

**What if I don't know anything about music?**

That's ok! We will teach your child everything they need to know, step by step. From how to assemble and care for the instrument to reading notes and rhythms, we will guide your child through the process. All that is needed from you is an enthusiastic attitude and patient ears when your child comes home and makes their first sound.

**How much out of school time is required?**

Music is no different than any other curricular area. We ask that your child spend some time with their instrument each and every week. Think of it as musical homework, but much more fun.

**What instrument should my child play?**

The answer depends on a variety of things, but in the end, it is most important that the play something that they enjoy. I encourage you to visit the website [www.bepartofthemusic.org](http://www.bepartofthemusic.org), watch the different instrument videos with your child, and discuss the different options. I will also help guide your child based on his/her musical interests, physical make-up, and instrument availability. Your child knows what she wants, you know your child, and I know music. Together we will find the instrument that she will not only enjoy but will give her the best chance of musical success.

**What are the costs?**

The costs associated with music depend on which instrument your child chooses and if you already own an instrument. We wish funds were available for us to provide every child with an instrument, however, this is simply not possible. The school may have certain instruments available for at school use. If not, you can rent a quality instrument from a local music store at a very reasonable price. If financial constraints prevent you from being able to do this, please contact me and allow me to help. We will not let instrument availability or financial constraints keep your child from participating.

**How do I procure an instrument?**

The school provides many of the larger and more expensive instruments. We encourage students playing smaller, less expensive instruments to either rent or purchase their own instrument. More information regarding instrument availability will be mailed as the new school year approaches.

**What if I have other questions?**

Please know that I am here to answer any and all questions that you may have. Due to the busy nature of our program and schools in general, it is sometimes difficult to contact me by phone. The best way for you to reach me is electronically at [stephen.briggs@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:stephen.briggs@education.vic.gov.au)