



# 2024 Handbook

**Congratulations!** It is likely that if you are reading this it's because you will be joining us at NBSC Manly Campus in 2024 and are keen to become part of a new team and enjoy all that being in Bands of Manly Campus (BoMC) has to offer. A quarter of the school is involved in Band so you are in good company!

Welcome, we can't wait to meet you.

The program is a co-curricular activity which is school-run, user pays and supported by parents. Being within an academically selective school, we depend on rehearsals outside school hours as well as tightly planned cooperation between academic and band schedules for all our other commitments. The organisation of the program mirrors the school's structure where musicians are able to access junior, intermediate and senior school ensembles based on their playing ability.

At Manly Campus, our band program is renowned for its excellence and we are extremely proud of it. Our ensembles play at music festivals, eisteddfods, school events and special performance nights. Last year String Ensemble played at the Opera House for the Festival of Instrumental Music. In any one year there are about 400 individual band rehearsals and 50 band performances as well as events like regional tours, music camps, workshops and master classes. Our three-yearly Senior International Tour is in the early planning stages for a 2025 excursion.

Should you have any further questions after reading this this booklet, please contact  
[bandmanagerbomc@gmail.com](mailto:bandmanagerbomc@gmail.com)

## Enrol by 13 December 2023

To take part in the 2024 program

**Register your interest** and enrol for a placement audition by completing the online enrolment form **before 13 December 2023**:

Find the 2024 EOI form here: [2024 Bands of Manly Campus EOI Google Form](#)

There is no financial commitment to the band program until February 2024

Membership in Core Ensembles is open to all interested students from Years 7 to 12 who play an instrument and have a minimum of one years playing experience, two years for string players. Training Band is available for students wishing to begin playing an instrument.

The above link for enrolment and a digital copy of the full handbook are also available on the NBSC Manly Campus website under the Curriculum Enrichment / Band Programs tab.

