

KEGWORTH PUBLIC SCHOOL

MUSIC PROGRAM



CHOIR HANDBOOK

2019





FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

WHICH STUDENTS CAN JOIN A CHOIR?

Our choirs cater to all students who would love to sing songs with other students. Kindergarten students can join from term 4 of Kindy.

WHAT ARE THE COSTS?

Membership of Kegworth Choirs is free (no term fees). However, there are participation fees and transportation costs associated with NSW Arts Unit Festivals and community events that any of the Choirs may participate in.

WHAT WEEKLY TIME COMMITMENT IS NEEDED?

Choir students are required to:

- Attend weekly lunchtime rehearsals.
- Attend performances during the year.
- Practise their songs regularly at home.



WHY JOIN A CHOIR?

*Choir involvement is a fun way to make music together!
Students can develop musical skills and gain valuable social skills.*

- ★ Choir singing develops aural, visual, social and vocal skills.
- ★ An ensemble provides a performance opportunity for children who may find solo performance challenging.
- ★ An ensemble provides opportunities to develop self-confidence and higher self-esteem.
- ★ Children make friends across the grades and from other schools.
- ★ Being in an ensemble helps children develop responsibility and self-discipline as they practice their songs and attend rehearsals.
- ★ Music participation enhances problem solving, team work, goal setting, self-expression, co-ordination, memory skills, self-confidence, physical skills and concentration.
- ★ Singing is fun for all ages!

Find out more about the benefits of Music Education here:

www.musicaustralia.org.au/discover/parental-engagement



KEGWORTH MUSIC COMMITTEE

The Kegworth Music Committee is a parent volunteer sub-committee of the P&C and assists the school in the organisation of the valuable Music Program.

WHEN - WHERE - WHY?

The Music Committee AGM is held at the beginning of the school year and regular meeting times are advertised in the School Newsletter.

Music Committee Meetings are held in the School Staffroom on the first Monday of each month at 6:30pm

The Music Committee is made up of volunteer parents who are working to achieve the best they can for the Music Program at Kegworth. It relies on assistance from parents and caregivers.

Without parent and caregivers volunteering their time for key roles and supporting their child's ensemble, the Kegworth Music Program cannot run successfully.

HOW CAN I HELP?

Each ensemble requires at least one parent to support the group throughout the year. The role of the Parent Coordinator is:

- Liaise and communicate with the Music Committee,
- Communicate relevant information with Ensemble parents throughout the year e.g. reminders of upcoming events via email,
- Help the Music Committee to organise school or external music performances,
- Co-ordinate parent rosters to assist with performance transportation, setting and packing up;
- Check and record student attendance at weekly rehearsals,
- Attend Music Committee meetings, where possible.

Kegworth Music Committee also offers executive roles such as President, Treasurer and Secretary, and other roles to liaise with tutors, organise instruments, and coordinate communications.

Parents are most welcome to join the Music Committee at any time throughout the year and we would love to have your input!

KOOKABURRA CHOIR (for Years K – 2 students only)

The Kookaburra Choir meets during the first half of lunch on Wednesday from 11:30 – 12:00pm (straight after lunch eating time). This choir is taught by teachers, Miss Marafioti and Miss Vaccaro

WHAT DO THEY PLAY? WHEN DO THEY PERFORM IT?

The main aim of the Kookaburra Choir is to have **fun singing** together.

Music is largely taught by ear with additional movement and actions to encourage listening and participating. Songs are from a variety of styles and no audition is needed to join.

As the Choir develops over the year, students are given opportunities to perform at school events and assemblies. Children receive lyric booklets and a CD to help them learn songs at home.

WHEN CAN STUDENTS JOIN?

Kookaburra Choir is for any student in Years K - 2 who would love to sing songs with other students.

- Year 1 and 2 students can join in this ensemble at any time during the year.
- Kindergarten students can join this group **only from Term 3.**

Students can join this group at any time in the year.

SENIOR CHOIR (for students in Years 3 – 6 only)

The KEGWORTH Choir meets Tuesdays during lunchtime from 11:30 – 12:10pm, in the Music Hall.

No audition is necessary. During rehearsals, students enjoy learning how to sing correctly and in harmony parts, to memorise lyrics, performance etiquette and will extend their vocal skills.

