Co-Curricular Music at TAS

At TAS we have a range of vocal and instrumental ensembles available to students of varying levels of musical experience and skill. Our ensemble program is designed so that TAS students who wish to play or sing in an ensemble have a variety of options and can therefore pursue their own interests. Membership of TAS ensembles is open to all students and entry is generally via audition. Ensembles rehearse on a weekly basis and perform regularly within the School and in the broader community.

TAS Senior Jazz Combo

Functioning as the most senior band at TAS, Senior Jazz Combo exists as a semi professional band that performs both in school and throughout the community. Our most advanced musicians take part in this ensemble. Instrumentation can vary depending on the availability and skills of senior music students. All students that take part in this ensemble are required to undertake tuition outside rehearsals and participate in TAS Big Band (where appropriate). Senior Jazz Combo rehearses on a weekly basis. Entry is via invitation.

TAS Big Band and Cadet Band

Big Band is our flagship ensemble in the band program and comprises of around 30 members of Middle School and Senior School age, although entry is not limited to these cohorts. Instrumentation is flexible depending on repertoire performed as well as the interests of the students. The expectation is that upon entry, students will have playing experience of at least 2-3 years. Repertoire encompasses a diverse mix of musical styles taken from a range of jazz works, concert band arrangements, arrangements of classical works and show tunes.

At various times throughout the year the ensemble reforms as Cadet Band (marching band) complementing TAS’s illustrious and long tradition of cadets. All students that take part in this ensemble are required to undertake tuition outside rehearsals.
**TAS Wind Ensemble**

The TAS Wind Ensemble caters for students of all ages with at least 12 months experience on their instrument. The ensemble includes woodwind, brass and percussion instruments and also may contain guitarists and string bass players. The Wind Ensemble is an essential stepping stone for entry into TAS Big Band. Wind Ensemble repertoire is primarily popular with some traditional arrangements for educational and performance purposes. All students that take part in this ensemble are required to undertake tuition outside rehearsals.

**TAS Beginner Band**

As our newest ensemble, Beginner Band will commence in 2014. This ensemble will give students who have recently taken up an instrument the opportunity to enjoy music together. Repertoire will be chosen especially to reinforce basic ensemble principles. While the ensemble will essentially be a concert band in terms of instrumentation, other instrument such as guitars and keyboards will also be included depending on repertoire requirements. All students that take part in this ensemble are required to undertake tuition outside rehearsals. TAS Beginner Band is essentially a stepping-stone into TAS Wind Ensemble. This ensemble is open to all TAS students and is non-selective.

**TAS Drum Corp**

TAS Drum Line performs as a show group at school events such as Rugby carnivals in order to reinforce school spirit. The ensemble offer drum kit players and orchestral percussionists the opportunity to develop technical proficiency, rhythmic awareness, core strength, agility and coordination. TAS Drum Line consists of a wide range of percussion instruments including snare drum, tenor drum, bass drum, cymbals and quad toms.

**TAS Guitar Band**

The TAS Guitar Band offers guitarists the opportunity to regularly play in a band together and learn the musical skills associated with playing in an ensemble.

It is open to any student currently learning guitar or to any student who has learnt guitar long enough to demonstrate basic guitar skills (as determined by the conductor).

The goal of the TAS Guitar Band is to rehearse and perform a range of guitar repertoire for a variety of performance events during the year. This includes both classical and contemporary styles.

Other instrument types including voice, woodwind and percussion are included from time to time depending on the demands of the chosen repertoire.
TAS Vocal Program

Chapel Choir
Functioning as one of the School’s flagship ensembles, Chapel Choir sings during services and ceremonies at TAS. Repertoire for Chapel Choir is taken from a wide range of modern and traditional liturgies. Chapel Choir is a non-selective ensemble that is open to all students from Year’s 4 to 12. Young students are particularly encouraged to sing treble parts and solos during services.

TAS Singers
As one of our most well known ensembles at TAS, the award winning TAS Singers is a non-selective vocal ensemble for boys with changed voices. The ensemble is well renowned for singing a broad range of repertoire including popular songs, African spirituals and classical repertoire. Voicing in this ensemble usually covers the tenor and bass ranges.

K-2 and 3-5 Choirs
All students from years K-5 take part in a 45 minute choral session each week during class time. The primary objective of the K-2 and 3-5 Choirs is to provide students with an opportunity to sing as a group, in an enjoyable and rewarding setting while learning about musical concepts and performance strategies. A wide range of repertoire is sung including folk songs, children’s songs, classical pieces and popular works.

The Junior School vocal programme is integrated into the classroom curriculum.

TAS Vocal Ensemble
This non-selective ensemble is open to students with unchanged voices who are interested in extending and enriching their vocal skills. The concepts explored in TAS Trebles builds on K-2 and 3-5 choral experiences. A wide range of repertoire is sung including folk songs, children’s songs, classical pieces and popular works.