other countries. Creative music plays a major part in Junior Classroom Music. Students are encouraged to perform to one another and to develop their performing skills on the keyboard, ukulele, guitar, percussion instruments as well as any other musical instrument they learn at or outside the College. Students also study Music Technology and use the program “Garage Band” along with other apps on their iPad.

### **Middle School Electives**

**Year 9** periods per cycle – *half year*

The Year 9 elective music class covers further music technology and performance, as well as introducing students to arranging, composition and music history.

**Year 10:** 4 periods per cycle – *half year*

Year 10 elective music develops, in detail, the areas explored in Year 9, as well as including preparing students for further class music study at VCE level. Students complete a range of composition and performance activities individually and in groups, incorporated with theory, critical listening and investigation research.

### **Senior Music Studies**

**Year 11:** 8 periods per cycle – *whole year*

VCE Music Units 1 and 2 is the common starting point for students who wish to continue into any of the four Unit 3 and 4 Music Subjects. VCE Music Repertoire Performance and VCE Music Contemporary Performance are the two subjects offered internally. VCE Music units are ideal for students considering a career in the music industry, a career in an associated field or for those who have a passion for music. Students use critical and creative thinking skills to analyse the work of other musicians. Based on their analyses, students develop skills in interpreting, performing and composing pieces of music. They develop the skills to use expressive techniques to shape works and communicate ideas, characters and moods in their performances and compositions. VCE Music Units 1 and 2 is a highly accessible course. Students with diverse backgrounds can enrol. Prior experience in music is highly desirable, however, it is not a requirement for students to have prior experience in traditional instrumental music education to enrol.

**Year 12:** 8 periods per cycle – *whole year*

### **VCE Music Repertoire Performance**

This study is designed for students whose musical interests are grounded in the re-creation and interpretation of notated musical works, and who wish to gain and share knowledge of musical styles and performance practices. Students may present on any instrument for which there is an established repertoire of notated works. They work towards a recital program that demonstrates highly developed technical skills and stylistic refinement as both a soloist and as an ensemble member. They develop the capacity for critical evaluations of their performances and those of others, and an ability to articulate their performance decisions with musical evidence and independence of thought.

### **VCE Music Contemporary Performance**

This subject is designed for students who include improvisation/embellishment and collaborative practice in their music making. Additionally, this study suits students who may use recordings as their primary reference material and wish to develop a personal voice in their performances.

Students may present with any instrument or combination of instruments which will be suitable to convey understanding of the key knowledge and application of key skills for Outcome 1, with styles including (but not limited to) rock, pop, jazz, EDM, country, funk and R&B.

Students primary focus is a live performance at which they will present primarily as a soloist or in a group context. All students must present at least one work with another live performer and present at least one work that is their “re-imagining” of an existing work.

### **HOW DO I GET INVOLVED IN CLASSROOM MUSIC?**

Simply sign up with your Year Level Co-ordinator.

For Middle School electives and VCE courses, it is strongly recommended that you consult the Director of Instrumental Music and your Classroom Music

## **INSTRUMENTAL & VOCAL MUSIC**

Tuition is offered to students on the following instruments: Flute, Oboe, Clarinet, Alto Saxophone, Tenor Saxophone, Bassoon, Trumpet, French Horn, Trombone, Euphonium, Tuba, Violin, Viola, Cello, Double Bass, Percussion and Voice.

Piano tuition, paying the teacher direct, is available at the school.

**It is an expectation that students who are taking piano lessons through this arrangement will participate in an ensemble, choir, or the main College Production.**

**Jazz Studies course, learning to improvise, is also offered free of charge. This course is limited to students participating in the Stage Band program.**

**The following large ensembles are core ensembles and compulsory for all music students:** Training Band, Training Strings, Junior Concert Band, Intermediate Concert Band, Intermediate Strings, Symphonic Band and Senior Strings.

Junior Choir and Senior Choir are compulsory for voice students having lessons at school or VCE Voice students. Training Stage Band, Junior Stage Band, Intermediate Stage Band, Senior Stage Band, and Symphony Orchestra are ensembles that students can join in addition to the ensembles above. These ensembles are considered extension work.

The following chamber groups are also available to select students: Junior Brass Ensemble, Senior Brass Ensemble, Senior Flute Ensemble, Junior Flute Ensemble, Clarinet Choir, String Quartet, Saxophone Ensemble, and Jazz Combo. Chamber ensembles are also encouraged at Ringwood.