WHAT DO THEY SING? WHEN DO THEY PERFORM IT?

The Kegworth Choir perform a selection of rounds, contemporary songs, choral repertoire and music set for the NSW Art Unit Choral Festival Concert in Sydney Opera House.

Places in the Arts Unit Festival Concerts are in high demand by Public School Choirs across NSW so there is possibility our Choir may miss out. We receive confirmation in Term 1.

The Kegworth Choir has performance opportunities at school and community events, including Kegworth's F.A.R.E., Music Night and education Week.

WHEN DO STUDENTS JOIN?

KEGWORTH Choir students join at the beginning of the school year and are committed to participating **for the remainder of the year.**

Choir members need to practise the songs at home to learn the lyrics and parts so sheet music is provided to help. Choir members are required to supply a USB so that songs can be supplied for home practice.

As part of the commitment to the Choir, students are expected to **attend all rehearsals**, concerts and school events and participate with enthusiasm and a high level of focus and concentration.

NSW DoE CHORAL FESTIVALS

The Arts Unit, based in Lewisham, runs numerous Festivals throughout the school year to showcase the incredible talents of students attending NSW Public Schools.

See www.artsunit.nsw.edu.au for further information, auditions, newsletter and updates.

Choir students who participate in Arts Unit Choral Festivals will be required to pay a participation fee of approximately \$36 - \$40, which includes a custom 2019 T-shirt, Sheet Music Booklet and CD. Participation fees are invoiced to you during Term 1 and are to be paid by the invoice due date for your child to continue in the Choir program.

This cost does not include student transportation costs for rehearsals and evening performances. Information regarding any additional costs will be forwarded to you closer to the rehearsal and performance dates.

Note: If our Choirs are chosen to perform in the Arts Unit Choral Festivals at the Sydney Opera House or Sydney Town Hall, KPS will only have limited places and cannot guarantee all students will be able to attend.

The best way to secure your child's position at this concert is to ensure that he / she attend all practices regularly, in addition to practising the required repertoire at home.

KEGWORTH MUSIC UNIFORM

All Music Program students, including senior choir, will need a KPS white Music T-shirt which can be purchased from the school "Uniform Shop". Cost is approximately \$26.

This is used as the Kegworth Choir Uniform. If kept in good condition, this T - shirt can be swapped for a larger size at no cost as your child grows.

Details of the opening times for the "Uniform Shop" can be found in the School Newsletter.

Kegworth Choir Uniform is as follows:

- White Music T – shirt
- Blue Shorts / Skort
- White ankle length socks
- Black shoes (not sneakers please)

Please ensure that you have your child's Music Uniform ready as soon as they join an ensemble, as some performances can be as early as the first few weeks into Term 1.



WHAT DO I DO NOW?

If your child wishes to join a Kegworth Choir in 2019, you need to fill in the attached application form and return it to the school front office by **Friday 7 December 2018.**

If your child was part of a choir in 2018 it is not necessary to resubmit a form. They will be invited to return in 2019.

Rehearsals for 2019 Choir groups will begin early in Term 1.

Thank you for your interest in Kegworth Public School's Recorder Ensembles!

- Should you have any further queries, please feel free to contact the School Office, Choir Teachers or Music Committee for further information.
- Please contact the School Office at kegworth-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au

KEGWORTH MUSIC PROGRAM - 2019

CHOIR PROGRAM APPLICATION FORM

This form is due to the school front office ***no later than*** **Friday 7 December 2018**

Student's Name: Class:

Year group in 2019:

Parent/Guardian Name:

My child is interested to join the:

Please indicate:

Kookaburra Choir Years K – 2 students only

Senior Choir Years 3 – 6 students only

Please indicate your commitment on each box:

- We have read the information booklet and understand the commitment required in joining Kegworth's Choir Program - **especially attendance at rehearsals and performances.***
- We understand that unless my child is committed to attending school rehearsals and regularly practising at home - he / she may not be selected for participation in Choir performances.*
- We understand that as parents and caregivers, we are required to support the Kegworth Music Program by taking on roles and responsibilities of the Kegworth Music Committee.*
- I/we are available to take on a role within the school's Music Committee to support the school's Music Program.*

Parent email address:

Student signature: Date:

Parent signature: Date: