

Wellers Hill State School

Choral Music

Handbook



2019

Dear Students and Parents,

Welcome to the Wellers Hill State School Choral Music Program!

It is my pleasure to lead your child in the various ensembles that are a part of the choral program here at Wellers Hill State School. Choir involvement allows your child to develop a love of music through singing, while improving musicianship skills. Team work and professionalism are also developed under the guidance of the choral conductor, creating valuable social and personal development experiences.

Email Contact Information

It is important that parents sign-up to the MSG (Music Support Group) email list. Please do so by completing the online form available from the WHSS website music page: (<https://wellhillss.eq.edu.au/Extracurricular/Music/>). This will ensure that you have the most up-to-date information regarding choir activities.

Notices/Newsletter

The primary means of information distribution to parents/caregivers regarding the Music Program is via email and the school newsletter. It is vital that parents read the newsletter fortnightly to stay up-to-date with music announcements, events, lesson changes, and performance information. Newsletters are emailed each fortnight and can also be found on the Wellers Hill State School Website.

Music Shirts

Students involved in the Music Program – Choir, Band or Strings – may purchase the Wellers Hill State School Music Shirt from the uniform shop. This shirt is a part of the school uniform and can be worn on days students have lessons (band and/or strings) or rehearsals (choir, band, strings).

Choirs in 2019

Piccolo Choir: Year 2

Rehearses 3pm – 3.30pm Monday

Year 2 students are welcome to come along to the first 3 rehearsals to decide if they would like to join permanently.

Once the decision is made, this is a commitment for the rest of the school year and parents and children need to understand that attendance at rehearsals and performances is an expectation.

Junior Choir: Years 3 & 4

Rehearses 7.45am – 8.30am Tuesday

All year 3 and 4 students are welcome to join.

Choir is a commitment for the school year and parents and children need to understand that attendance at rehearsals and performances is an expectation.

Senior Choir: Years 5 & 6

Rehearses 7.45am – 8.30am Wednesday

All year 5 and 6 students are welcome to join.

Choir is a commitment for the school year and parents and children need to understand that attendance at rehearsals and performances is an expectation.

Chamber Choir: Years 5 and 6 (by audition)

Rehearses 8.30am-8.45am Wednesday (extension of Senior Choir)

Students in the Senior Choir who are especially committed to choral singing and have the appropriate level of ability are invited to audition for Chamber Choir. Students who have auditioned previously and were unsuccessful are invited to audition again if they wish. A limited number of places are available in Chamber Choir for the most promising and committed choral students. The Choir Captains are selected from Chamber Choir. Students who were in Chamber Choir in the previous year are automatically enrolled in Chamber Choir in the current year and are not required to audition.

Any member of the Senior Choir is invited to audition for Chamber Choir.

Choir is a commitment for the school year and parents and children need to understand that attendance at rehearsals and performances is an expectation.

Rehearsal expectations:

Students are expected to attend a weekly choir rehearsal on time and prepared with correct equipment. If your child is unwell and not attending choir, please send an email to Mrs Kristensen on gkris11@eq.edu.au

Please advise if an extended absence is expected.

Choir Levy

A \$50 Levy is payable per music activity, per student and per year for all students in the Music Program. For example, if a student is involved in both instrumental music (Strings or Band) and choir, two \$50 levies will need to be paid. This is to cover costs incurred in the program such as accompanist fees, music, choir competitions etc.

Please note that when a student is involved in an extension program (Chamber Choir, Jazz Band, Camerata Strings), there will be **no additional levy for that ensemble**

Choir Captains

Each year a male and female Choir Captain will be selected by the Choir Director. These are students who have shown commitment and leadership during their involvement in choir. The Captains are chosen from the extension choir – Chamber Choir. Duties include leading the school in singing the National Anthem and School Song during whole school parades, public speaking where required, choir music management and filing, choir roll management, assisting with the Piccolo and Junior Choirs, and other jobs that arise that may assist the Choir Director.

Equipment

Students will require for each rehearsal;

- An A4 clear plastic display folder (or similar) in which to keep their choral music.
- A **named** water bottle. It is very important to remain hydrated during rehearsal.

Choir Music

Music is supplied to students, and it is the responsibility of students to make sure music is **returned at the end of each school year.**

Performances

Choirs are given the opportunity to perform at school and within the community. These performances include school events such as Anzac Day Parade, Grandparents Day, performances on parade, or other special occasions. There are also opportunities for the choirs to perform outside of school at special events or competitions such as Music Fest and Choral Fanfare. There is an expectation that students involved in the choral ensembles make every effort to attend these performances, and provide a written note **in advance** if unable to attend.

2019 Performance Uniforms		White Music Shirt	Black Trousers	Black Shoes/Socks	Girls/Boys Tie	Blue Hair Ribbon	Cummerbund	Blazer	Vest
Piccolo Choir (2)	Girls	X	X	X	X	X			
	Boys	X	X	X	X				
Junior Choir (3&4)	Girls	X	X	X	X	X			
	Boys	X	X	X	X				
Senior Choir (5&6)	Girls	X	X	X	X	X			
	Boys	X	X	X	X		X		
Chamber Choir (5&6 by audition)	Girls	X	X	X	X	X		X	
	Boys	X	X	X	X		X	X	
Beginner Strings (2)	Girls	X	X	X	X	X			
	Boys	X	X	X	X				
Junior Strings (3&4)	Girls	X	X	X	X	X			
	Boys	X	X	X	X				
Senior Strings (5&6)	Girls	X	X	X	X	X		X	
	Boys	X	X	X	X			X	
Camerata Strings (5&6 by audition)	Girls	X	X	X	X	X		X	
	Boys	X	X	X	X			X	
Junior Band (4)	Girls	X	X	X	X	X			
	Boys	X	X	X	X				
Intermediate Band (5)	Girls	X	X	X	X	X			
	Boys	X	X	X	X				
Senior Band (6)	Girls	X	X	X	X	X		X	
	Boys	X	X	X	X			X	
Jazz Band (5&6 by audition)	Girls	X	X	X		X			X
	Boys	X	X	X					X

Shoes should be black closed-in lace up dress shoes, worn with black socks.

Blazers and cummerbunds (where applicable) are provided on loan by the Music Support Group. These will be issued prior to the first music performance of the year and must be returned at the end of the year.

Shirts, trousers, ties and girl's hair ribbons are available for purchase from the uniform shop and should be purchased early in the school year to ensure students are prepared for performances. **Please note that only the blue hair ribbon sold at the uniform shop is to be worn. No other blue ribbon is acceptable.**

Please visit the Uniform Shop with your child to be fitted for sizing. Items can also be purchased via flexischools. For more information contact the Uniform Shop on **3249 1361** or email Deborah at uniformshopwhss@gmail.com

Item	Sizes available	Price
Girls Blouse	4 – 6 – 8 – 10 – 12 – 14 - 16	\$43.00
Boys Shirt	4 – 6 – 8 – 10 – 12 – 14 - 16	\$35.00
Performance Pants (Unisex or Boys)	4 – 6 – 8 – 10 – 12 – 14 - 16	\$49.00
Girls Tie	One size	\$9.50
Boys Bow Tie	One size	11.00
Girls Royal Blue Hair Ribbon	Per metre	\$2.00

A limited number of second-hand music uniform items are also available in the Uniform Shop. ****Please note that second-hand items are cash only****

Care of Performance Uniform

Although the Music Support Group is responsible for the regular cleaning and maintenance of the blazers, it is expected that parents will ensure that children take all due care (children should not eat or drink while wearing blazers) to keep them clean. In the event of a mishap requiring immediate attention, it is expected that parents will be responsible for immediate dry cleaning.

Grooming

Girls must wear their hair tied in a **single ponytail with hair away from their face**, as facial expression and presentation are both very important in choral singing. **Blue ribbons purchased through the uniform shop must be worn in the ponytail, with no other hair accessories permitted.** Girls are permitted to wear gold or silver studs or sleeper earrings only. Coloured earrings are unacceptable.

Music Support Group

The Music Support Group is a sub-committee of the P&C and exists to assist the music teachers in the maintenance and enhancement of the music program at Wellers Hill State School. All parents are welcomed and encouraged to participate, not just those whose children are involved in the Instrumental and Choral programs. Activities and/or responsibilities of the Music Support Group include:

- Fundraising for music uniforms, instruments and other activities;
- Distribution, maintenance and annual cleaning of blazers and cummerbunds;
- Review and update, in consultation with Music Specialist/Instrumental Teacher, of the Instrumental Music and Choral Music Handbooks;
- Assistance in the organisation of Music Evenings and other music functions;
- Provide assistance and support to the music teachers where appropriate.

How To Be Involved

The Music Support Group is always looking for parents to assist. The Music Support Group meets 2-3 times a term on a Tuesday evening at 6.45 for a 7pm start. Meetings are advertised in the school newsletter.

If you would like to help, but are unable to attend meetings, there are always ways in which you can be involved.

- Distribution and collection of performance uniforms and instruments;
- Setting up/pack down of the hall for concerts;
- Collection of admission fees for concert nights (arriving early)

If you are available to help in any of these areas, please don't hesitate to contact the Music Support Group wellershillmusic@gmail.com

Awards

The Music Support Group Choir Award

The Music Support Group Choir Award is awarded to the most outstanding Choral student of the year. This award may be presented to a student who is deemed by the Choral Conductor to be the most deserving.

I would like to Thank-you in advance for your on-going support of the Wellers Hill State School Choral Program. Each and every child is important to the overall success of a choral program. I look forward to working with your child this year, and making 2019 an exciting and rewarding year for everyone!

Mrs Kristensen,

Classroom Music Teacher/Choir Director