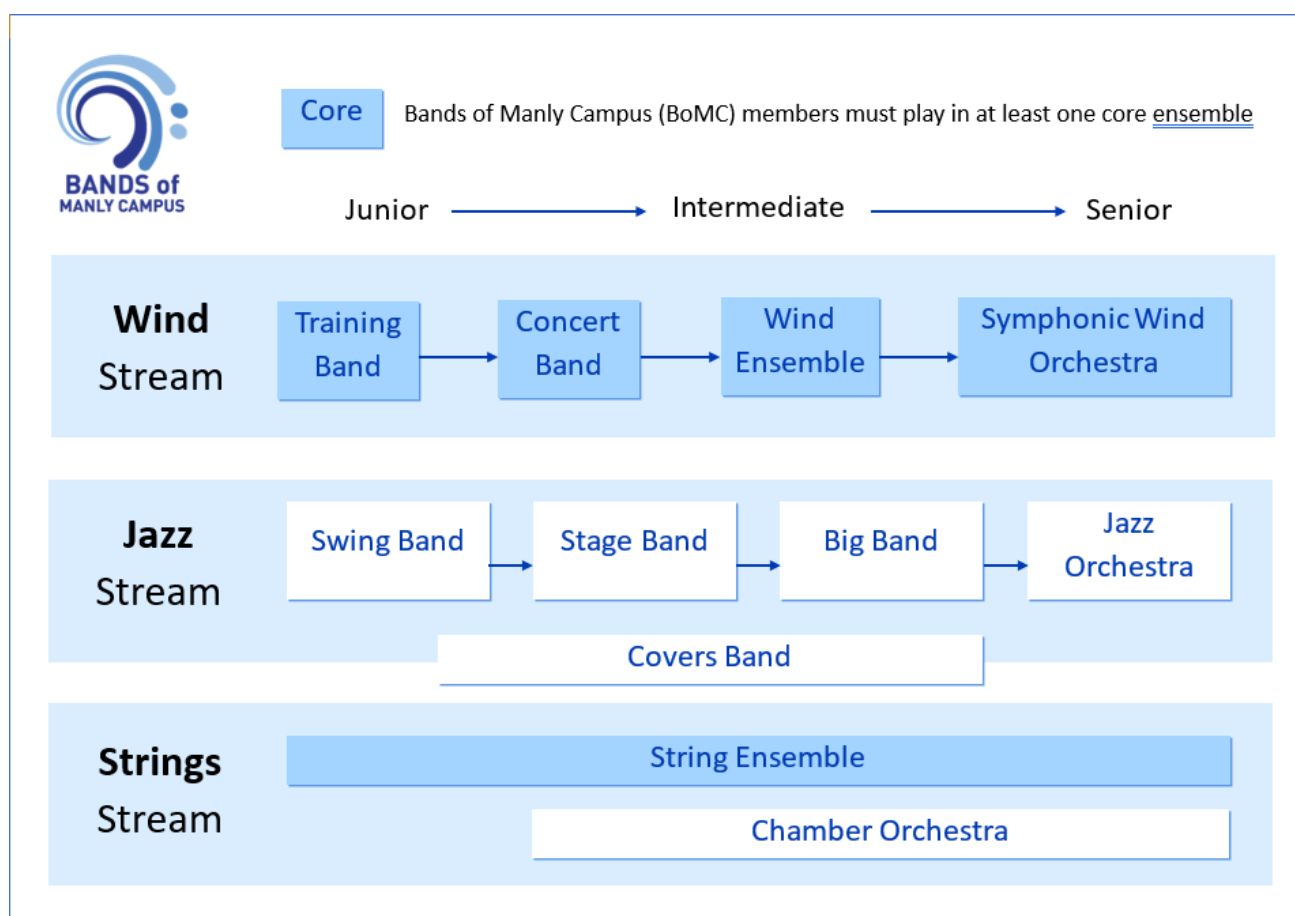
## BOMC STRUCTURE

BoMC has two core streams. All members must play in at least one of these streams.

We have the Wind Stream and the Strings Stream. If applicable, Students may join both.

The optional extension ensembles support additional musical styles: three jazz big bands, a Covers Band and the Chamber Orchestra. Students may be invited to join these ensembles on top of membership of their core band. Please note that these ensembles require a minimum number of students to run.

Dedicated musicians who follow the BoMC member guidelines can expect to advance from Junior to Intermediate and on to Senior Ensembles as they progress through the wind, jazz or string streams.



To maintain the high standard of our program we expect that students commit to attending all rehearsals and events, or give notice if not able to. Students should be receiving music lessons in order to continue their growth and musicality.

All members are expected to attend events and tours. A calendar with general timing of events will be provided at the start of the year with confirmed dates and details of events communicated to families as soon as they become available. Notice should be given as soon as possible if there are unavoidable clashes.

At BoMC we have a wonderful Committee of parents backed up by volunteers in a host of different roles large and small. All families are encouraged to participate in events, fundraising and organisation and we are keen to welcome everyone. We promise families will get a lot out of it – it will likely be the only way they will be allowed (by the student) to be involved in their schooling and meet people.

## ENSEMBLE PLACEMENT

Membership in core Wind and Strings Stream ensembles is open to all interested students from Years 7 to 12 who can read music and have a minimum of one year's playing experience (2 years for string players). Those keen to start learning an instrument, please see the Training Band section of this booklet.

Continuing members submit a placement video and meet Conductors at the end of Term 3 in order to advance parts and ensembles at the beginning of Term 4 each year. New members who already play an instrument are invited to submit their placement videos by the 19th of January, 2024. This will allow conductors time to place new students into ensembles before the beginning of Term 1. Students will be informed of their placement before Term 1, Day 1, 2024.

The placement process gives Conductors an idea of the level of students' playing so they can determine suitable starting repertoires and balance the sections within ensembles. It also helps determine an appropriate ensemble if choosing an additional stream.

### Nature of Placement Testing

No accompaniment is required. Students should prepare a video in which they play:

- **One short solo piece** that best demonstrates musical and technical ability (not more than 2 minutes)
- **Scales:** Own choice of two scales; one major and one minor scale.

## TRAINING BAND

In 2024 the BoMC Program will be incorporating a Training Band into our program. This exciting new ensemble will be for any student, of any age, that would like to begin playing a woodwind, brass or percussion instrument. No experience is necessary for students to join, only a willingness to try new things, learn, and have fun!

For those families that don't own an instrument, we can recommend hiring from the NSW Department of Education Arts Unit. The Arts Unit has a wide variety of instruments available at various costs depending on the replacement value of the instrument.

### The Arts Unit Instrument Hire

Please note that a fee reduction is available for all families that hire an instrument for Training Band. Fees are reduced to the value of the amount required to hire the instrument in use.

This initiative is in place to encourage all students to take up the valuable skill experience of playing an instrument.

If you have any questions at all about joining the Training Band please contact the Band Manager at [bandmanagerbomc@gmail.com](mailto:bandmanagerbomc@gmail.com)

## 2024 ENSEMBLE DETAILS

Large Ensembles meet in the mornings at 7.20am – 8.50am. Students arrive at or before 7:20 to have time to set up and begin rehearsing at 7:30am. Punctuality is important to get maximum rehearsal time.

Small Bands currently meet at lunch time. This may change in 2024 with the new timetable. Swing Band will be added to the 2024 schedule if numbers permit.

