VIOLIN LESSONS AT BELL PRIMARY SCHOOL



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***Parent Information Sheet***

**Tell me more?**

Violin lessons are run during the school day for a duration of 30 minutes and only during school terms. In most cases, students will be grouped into pairs at a similar level. If there is no student at a similar level, your child will have a 20 minute private lesson.

**What happens if my child misses a lesson?**

If the normal lesson time is scheduled during a school excursion or curriculum day, every effort will be made to find another suitable time during that week or at the end of the term. If that is not possible, the parent/guardian will be contacted and the account will be credited for the following term.

**How much does it cost?**

The lessons are priced at $17 per student per lesson and fees are payable at the beginning of each term

Level one beginner book is priced at approximately $15

(A practice book and folder to contain music are provided free of charge)

**Any Additional costs?**

When commencing lessons, it is recommended that the student use some extra equipment to develop good habits from the start. These are just a once off expense and may include:

A padded foam shoulder rest : $7 each

Bow hold buddy $20

Music stand: varies from around $15 upwards and are available at music shops or online

**Can I hire a violin?**

Yes, there are a limited number of violins available to hire for an additional fee. This is quite a useful option if your child is beginning the instrument for the first time, so you are not stuck with an expensive instrument collecting dust if they decide not to continue. The cost is a flat fee of $50 per term (terms and conditions of the rental agreement are available on request)

**How much time does my child need to practice for?**

For a beginner violinist, it is recommended that around 10 minutes daily is spent revising/practicing what was learnt during the lesson. As the student progresses, more time may need to be allocated.

**What will my child learn?**

Your child will not only learn to play the violin, but also to understand all the fundamentals of music such as how to read music, rhythm, different styles of music and even how to improvise!

**I’ve heard the Violin is hard to play, is that true?**

While violin does seem to have this reputation, with the right technique learnt from the beginning, students can progress at a steady rate. There is no “perfect” age to begin and I have taught students between ages 4 – 60! While students are developing technique, they will simultaneously learn other aspects of music, so they do not become disillusioned if they can’t play full songs by the end of the first lesson!

**About the teacher**

I have been playing violin since the age of 5 and am involved in a range of different musical projects. During my high school years, I began teaching at the Ocean Grove music school and since that time have taught at Ivanhoe Primary School and Ivanhoe East primary school, ran after school programs in the “Creative music for schools” company, and taught for many years at the Peter Volaris music Centre. I hold a Bachelor of Music from Latrobe University. Throughout my musical career I have continued to play in Melbourne bands providing violin and vocals. More recently I have begun to learn to play guitar and am currently writing my own songs.

Please feel free to check my website if you would like to know more about me

<reneebufton.com>