



# KEGWORTH PUBLIC SCHOOL

## 2020 MUSIC PROGRAM

# CHOIR HANDBOOK

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

### **Why join a Choir?**

- ★ 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 at [www.musicaustralia.org.au/discover](http://www.musicaustralia.org.au/discover)

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

### **WHICH STUDENTS CAN JOIN A RECORDER GROUP?**

Our choirs cater to all students from K to 6 who would love to sing songs with other students. Kindergarten students can join from term 3 of Kindy – see Kookaburra Choir below.

### **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. Primary Choir members may be requested to purchase a white Kegworth Music T-shirt from the school Uniform Shop (approx \$26) for performances.

### **WHAT WEEKLY TIME COMMITMENT IS NEEDED?**

Recorder students are required to:

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

Days and locations for lunchtime rehearsal will be communicated in the school newsletter at the beginning of Term 1.

## 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. 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.

### **MEETINGS**

**Music Committee Meetings are held in the School Staffroom on the first Monday of each month at 6:30pm.** Any variations will be advertised in the school newsletter. All parents are welcome to attend meetings. The Music Committee AGM is held at the end of each school year and is also advertised in the School Newsletter. Parents are most welcome to attend the Music Committee at any time throughout the year and we would love to have your input!

## KOOKABURRA CHOIR (for students in Years K – 2)

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 may receive 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 **during Terms 3 and 4 only.**

## **PRIMARY CHOIR (for students in Years 3 – 6)**

The Primary Choir meets Tuesdays during lunchtime from 11:30 – 12:10pm.

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 Primary 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.

The Primary 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?**

Primary Choir students join at the beginning of the school year and should be 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](http://www.artsunit.nsw.edu.au) for further information. Please note that 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.

Choir students who participate in Arts Unit Choral Festivals will be required to pay a participation fee. Fees are invoiced to you and are to be paid by the invoice due date for your child to continue in the Choir program.

The participation fee 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.*

## WHAT DO I DO NOW?

If your child wishes to join a Kegworth Choir in 2020, fill in the attached expression of interest form and return it to the School Office.

If your child was part of a choir in 2019 it is not necessary to resubmit a form. They will be invited to return in 2020.

Rehearsals for 2020 Recorder Ensembles will begin early in Term 1.

***Thank you for your interest in the Kegworth  
Public School Band Program!***

Should you have any further queries, please feel free to contact the School Office, for further information. Email the school office at [kegworth-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:kegworth-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au).



**KEGWORTH MUSIC PROGRAM - 2020**

**CHOIR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST**

Please return to the school front office by **Friday 7 December 2019.**

Student name: ..... Class in 2019: .....

Parent/carer name:.....

Has your child had any previous musical experience?       **Yes**       **No**

Please give details (*musical experience is not necessary*) .....

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**PLEASE INDICATE IN EACH BOX BELOW:**

- We have read the information booklet and understand the commitment required in joining Kegworth's Choir Program - **especially student attendance and punctuality 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 performances.*
  
- We understand that as parents we are required to support the Music Program by assisting the Music Committee in running events such as music workshops and fundraising etc.*
  
- I/we are available to take on a role within the school's Music Committee to support the school's Music Program: **Yes / No***

Parent email address: .....

Student signature: .....

Date: .....

Parent signature: .....

Date: .....