## **PERCUSSION**

The aim of the Percussion course at Ringwood Secondary College is to produce students who are multi-skilled, musical, and generally competent in all the main percussion groups – Mallet Percussion, Snare Drum, Timpani, Kit, and a wide range of Hand Percussion. This requires serious study and regular, consistent practice.

Ringwood has established a fine tradition of producing top quality VCE Percussion students, as well as many opportunities for performance in a wide variety of ensembles in the music program. It is important to note that Drum Kit is only one element of the percussion group and will not be taught in isolation. It is a later year study taken only after satisfactory grounding has been achieved in the other basic disciplines.

Percussion students are expected to purchase a Percussion Kit, if they do not already own such instruments. This includes a Glockenspiel, Practice Pad, several different pairs of Mallets, a good pair of Wood Tip Sticks and a Stick Bag. The cost of this equipment is approximately \$584.00. Occasionally, second hand Kits and Mallets are available. In addition, students must provide a plastic pocket folder, an HB or similar pencil and an eraser, which should be brought to every lesson.

It is very important that all percussion students take responsibility for the care and protection of the school's percussion instruments. These are provided for the use of the percussionists only, and their replacement cost runs into many tens of thousands of dollars. Therefore, all players should do whatever they can to look after the equipment without which there would be no percussion program.

***To neglect this responsibility may forfeit a student's position in the percussion program.***

Finally, a word about the importance of practice: **All musicians practice and all music students need to practice.** It is especially important that percussionists practice since they are expected to perform on a wide variety of instruments that they rarely have the luxury of actually owning. This additional adjustment makes percussion playing in the school environment particularly awkward, so the more that the essentials are practiced at home, the better.

Please note that students are only accepted into percussion via an audition. Students must have previous percussion experience in order to apply for an audition.

## **HOW DO I GET INVOLVED IN THE INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC PROGRAM?**

- If you are a beginner in Year 7, you will be given a music aptitude survey during the first week of Year 7. If you miss this day it will be rescheduled for Week 2 Term 1. Then you will need to attend the Music Recruitment Evening on **Thursday 19 February. It is only at this occasion that you will be able to secure a position in the Instrumental Program.**
- If you are beyond the beginner stage and/or in Year 8 - 12, you simply need to apply in writing to the Director of Instrumental Music and you will be placed appropriately.
- If you would like to be part of the Junior or Senior Choir, you will need to apply in writing to the Director of Instrumental Music. All Year 7s are encouraged to sign up for choir in the first week of Term 1.
- If you want to learn Piano, please apply in writing to the Director of instrumental Music.

## **ENSEMBLE REHEARSAL SCHEDULE 2026**

<b>MAJOR ENSEMBLE</b>	<b>REHEARSAL DAY</b>	<b>START</b>	<b>FINISH</b>	<b>ROOM</b>	<b>CONDUCTOR</b>
<b>TRAINING BAND</b>	TUES	7.15 am	8.40 am	700	DANE SORENSEN
<b>TRAINING STAGE BAND</b>	WED	7.15 am	8.40 am	702	DECLAN TROUNSON
<b>TRAINING STRINGS</b>	Wed	1.15 pm	2.05 pm	Hall	LAURIEN KENNEDY
<b>JUNIOR CHOIR</b>	FRI	1.15 pm	2.05 pm	700	TIM JAQUES
<b>JUNIOR CONCERT BAND</b>	MON	7.15 am	8.30 am	700	ELISE FREDRIKSEN
<b>JUNIOR STAGE BAND</b>	THURS	3.00pm	4.10 pm	700	DANE SORENSEN
<b>INTERMEDIATE CONCERT BAND</b>	MON	3.10 pm	4.20 pm	HALL	DECLAN TROUNSEN
<b>INTERMEDIATE STAGE BAND</b>	WED	3.15 pm	5.15 pm	700	JANINE PERO
<b>INTERMEDIATE STRINGS</b>	FRI	7.30 am	8.40 am	700/ HALL	JACK LAM
<b>SENIOR CHOIR</b>	TUES	1.15 pm	2.05 pm	700	TIM JAQUES
<b>SENIOR STAGE BAND</b>	MON	3.15 pm	5.30 pm	702	JANINE PERO
<b>SENIOR STRINGS</b>	TUES	7.15 am	8.40 am	CAVE	JACK LAM
<b>SYMPHONIC BAND</b>	THURS	7.15am	8.40am	HALL/ 700	ANDREW JACOBS
<b>SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA</b>	WED	7.15 am	8.40 am	700	JANINE PERO
<b>JAZZ STUDIES</b>	MON/WED	1.15 am	2.05 pm	702	GREG CLARKSON
<b>TOURING BAND (Aug-Oct)</b>	TUES	TBC	TBC	700	JANINE PERO DANE SORENSON
<b>PRODUCTION (Feb - Aug)</b>	TUES	3.20 pm	6.00 pm	700	CHRIS BISHOP
<b>JUNIOR PRODUCTION (Nov-Dec)</b>	TUES	3.20 pm	6.00 pm	700	TBC

**Please Note: Year 7s only who are in Training Strings & Training Band:**

**COMMENCEMENT DATE:** (regardless of whether you have an instrument or not)

- **Training Band** – Tuesday March 3, 2026. 8am for the first rehearsal. All subsequent rehearsals commence at 7.15am in room 700
- **Training Strings** -Wednesday March 4, 2026, lunchtime in Room 700

## **MUSIC DEPARTMENT STAFF – 2026**

<b>Janine Pero</b>	Music Director, Brass, Intermediate Stage Band, Senior Stage Band, Symphony Orchestra	Mon-Thurs
<b>Alexandra Boemo</b>	Piano	Tues/Wed
<b>Greg Clarkson</b>	Saxophone, Jazz Studies	Mon/Wed/Fri
<b>Alisha Cornell</b>	Acting Performing Arts Secretary	Mon - Fri
<b>Elise Fredericksen</b>	Junior Concert Band	Mon - Fri
<b>Tim Jaques</b>	Voice, Junior Choir, Senior Choir and Senior Vocal Ensemble	Tues/Fri
<b>Jakob Johnson</b>	Classroom Music	Mon-Fri
<b>Sharon Hatton</b>	Trumpet/ French Horn	3 days
<b>Laurien Kennedy</b>	Cello, Training Strings	Wed
<b>Jack Lam</b>	Violin, Viola, Intermediate Strings, Senior Strings	Mon/Tues/Thurs & Fri am
<b>Martin Lee</b>	Oboe/Bassoon	Thurs
<b>William O'Brien</b>	Events & Performing Arts Technical Manager	1 day
<b>Geraldine Rosier.</b>	Flute/ Clarinet	Tues-Fri
<b>Dane Sorensen</b>	Classroom, Training Band, Junior Stage Band	Mon - Fri
<b>Joanna To</b>	Double Bass	Thurs
<b>Declan Trounson</b>	Classroom Music, Intermediate Concert Band, Training Stage Band	Mon -Fri
<b>Victoria White</b>	Classroom Music	Mon -Fri

## **BELL TIMES 2026**

### **Whole School**

<b>Mon, Tues, Wed , Fri</b>		<b>Thurs</b>
Period 1	8.50	8.50
Period 2	9.50	9.50
Recess	10.50	10.50
Period 3	11.15	11.15
Period 4	12.15	12.15
Lunch	1.15	1.15
Period 5	2.05	1.45
End of day	3.05	2.45

## **INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC**

<b>Monday to Wednesday and Friday</b>		<b>Thursday</b>	
Lesson A	8.50	Lesson A	8.50
Lesson B	9.30	Lesson B	9.30
Lesson C	10.10	Lesson C	10.10
Recess	10.50	Recess	10.50
Lesson D	11.15	Lesson D	11.15
Lesson E	11.55	Lesson E	11.55
Lesson F	12.35	Lesson F	12.35
Lunch	1.15	Lunch	1.15
Lesson G	2.05	Lesson G	1.45
Lesson H	2.35	Lesson H	2.15
End of lesson H	3.05	End of Lesson H	2.45

## Instrumental Music Calendar 2026

<b>Term 1</b>		
	Sat 31 January	SSB Day Camp 9am- 4pm, JSB day camp 11am- 3pm
	Mon 2 February	All music students meet at lunchtime in 700
	Sat 7 February	ISB Day Camp 9 am – 4pm, TSB 11-3pm.
	Sun 8 February	SC Day Camp 9am-12pm
	Thursday 19 February	Recruitment Night 7pm
	Tuesday 24 March	Open Night – Senior Stage Band
	Mon 30 March	Music Photos 7.30am – 11.30am Hall Senior Stage Band Masterclass 3.15-6.15
	Friday 17 April	SSB rehearsal 9- 12/ Masterclass 1-4pm JSB day camp 11am -3pm
	Saturday 18 April	ISB rehearsal 9- 12/ Masterclass 1-4pm TSB day camp 11am -3pm
	Sunday 19 April	Senior Choir rehearsal 9- 12/ Masterclass 1-3pm
<b>Term 2</b>		
	Wed 22 April	TSB Masterclass 3.15- 6.15pm
	Thurs 23 April	JSB masterclass 3.15- 6.15pm
	Monday 27 April	Jazz Night 7.30pm all stage bands and Senior Choir Box Hill Town Hall
	Fri 1- Sun 3 May	Generations in Jazz, Mt Gambier all 4 stage bands & Senior Choir
	Wed 13 May	NEVR Concert, Hamer Hall, 7pm
	Wed 20 May	Senior Autumn Concert 7.30pm. Dress rehearsal p2-4 Hall
	9-19 June	Internal Music Assessments
	Thurs 25 June	Junior/ Intermediate Concert 7.30pm Dress rehearsal p2- 4 Hall
<b>Term 3</b>		
	Fri 10 July	SSB Stage Band Day Camp 9am-4pm TSB Day Camp 11am – 3pm
	Sat 11 July	ISB Stage Band Day Camp 9am – 4pm JSB Stage Band Day Camp 11am-5pm
	Sun 12 July	SC Day Camp 9am-12pm JC Day Camp 1-4pm
	Mon 13 July	SSB Masterclass 3.15- 6.15pm
	Wed 15 July	ISB Masterclass 3.15- 6.15pm
	Thurs 16 July	JSB Masterclass 3.15- 6.15pm

	Fri 17 July	TSB Masterclass 3.15- 6.15pm TBC
	Wed 22 – Fri 24 July	Production Camp
	27-31 July 3-5 Aug	Victorian Schools Music Festival Senior Strings and Symphony Orchestra Hawthorn Arts Centre. Date and time TBC
	10 – 13 August	Band Tour Auditions
	13-14 Aug 17-21 Aug 24-27 Aug	Victorian School Music Festival – Junior, Intermediate & Advanced Concert Bands Festival Hawthorn Arts Centre <b>JSB, ICB &amp; SB</b> Date and time for each ensemble TBC
	25,26,27 Aug lunch	Chamber Music Festival
	31 Aug – 4 Sept	Victorian School Music Festival Stage Bands, Hawthorn Town Hall – TSB, JSB, ISB, SSB. Dates/ times TBC
	7-11 Sept	Victorian School Music Festival – Junior and Senior Choirs date and venue TBC
	Mon 31 Aug	Gala Rehearsal no. 1, 3.30- 5.30
	Tues 1 Sept	Band Tour rehearsal no. 1, 3.30- 5.30
	Wed 2 Sept	Gala Finale rehearsal no. 2, 3.30 -5pm
	Mon 7 Sept	Gala Finale rehearsal no. 3, 3.30- 5.30pm
	Tues 8 Sept	Band Tour rehearsal no. 2, 3.30-5.30pm
	Wed 9 Sept	Gala rehearsal no.3, 3.30-4.30pm
	Mon 14 Sept	Gala Dress Rehearsal 12.00pm- 5.30pm YVGPAC
	Tues 15 Sept	Gala Concert 7.30pm ( 6.45pm arrival) YVGPAC
<b>Term 4</b>		
	Mon 5 – Fri 9 Oct	Auditions for 2026 Ensembles
	Tues 6 Oct	Band Tour rehearsal no. 3, 3.30-6.30pm
	Mon 12 October	2025 Ensembles commence rehearsals
	Tues 13 Oct	Band Tour rehearsal no. 4, 3.30- 6.30pm
	Tues 20 Oct	Band Tour rehearsal no. 5 3.30-7.30pm
	Mon 26 Oct	VCE written exams commence
	Mon 26- Fri 30 Oct	Band Tour
	Wednesday 4 Nov	Homecoming concert 7pm
	4-13 November	Music Internal Assessments
	November (4-14 Nov TBC)	AMEB/ABRSM exams
	9-13 November	Victorian School Music Young Bands Festival Training Band. Hawthorn Arts Centre
	Mon 7 Dec	Orientation Day rehearsal 3.30- 5.30pm
	Tues 8 Dec	Orientation Day dress rehearsal period 4, Performance period 5.
	Wed 9 Dec	Presentation Night rehearsal 7.30- 8.30am
	Mon 14 Dec	Presentation Night rehearsal 9.30- 11.30am
		Presentation Night performance Symphony Orchestra 5.30pm arrival for 6.30 start

