

MBM Covid Update August 2020

Dear parent, Care giver, principal, band liaison teacher,

Following the release of updated Department of Education Restrictions applicable to wind instrument playing, MBM have immediately undertaken the following procedures and commitments.

We are committed to providing the safest possible environment for a student to learn in and as such we are committed to following all restrictions no matter what our personal feelings or interpretations maybe.

We are also committed to wherever possible providing the best care for the mental health of our employees, our students and the schools in which they work whilst attempting to secure a regular income, student engagement and educational outcome for all. It should be noted that under the National curricular guidelines Music Education is considered an essential part of education and when delivered by professional staff forms an important part of a child's development.

MBM is able to offer for the interim period (Term 3) a non-wind instrument playing band rehearsal using resources such as Boom Whackers, Djembes and percussive instruments to enhance the students' knowledge of rhythm and world percussion plus the compositional concepts of music making.

In tutorial sessions focus can be moved on to theory and composition and to practicing the finger positions and posture of playing, furthermore workshops can be held on the regular maintenance, care and damage prevention of instruments which is achievable without actually playing a sound.

Tutorial groups can be altered to fit around either a single band session, thus reducing the time the students are working with a specialist music tutor or they can be realigned along year groups to minimise the chances of cross infection.

These measures fall within the guidelines of the Dept. Education Term 3 learning guidelines for school staff 16. August 2020 and the advice for families document from the Dept Education website.

Updated Covid 19 Safety Plan for MBM

As part of our commitment to safety and our continual monitoring of all information relating to Covid, we have reviewed and updated our Covid Safe plan, which is currently implemented across our entire business platform.

All Staff and contractors: will operate under this plan until it is reviewed or rescinded by M. Bishop.

Any staff member who feels ill or experiences even the mildest of symptoms relating to Covid is to immediately report that to M. Bishop, they will not be able to work in schools for a minimum period of 14 days and will be required to have a Covid test. The results of this test will be made available to the schools if necessary. This will also apply if a staff member comes into contact or is deemed a casual contact of a Covid affected person.

Any child exhibiting flu like symptoms will be excused from lessons and excluded from classes until they are officially cleared. They will be escorted to the school sick bay by a staff member who will immediately inform the school.

Instruments such as percussion etc that may be shared between lessons or students will be wiped down with disinfectant between sessions or people. Under no circumstances will wind instruments be shared and under no circumstances will wind instruments be played until deemed appropriate by the Dept of Education.

All students will be placed in socially distanced seating and will be required to remain seated for the duration of the lesson. Conductors or leaders will where possible be placed a distance of 3m from the facing students.

Hand sanitiser will be provided and may be used by all students and staff prior to commencing the lesson and at the conclusion of the lesson

In accordance with Dept Ed. Guidelines on infection control, all equipment, music stands and shared items will be cleaned with disinfectant prior to use.

Tutoring staff will use hand sanitiser between sessions and will maintain social distancing from students wherever possible, should social distancing not be possible, then the use of a face mask is desirable.

This document shall remain in force until it is either superseded by further Dept Education or Dept Health NSW information, is rescinded by business owner M. Bishop or no longer required.