	Ensemble	Day	Time
Core Wind Stream	Concert Band (CB)	Wednesday	7.20 – 8.50
Core Wind Stream	Wind Ensemble (WE)	Thursday	7.20 – 8.50
Core Wind Stream	Symphonic Wind Orchestra (SWO)	Friday	7.20 – 8.50
Core Wind Stream	Training Band	Monday	7.20 – 8.50
Core Strings Stream	String Ensemble (SE)	Friday	7.20 – 8.50
Extension Ensemble	Chamber Orchestra (CO)	Monday	7.20 – 8.50
Extension Ensemble	Stage Band (SB)	Thursday	7.20 – 8.50
Extension Ensemble	Big Band (BB)	Wednesday	7.20 – 8.50
Extension Ensemble	Jazz Orchestra (JO)	Tuesday	7.20 – 8.50

## BAND UNIFORM

Band polos are uniform for informal performances – for example the Big Band Bash at school and Band Tours.

Winter school uniform with school ties and school blazers are required for formal and external performances – for example attending Instrumental Festivals.

There is an active trade in second hand school blazers through the Band Committee and parent volunteer contactable at [uniformbomc@gmail.com](mailto:uniformbomc@gmail.com). Blazers hold their value well if in good condition. They can be purchased for around \$100 and resold for around \$80.

## INSTRUMENTS BY ENSEMBLE

	Strings Stream		Wind Stream			Jazz Stream				
	SE	CO	SWO	WE	CB	Large Bands				Small ensembles
						JO	BB	SB	SW	CVB
<b>Indicative size (student numbers)</b>	40	30	50	55	80	25	25	25	25	10
<b>Strings</b>										
Violin	✓	✓								
Viola	✓	✓								
Cello	✓	✓								
Double bass	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
<b>Woodwind</b>										
Piccolo		✓	✓	✓	✓					
Flute		✓	✓	✓	✓					
Clarinet		✓	✓	✓	✓					
Bass Clarinet		✓	✓	✓	✓					
Soprano sax			✓	✓		✓				
Alto sax			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Tenor sax			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Baritone sax			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Oboe		✓	✓	✓	✓					
Bassoon		✓	✓	✓	✓					
<b>Brass</b>										
Trumpet		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Flugel horn			✓	✓	✓					
French horn		✓	✓	✓	✓					
Trombone		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Bass trombone			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Mellophone			✓	✓	✓					
Euphonium			✓	✓	✓					
Tuba			✓	✓	✓					
<b>Vocals</b>						✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
<b>Rhythm</b>										
Piano/keyboard *			✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Guitar *			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Electric bass			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Double bass	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Drum/Percussion*		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

\* **Percussion** includes drums, xylophone, vibraphone, glockenspiel, chimes, bells

\* **Piano** is used only occasionally in the wind bands. However, piano skills are valuable for percussion instruments such as xylophone. Advanced players may also audition on piano for the jazz stream.

\* **Guitar** players who can read music (not tabs) may audition for wind and jazz streams.

The BoMC hires out very few instruments and only those that are less commonly played or are more expensive to purchase yet essential to enhancing the quality of our bands, for example tenor saxophones, baritone saxophones, French horns, bass clarinets, bass trombone, bassoon, double bass and tuba. Instruments owned by the BoMC are reserved for continuing members of Core Ensembles. Fee reduction is not available on these instruments. In some cases instruments may need to be shared between players in different ensembles (eg baritone saxophone) and you may be required to hire, from the band program, an individual mouthpiece for the instrument.

## 2024 FEES

BoMC fees reflect the program structure and are invoiced **TWICE** yearly by the school for all streams. Fees are payable promptly on invoice at the beginning of Term 1 and again at the beginning of Term 3.

The table below shows the current fees.

### The fees each Semester

BoMC overall Membership		
Core Membership	<b>\$350</b>	to cover semester directors' fees for the <u>core</u> ensembles, and other expenses including music scores, shared instruments and equipment and their insurance and repairs (eg: amps, timpanis, keyboards), truck-hire and pizzas for some performances, and all competition entry fees.
Extension ensemble fees		
Jazz Stream Ensembles and Chamber Orchestra	<b>\$190</b>	to cover the semester's additional director fees The fee remains the same if a player is asked to join a second large Jazz ensemble (JO/BB/SB or SwB)
Small Bands (Covers and Improvisation bands)	<b>\$215</b>	to cover the small group's additional director fees
Tours and camps		
One per year	<b>Allow \$550</b>	Charges for tours and music camps are calculated and invoiced prior to each event. Recent costs have been approx \$500. Band members are expected to attend one camp or tour per year.

If a band member withdraws from the band program **written notification** is required and **members must also advise the Director personally of his/her withdrawal**. If notice is not received full fees are payable. If a student withdraws from the program during the Semester, **fees cannot be refunded**.