

MALTESE CONCERT BAND NSW INC.



Music Tuition Program

Terms and Conditions (T & C's)

History

The Maltese Concert Band – formerly Our Lady Queen of Peace Maltese Band – has a great history. It had always been the wish of the Reverend Father Ronald Darmania, who was the Parish Priest of the Our Lady Queen of Peace Parish Church of Greystanes, to form a Concert Band in the Parish of Greystanes. He was always aware of the fact that a large number of Maltese musicians, who had played with prominent bands in Malta, were living in the local parish.

With this in mind, he approached Maestro Joseph Darmanin, a local parishioner, and asked him whether he was interested in forming a Band, preferably comprising of Maltese musicians.

Mro Darmanin was delighted at this idea and with the help of Father Darmania, called a meeting of musicians with a view of forming such a band. This meeting was attended by a number of musicians who all agreed in principle for the formation of the new Band.

Mro Darmanin organised the first Band practice night that was held at the Parish Hall on Wednesday 4th February 1976. On this first night, twelve players attended but others promised that they would show up on later dates.

The Band – Mission & Vision

The need to continue this history is clearly handed down by our Mission and vision to continue what the first members started:

- a) to advance musical education for the benefit of all people.
- b) to take part to perform musical programs and marches as necessary.
- c) to co-operate with other organisations and clubs throughout the country that promote culture and music.

We hope that every student goes on to reach their musical potential and enjoys participating in the band. In doing so, they enrich themselves in developing their talents, cognitive and personal skills and interpersonal relations within the context of a long Maltese Band tradition.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

Definitions:

Band – the Maltese Concert Band NSW Inc

Committee – Elected members of the Band

Bandmaster – The nominated Bandmaster of the Band

Band Member – a musician who has been accepted as a member to play in the Band

Tuition Program – Maltese Concert Band subsidised Music Tuition Program

Tutor – the nominated lesson provider for the Tuition Program

Student – the person that will participate in the Tuition Program

FutureGen Ensemble – is the ensemble comprised of the youth of the Band, new musicians to the band and musicians learning a new instrument.

Introductory Period – is the period from when the Student attends the FutureGen Ensemble or Band to when they are accepted as a full member of the Band. This period ends once they are accepted into the Band but may go beyond the timeframe of the Tuition Program.

Graduation Date – is the date when the Student becomes a full member of the Band celebrated by the awarding of a certificate at a nominated time and date.

Commitment Period – is the equivalent of 6 years, made up of 3 years of the tuition program (this includes participation of the FutureGen Ensemble and the Band) then another 3 years after the Graduation Date.

Band Entry Level Requirement – is the equivalent to a Credit in an AMEB Grade 4 examination for the students chosen instrument.

Maltese Concert Band Responsibilities for the Tuition Program

The Band will:

- subsidise lessons for a maximum 40-week period during school terms per year.
- subsidise 30-minute weekly lessons according to the following table:

30-minute weekly lessons	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Years 4, 5 & 6
Band Subsidy Reimbursement Amount	\$10	\$20	\$30	The student may need to maintain their tuition until they become a full member of the band
Student Amount	\$35	\$25	\$15	
Total Tuition Fee	\$45	\$45	\$45	
Instrument Loan Fee (for Band's instruments only)	\$200	\$200	\$200	Student provides their own instrument

- reserve the right to change the Total Tuition Fee and subsequent ratio of Band Subsidy Reimbursement Amount and Student Amount and will provide the student 3 months prior notice.
- where applicable, loan an instrument to the student for the duration of the Tuition Program. Once the 3-year subsidized Tuition Program ends, the student will need to purchase their own instrument. The provision of loaning an instrument is dependent on what instruments

the Band has available. The instrument will remain the property of the Band. If no band instrument is available, the student needs to purchase their own instrument at the start of the Tuition Program.

- reserve the right to amend any condition in this agreement and advise the student of the changes with a 12 week notice period.

Student Responsibilities in the Tuition Program

Lessons

The student (and where applicable, their parent/guardian) will:

- be 8 years of age or over to commence lessons with an instrument.
- attend lessons for a 30-minute period on a weekly basis with a Tutor chosen by the Committee.
- schedule a consistent time in joint agreement with the Tutor for weekly tuition.
- commence and complete lessons at the time stipulated.
- have their lessons shortened if they arrive late.
- need to organise, at their own expense, lessons during school holidays or school summer break.
- need to notify the Tutor by phoning or SMS 24 hours before commencement of lesson if they cannot attend the lessons. Leave a message if the phone is unattended. A make-up lesson will be arranged between both parties. There will be no provisions for make-up lessons if the student does not ring beforehand at the stipulated notice period.
- be given a make-up lesson, as arranged between both parties, if the Tutor cancels the lesson.
- at the end of a lesson be required to sign a Lesson Attendance Sheet. The completed Lesson Attendance Sheet will be provided to the Band Committee at the end of every term by the Tutor as proof of the lesson taking place.