## **MOST IMPORTANT THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW**

1. Students will receive an instrumental/vocal lesson time, rotating through the periods on the same day that their instrumental teacher is available each week.
2. Students will require the following equipment at the start of each year:  
**Instrument, Music Stand, HB Pencil & Eraser, Tutor books, Metronome, Spare Reeds/Strings/Valve Oil/Cleaning Cloth**
3. If students are receiving an instrumental/vocal lesson at the school, they are required to be a member of a major School Ensemble, e.g. a Concert Band, Choir, or String Group.
4. Singing lessons are first offered to Years 9-12 students doing elective music and by audition only. **Students who are having singing lessons must belong to the Junior/Senior Choir.**
5. Students learning **Piano only** must be part of either Junior or Senior Choir.
6. Students must be punctual.
7. Students must **attend all** lessons, rehearsals, tutorials and sectionals with the required equipment. A student's position in the program will be reviewed when more than two unexplained absences from either lesson and/or ensemble rehearsals occurs.
8. All absences must be explained in email from parents before or immediately after any lesson, rehearsal or performance to the conductor/teacher. Notification of absences from major events such as Victorian Schools Music Festival or South Street must be put in writing to the Music Director or Music Secretary, **at least one month prior** to the specific event.  
[Janine.Pero@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:Janine.Pero@education.vic.gov.au) or [Alisha.Cornell@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:Alisha.Cornell@education.vic.gov.au)
9. Students need to wear the required performance uniform.
10. Students need to check COMPASS prior to their music lesson for what they need to prepare.
11. Students must practice their instrument regularly, fulfilling their weekly requirements for lessons and rehearsals.
12. During the day, larger instruments should be stored in the Performing Art Centre Store Room. Smaller instruments must be placed in the student's locker. **Students MUST NOT leave their instruments at school overnight or over the weekend. No responsibility will be taken by the College for instruments that are left in the storeroom overnight.**
13. All instrument cases are to be *clearly labelled* with the student's name.
14. ***Students must check COMPASS for lesson times, read the "Daily Dispatch" student bulletin in the COMPASS Newsfeed, listen to all announcements, check the Performing Arts Centre notice boards, and read emails regularly.***
15. **Students are expected to support all Music Department events and activities.**
16. **It is the student's responsibility to make up any work missed in other subjects because of music events.**
17. Students who choose to learn from an external teacher will not be offered tuition within the school. Their teacher will need to be completely responsible for all of the student's instrumental needs, including VCE.
18. The Director of Instrumental Music will review a student's participation in the music program if there are concerns about attendance, home practice and general attitude.
19. The Musical Director/conductor reserves the right to exclude a student from a performance if they have missed a final rehearsal and/or sound check.

## **GENERAL INFORMATION**

### **MUSIC LEVY**

All students who participate in a Performance Ensemble at Ringwood Secondary College are subject to a levy which is payable via Compass by **22 February 2026**. Instrumental lessons and ensemble rehearsals can only commence upon payment of fees.

Fees for 2026 are as follows:

- \$550.00 for participation in the Instrumental program
- \$445.00 for second and subsequent children
- \$210.00 for Choir only

**PLEASE NOTE: This fee is non-refundable.**

The Levy helps the College to purchase new instruments, music, and equipment for all instrumental and vocal performing ensembles.

### **MUSIC PROGRAM COMMITMENT**

For all instrumentalists in 2025, **a year long commitment** to the program is required.

- Players are required to attend lessons as scheduled by their teacher.
- Players are required to attend weekly rehearsals of the ensembles to which they belong.
- Players are required to attend the performances listed in the Performance Calendar and in the ensemble contracts that are appropriate to their ensemble throughout the year.
- Players are required to practice regularly at home.

These are the minimum requirements for students who choose to be part of the Ringwood Music Program.

### **ACCOMPANISTS**

Whenever your child performs a solo either at a college event, a Soiree or for an AMEB Exam, **they will need to be accompanied on the Piano.** Parents are strongly advised to hire a Professional Accompanist well before the performance date. Listed below are the names of respected Accompanists who you can contact.

**Please check with your Instrumental teacher before contacting an accompanist. A fee will apply.**

For Exams and School Performances your teacher or the department will organize an Accompanist.

**PLEASE NOTE:** VCE students **must** consult with Ms. Pero, or Mr. Sorensen regarding Accompanists at this level.

***Accompanists:***

***Alex Boemo - 0408 333 295***  
***Lydia Saroto - 0403 162 170***

## EXAMS

Through the school, students are encouraged to submit for an AMEB practical/ABRSM and Theory Exam after consultation with their teacher. Students are to collect the relevant submission form from their instrumental teacher in Term 1 and must pass a series of technical exercises set out by the teachers prior to completing the application to enter for the Music Exam.

## AWARDS

### *“Award of Honour”*

At the end of each year the Award of Honour is presented to a senior student who has fulfilled the following criteria:

- ❖ Shows excellence in performance.
- ❖ Has demonstrated leadership in the Music Program.
- ❖ Is an exemplary role model for all students in the College.
- ❖ Is an outstanding Ambassador for the Music Program.

### *“Award of Excellence”*

- ❖ These are presented at the Gala Concert at the end of each year. They are awarded for excellence in performance, given in the following areas: Piano, Vocal, Percussion, Woodwind, Brass and Strings.

### *“Conductor’s Award”*

- ❖ Each Conductor presents these at the Gala Concert in Semester 2. They are awarded for excellence in cooperation, enthusiasm, and high levels of attendance, punctuality, and musicianship.

## BAND TOUR

Ringwood Secondary College has held annual Band Tours to regional Victoria for over 30 years. The aims of the tour are:

- **To provide training for the Junior/Intermediate section of the College’s Music Program in staging and performance.**
- **To provide a high-quality show which encourages and educates audiences in the value of music as a learning experience.**
- **To provide the experience for Primary and Secondary students to view, hear and enjoy a wide range of Musical Instruments and Styles**
- **To provide an impetus for music programs which are being established in country primary and secondary schools.**

All necessary equipment, 11 staff and 120 students are transported in 2 large buses, a minibus, a car and two 3 tonne trucks.

The Concert that the students present is a successful formula of concert band music, string music, singing, demonstrations of instruments, dancing and audience participation. The idea is to present the fun and excitement of making music to other schools and to give

the Ringwood students touring performance experience. At the end of the week (back at school) students perform their "Band Tour Concert" for parents and friends.

Students are selected to go on tour in the middle of Term 3 after an audition (details are available from the Director of Music). All students in years 7 to 10 are eligible to apply for the Touring Band. Positions will be awarded based on merit and according to balanced band instrumentation. The touring choir, training band and string group members are chosen according to balanced band instrumentation, their ability and commitment they have shown throughout the year. The tour is a worthwhile experience for all young performers and costs approx. \$550 - \$650 per student.

## **CHAMBER MUSIC GROUPS**

Students have the opportunity to belong to a Chamber Music Group. These include Flute, Brass, Clarinet, Saxophone, String and Percussion Ensembles. As the groups are formed, rehearsal times and places will be negotiated. Jazz Combo is available to those students in the Stage Band program and students need to negotiate joining this specialist group with the instrumental Music Director and Mr. Clarkson.

The following small ensembles are available this year:

Brass Ensembles	
Junior Flute Ensemble	Senior Flute Ensemble
Clarinet Choir	Saxophone Ensemble
String Quartet	Jazz Combo
Double Bass Ensemble	

## **HIRE OF INSTRUMENTS**

It is possible to hire instruments through the school from outside companies such as 'Musicorp' and Fine Music. Price lists will be available at the recruitment night.

Ringwood Secondary College owns a limited number of instruments, which are available for hire. In 2026, the two rates of hire are \$245.00 per year for instruments such as trombones, and \$300.00 per year for school instruments such as double basses, tubas, euphoniums, and French horns.

Once satisfactory progress has been made on an instrument, it is normally expected that students will purchase their own instrument so that other beginners may take advantage of the College's instruments.

## **INSTRUMENT REPAIRS**

In the event of an instrument being damaged please do not take steps for repair until you have shown the instrument to your instrumental music teacher. Our staff can usually fix most minor damage free of charge. If the instrument requires further attention our staff will recommend a suitable repairer. Cost will be incurred by the student for the repair of the instrument if it is being hired either from the College, Musicorp or Fine Music. **Please note Musicorp and Fine Music do not cover insurance for loss of instruments.**

Please note that the College does not take responsibility for instruments owned by students. Make sure you have appropriate insurance to cover repairs, theft and/or loss, especially when on excursions or tours. Household contents insurance will not cover your instrument whilst at school or in the wider community.

Please check your home insurance policy re insuring for theft and loss, within the home.

