



KEGWORTH PUBLIC SCHOOL

2020 MUSIC PROGRAM

RECORDER HANDBOOK

*Recorder involvement can be fun, hard work and exciting.
Students can develop musical skills and gain valuable social skills,
becoming an integral member of an ensemble.*

Why join a music ensemble?

- ★ An ensemble provides a comfortable environment where children can work towards challenging yet attainable goals as part of a group.
- ★ 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 instrument and attend rehearsals.
- ★ Part of learning an instrument is performing to an audience. An ensemble provides a less threatening performance opportunity for children.
- ★ Public performances motivate a sense of purpose for the ensemble members and enhances the school community when they represent their school.
- ★ Music participation enhances problem solving, team work, goal setting, self-expression, co-ordination, memory skills, self-confidence, physical skills and concentration.

Find out more about the benefits of Music Education at www.musicaustralia.org.au/discover

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

WHICH STUDENTS CAN JOIN A RECORDER GROUP?

Beginner Recorders is for players of any year who are new to the Recorder and to ensemble music. Students can join this group at any time in the year.

Students generally progress to Senior Recorders in their second year of playing the instrument, after the Opera House Concert.

DO STUDENTS NEED PRIVATE LESSONS WITH A TUTOR?

Students do not require private lessons in order to join a recorder ensemble. All knowledge and skills required will be taught to the students during practice.

WHAT ARE THE COSTS?

Membership of Recorder Ensembles is free (no term fees). However, there are participation fees and transportation costs associated with NSW Arts Unit Festivals in which the Kegworth Recorder Ensembles may be participating in.

WHERE DO THE RECORDER GROUPS PERFORM?

The Beginner Recorder group plays rounds and two-part music on descant recorders and performs at assemblies where possible, as well as other special events such as the Mother's Day morning tea.

The Senior Recorders' main repertoire is the music set each year for the Sydney Opera House concert. The group also performs at various school events such as Kegworth's annual Music Night, school events and assemblies whenever possible.

WHAT WEEKLY TIME COMMITMENT IS NEEDED?

Recorder students are required to:

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

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

DO STUDENTS REQUIRE THEIR OWN RECORDER?

YES – your student will require a recorder so they can practice at home. They should bring it to school for their lunchtime rehearsals, although there are a small number available to lend to students if needed. A descant recorder can be bought for around \$20.

NSW DoE FESTIVAL OF INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC

Confident Senior Recorder players who attend practices regularly may be invited to perform in the DOE's Instrumental Festival of Music at the Sydney Opera House each year. Information on this concert, including music downloads, can be found on the NSW Arts Unit website.

Students, who participate in these performances, will be required to pay a Festival participation fee (approx. \$40). This participation fee provides students with entry to the Festival and a Concert T-shirt, which is required for all students to wear at their final rehearsal and evening performance.

Participation and T-shirt costs are invoiced to you during Term 1. This fee is required to be paid by the invoice due date for your child to continue in the Recorder program.

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

Note: Places at the Sydney Opera House concerts are limited and the school 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.

FOLLOWING UP AT HOME

Support is a key element in your child's musical success. You can help your child by:

- ★ Providing a quiet place in which to practice
- ★ Remaining nearby during practice times as often as possible
- ★ Scheduling a consistent time for practice
- ★ Praising your child's efforts and achievements
- ★ Encouraging your child to play many different types of music
- ★ Not using practice as a punishment

If your child loses interest, please discuss this situation with your child's teacher. Remember to discuss your concerns with your child to determine why their interest is declining and encourage your child to stick with the instrument for a set amount of time.



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!

WHAT DO I DO NOW?

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

If your child was part of a recorder ensemble 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.

KEGWORTH MUSIC PROGRAM - 2020
RECORDER ENSEMBLE 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 Recorder 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: