

St Gerard's School Band Program – 2026

Dear Parents,

Welcome back, and a very special welcome to our new students and parents! We are looking forward to another great year of making music. Correspondence will be via email: please ensure TSA has your current email address and check your junk/spam folder for communications.

NEW BEGINNERS *(those learning an instrument for the first time in 2026)*

There are two components to the Band Program: group lessons and a full band rehearsal both held on the same day.

- **Group lessons:** Start Monday 2 February. Students will be collected from their class.
- **What to bring:** Instrument if already purchased; those items ordered through TSA will be distributed in the first lesson.
- **Full Band Rehearsal:** Beginners will not be required at band rehearsal until **Term 2** and rehearsals will take place every Monday afternoon from 3:10-4:00pm in the Hall.

The first lesson will focus on showing new students how to set-up and care for their instruments. A final timetable of lesson groups will be developed in conjunction with the school early in the new term.

EXISTING BAND STUDENTS *(those who already learned an instrument in 2025)*

- **Group lessons:** Start Monday 2 February. Students will be collected from their class.
- **Full band rehearsal:** Starts Monday 2 February from 7:45-8:45am (7:35am arrive to set up) in the Hall.
- **What to bring:** Instrument & pencil, *Accent on Achievement* book and band folder.

The first lesson will focus on finalising grouping and assessing how continuing students have progressed across the summer holiday break.

IMPORTANT ITEMS

Fees – In 2026, band and group tuition fees will be \$240 per term plus \$35 facility hire fee and \$10 resource levy. TSA will email invoices/process direct debits at the beginning of each school term, and payment needs to be finalised within 2 weeks of issue or late fees will apply.

Absence from Band – if your child will be absent from band or lessons please notify the band director. Absences from rehearsals outside of school hours must be communicated clearly so we can confirm your child is safe and accounted for.

Creative Kids Vouchers – TSA is a registered provider and families with Creative Kids Vouchers can apply them to term fees by entering voucher details via the TSA website here: <https://teachingservices.com.au/creative-kids/>.

Exiting the Band Program – TSA requires notice by the end of any term if your child wishes to exit from the program in the next term.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Band Director: Ms Julie Stafford julie@teachingservices.com.au (timetabling, groups, band rehearsals)

TSA Administration: 9651 7333 ext 2 (enrolments, billing, instrument hire and service)
tsaoffice@teachingservices.com.au

We wish your child all the best in the Band Program! Please let us know if we can help you in any way.