## **LEARNING A SECOND INSTRUMENT**

Students who would like to learn a second instrument from the College will only be considered if their first instrument is at **Grade 4, AMEB standard**. Please apply in writing to the Director of Instrumental Music.

## **LOAN OF COLLEGE EQUIPMENT**

College music equipment is available to music students for casual hire. Equipment will be lent out upon written application to the Director of Instrumental Music. If approved, all loans must be recorded by acting PAC Secretary Alisha Cornell . **Please note any damage or loss of equipment whilst on loan must be covered by the lendee.**

## **INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC PHONE POLICY**

Please note that mobile phones are not required equipment for lessons and rehearsals therefore, we are following the School's mobile phone policy.

The following will happen if a student is found with a mobile phone during instrumental music lessons or rehearsals:

During lessons, mobile phones will be confiscated, sent to Administration Office and chronicled.

Before school and lunchtime rehearsals: phones will be confiscated and sent to the Administration Office. The teacher or conductor will chronicle incident.

Phones need to be placed in lockers straight after morning rehearsal.

After school rehearsals: the phone will be confiscated, given back at the end of rehearsal. Again, The teacher or conductor will chronicle incident.

Please note: Phones may be used between 3.05- 3.15 so students can be contacted if there is an emergency, but definitely need to be put away before entering rehearsal at 3.15pm.

Lessons and rehearsals are scheduled classes, therefore we will be supporting the School Mobile Policy.



## **MUSIC ASSOCIATION**

The Music Association is a parent support group that organises fundraising events on behalf of the Music Program at Ringwood Secondary College. Annually, they raise more than \$8,000.00 to purchase instruments and music for the various performing groups in the College. The Music Association also provides assistance at the various concerts held by the department throughout the year. Music Association Committee meetings are held once a month on Zoom. Please contact Music Association President, Mrs. Aileen McCullough for further information.

## **RETURN OF REPLY SLIPS & LETTERS**

Correspondence will be via emails and COMPASS. Any excursion money **should be paid** online on COMPASS. All **communication from the Music Department will be sent via emails so please make sure you provide an up to date email address and you regularly check your emails and COMPASS.**

## **MUSIC FOLDERS**

Folders of original band music will be handed out in band rehearsals only. Students will be encouraged to make their own photocopy of a particular part for practice at home. All folders and contents will remain the property of Ringwood Secondary College and penalties will be imposed if original music is lost or if students damage folders.

## **MUSIC AREAS**

Classroom Music operates from classrooms behind the Hall. All instrumental music is located in the Performing Arts Centre at the tennis court end of the College Hall. The Cave is an Instrumental teaching area between the School Hall and Gym.

Students are only permitted into music areas when accompanied by a music staff member.  
***Woodwind/brass instruments are to be stored in the Performing Arts Centre Storeroom.***  
***String instruments are to be stored in the Cave Storeroom.***

## **PERFORMANCE OPPORTUNITIES**

Throughout the year students have many opportunities to perform in competitions and venues outside the College. These include the Victorian School Bands/Strings Festival at Hawthorn Arts Centre and Salvation Army Performing Arts Centre Box Hill

Not only do these events give our students the chance to perform but also the opportunity for them to learn from other conductors and be inspired by the music of other professional/student groups. All four Stage Bands and the Senior Choir attend Generations in Jazz competition, held annually in May in Mt Gambier, South Australia. This event is the largest of its kind in the Southern Hemisphere and attracts bands from all over the nation as well as internationally. Cost is approximately \$660.00.

## PERFORMANCE UNIFORMS

<b>Training Band</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Black trousers</b></li> <li>• <b>Black Socks</b></li> <li>• <b>Black school shoes</b></li> <li>• <b>Black long sleeve shirt</b></li> <li>• <b>RSC music tie</b> Please pay \$26 and collect from the General Office</li> <li>• <b>Neat hairstyle - off the face</b></li> <li>• <b>No heavy make-up or excessive jewellery</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Fleecy Black Music Jacket</b> Please place orders for these through the Administration Office. Cost \$65.00. The payment form is available via email to: <a href="mailto:Alisha.Cornell@education.vic.gov.au">Alisha.Cornell@education.vic.gov.au</a></li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>Training Strings</b>	
<b>Training Stage Band</b>	
<b>Junior Concert Band</b>	
<b>Junior Choir</b>	
<b>Junior Stage Band</b>	
<b>Intermediate Concert Band</b>	
<b>Intermediate Strings</b>	
<b>Intermediate Stage Band</b>	