Band Instrument Loan Fee

- Students who use a Band instrument for the Tuition Program are charged an annual fee of \$200 (\$50 per term). After the 3rd year and when the sponsorship ceases, the student is expected to buy their own instrument.
- The Loan Fee is charged at the beginning of each term and is Non-Refundable if the student decides to leave the Tuition Program or the Tuition Program is terminated by the Committee.
- All care should be taken by the student and/or parents to make sure that the instrument is not damaged.
- If an instrument is damaged it is the responsibility of the student/parent to ensure that the instrument is repaired by a qualified repairer selected by the Band or replaced with an equivalent instrument as determined by the Band. If the damaged instrument is deemed by the committee to be caused by negligence the student/parent may be asked to pay for the repairs or pay for the instrument replacement value

- The instrument will be serviced on an as needs basis. If the service of the instrument through wear and tear is higher than the value of the instrument the band may choose to retire the instrument. In this instance the student will need to purchase their own instrument to continue the Tuition Program.

Assessment

The student will:

- be assessed by the Tutor at the end of the first 3 months of tuition (Probation Period) to determine the progress of the student. This assessment will be forwarded to the Bandmaster and Committee to determine eligibility for continued subsidy.
- be assessed every June and December by the Tutor to determine the progress of the student. These assessments will be forwarded to the Bandmaster and Committee to determine eligibility for further continued subsidy.

Practice

The student will:

- commit to regular home practice as stipulated by the Tutor to ensure musical advancement and proficiency. NB. Scheduled weekly music lessons alone are not sufficient for a student to become proficient at playing an instrument.
- prepare for their weekly lessons during the week by completing the homework provided by the Tutor.

Materials

The student will:

- bring to lessons a display folder and exercise/notebook.
- be given a time sheet.
- complete the timesheet by writing the number of minutes they practice daily and bring it to the lesson every week.
- homework will be emailed to the student after the lesson.
- be required to purchase tuition books. The music Tutor will determine what music books should be purchased and practiced by the students. The Band will provide music for the repertoire being rehearsed by the Band.

Commitment

The student will:

- be required to attend weekly rehearsals with the FutureGen Ensemble or the Band or both from a date specified by the Bandmaster and Band Committee upon recommendation from the Tutor prior to becoming a Band Member, to gain a better understanding of the music that is played by the Band (this will be known as the Introductory Period – See Definitions).
- be appointed an experienced Band Member (Buddy) during the Introductory Period to help guide and support them during this time. The length of the Introductory Period (see Definitions) will be determined by the Bandmaster and Committee upon recommendation

from the Tutor.

- will be required to attain the Band Entry Level Requirement of equivalent to a Credit in an AMEB Grade 4 examination for the students chosen instrument prior to entry as a Band Member into the band.
- graduate to a full Band Member after the Introductory Period (see definitions). Band membership will be at the discretion of the Bandmaster and Band Committee upon recommendation from the Tutor. The Graduation Date is determined by the Bandmaster and the Band Committee on the recommendations of the Tutor and will be celebrated by a special presentation where a certificate will be awarded by the Band's President. The student will become a Band Member according to the Band's Constitution, be nominated by two band members and be required to complete the membership form.
- commit to playing in the Band from the Graduation Date for a period equal to but not less than the duration of the subsidised lessons (3 Years).
- may need to continue lessons at their own expense with a music Tutor and continue to practice after they graduate to ensure that their skills will continue to develop, and their level of proficiency is maintained at a high standard.

Examinations

- The student will cover all cost associated with obtaining a Grade 4 Australian Music Exam qualification.

Payments

- The student (and where applicable, their parent/guardian) will:
pay the Tutor, the Total Tuition Fee stipulated in the table above at the end of each lesson. The Band will retrospectively reimburse the student the subsidies of the tuition program to a nominated account of their choice, on a 6 monthly basis (twice yearly) as stipulated in table on page 2 and on the condition that all the T & C's of this contract are met.

Parent Responsibilities (where applicable)

The Parent will:

- sign and commit to this agreement in addition to the student if they are under the age of 18.
- assist the students to arrange a regular practice time free from interruptions and distractions.
- encourage and support the student to practice daily.
- have the opportunity discuss the students' progress with the Tutor at a time convenient to both parties.

Termination Of Lessons

- If the Student should decide to terminate the Tuition Program at any given time during the year, they may do so by giving notice to the music Tutor and the Band Committee in writing (in case of a child under 18 years, this responsibility falls with the parents). No other form of correspondence is acceptable. In the event of the student terminating prior to the end of

the Commitment Period, they will be asked to reimburse the Band the total Band Subsidy Reimbursement Amount that the Band had paid for the duration of the student's involvement in the program.

- The Band reserves the right to terminate a student's lesson for the following reasons:
 - inappropriate behaviour towards the Tutor or other parties by the student or parent which falls outside the realm of common courtesy, respect and decency.
 - consistently late payment of tuition.
 - missing too many lessons.
 - insufficient progress in musical development as determined by the Bandmaster and the Band Committee on the recommendations of the music Tutor.

Reviewed: July 2025.

Maltese Concert Band Tuition Program Enrolment Agreement

Contact Details

Student Name: _____ DOB: ____/____/____

Parent/Guardian Name (if applicable): _____

Contact Number Mob: _____ Home: _____

Email Address: _____

Residential Address: _____

Instrument: _____

Signatures

I agree to the above terms and conditions

_____	_____	_____	_____
Student Name	Signature & Date	Witness Name	Signature & Date

I agree to the above terms and conditions

_____	_____	_____	_____
Parent Name	Signature & Date	Witness Name	Signature & Date

(if Student is under 18 years of age)

Maltese Concert Band agrees to the above terms and conditions

President Name

Signature & Date

Witness Name

Signature & Date

The Band Executive