<b>Senior Choir</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Black evening dress (no short skirts/dresses please) or smart black trousers and black shirt</b></li> <li>• <b>Black panty hose, no bare legs, black shoes</b></li> <li>• <b>Black long tie, jacket, and trousers</b></li> <li>• <b>White shirt</b></li> <li>• <b>Black shoes and black socks</b></li> </ul>
<b>Symphonic Wind Ensemble</b>	
<b>Senior Stage Band</b>	
<b>Symphony Orchestra</b>	

<b>Band Tour</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Black trousers, black shoes and black socks</b></li> <li>• <b>White polo shirt</b></li> <li>• <b>Fleecy black music jacket</b> please place orders for these through the Administration Office. Cost \$65.00. The payment form is available via email to: <a href="mailto:Alisha.Cornell@education.vic.gov.au">Alisha.Cornell@education.vic.gov.au</a></li> </ul>
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## **REHEARSAL DAYS**

Special rehearsal days will generally be held at the College on non-school days. Activities will include guest conductors, workshops, small Instrument tutorials by specialist teachers and full ensemble rehearsing. These events may also include some social activities. **It is expected that students make themselves available for these important rehearsals.**

## **REHEARSAL ETIQUETTE**

- ❖ Set up, warm up, tune up, silence.
- ❖ Adopt correct playing and singing posture.
- ❖ Give the conductor your full attention.
- ❖ Assemble your instrument outside rehearsal room. Leave your case and bag there as well. **Remember - do not leave valuables in your bag!**
- ❖ NEVER touch anyone else's instrument, music or equipment unless instructed to do so by the conductor or teacher.
- ❖ Look after your music. **Originals do not leave the folder.**
- ❖ Don't forget to come to all rehearsals with a 2B pencil to mark onto the music any instructions the conductor may make.
- ❖ Keep track of your instrument and music at all times. Don't expect someone else to be responsible for these items.
- ❖ Always make sure you can see the conductor out of the corner of your eye above the stand and music.
- ❖ HAVE FUN AND ENJOY!

## **POSITIONS OF RESPONSIBILITY**

### **MUSIC PREFECTS**

The Music Prefects are elected Year 12 Prefects who are expected to:

- ❖ Be ambassadors for the music program in and outside the College.
- ❖ Be seen as the leading voice of the music student's opinions and liaise between the music students and music staff.
- ❖ Lead the Year level Music and Band Ensemble Representatives
- ❖ Assist the music staff at Music Department events.
- ❖ Submit a Music Captains' report for the annual magazine and assist in coordination of further articles.
- ❖ Host the Gala, Junior and Senior Concerts.

### **ENSEMBLE REPRESENTATIVES & YEAR LEVEL MUSIC CAPTAINS**

In conjunction with the Music Prefects, Ensemble Representatives are expected to assist by:

- ❖ Attending Music Association events as required.
- ❖ Encouraging student participation in fundraising activities.
- ❖ Be available to assist the Music Prefects with organization of concerts and school functions.
- ❖ Provide communication between music students, Music Prefects and Music Staff.
- ❖ Assist with the organization of groups at Music Department events as required.
- ❖ Be seen to encourage music within the College.
- ❖ Attend regular meetings called by the Music Prefects and/or Music Staff.
- ❖ Assist Conductor in organizing sectionals and music.
- ❖ Follow-up absent students.
- ❖ Assist with the organization of performances.
- ❖ Organize the movement of equipment.
- ❖ Photocopy and stamp music.
- ❖ Organise social functions.
- ❖ Liaise with Music Representative Council on behalf of the conductor.
- ❖ Discipline latecomers to rehearsals.
- ❖ Submit ensemble report for annual School Magazine
- ❖ Two students will be elected (by student vote) to each Performing Ensemble within the College during February of each year.

## SELECTION CRITERIA FOR VOCAL/INSTRUMENTAL ENSEMBLES

The allocation of students to performing groups will be made according to the instrumental auditions, which students complete at the beginning of Term 4 (details are available from the Director of Music). Students who were ill at the time of these assessments will be auditioned early Term 4. Symphonic Band minimum performance level is Grade 5 AMEB and for the Senior Strings is Grade 4 AMEB.

The placement of students in sections will be determined by playing ability and audition. Section Leaders will be awarded at the discretion of the Conductor. They will be expected to take on a leadership role, completing various duties and run sectionals to assist the Conductor.

