

# 2021 BAND & STRING PROGRAM

Elanora Heights Public School is very excited to be taking on the School Band & String Program in 2021. With a wide variety of extracurricular Creative Arts programs already offered at the school, we are looking forward to broadening the creative opportunities for our students by also including band and string groups. As a school, we value the arts and firmly believe in the importance of music in the curriculum. Being part of a music ensemble provides numerous benefits and opportunities. Not only will your child learn to play their instrument with their friends, they will also learn the skills of concentration, perseverance and self-discipline.

We have recently commenced the Band and String recruitment process for 2021. If you are interested in your child joining the Band and String Program next year, we would like to invite you to join us on Monday 16 November at 7:30pm for the Band & String Information Evening via Zoom (details below). Recruitment is not just for students in Years 1 and 2. We encourage older students to also think about taking up an instrument, understanding that they will be accelerated through the program if they progress at a faster rate to their peers.

Fi Brock and Mark Stevens will continue on with our successful string groups, and we are looking forward to welcoming Josh Hughes to Elanora Heights Public School, to lead our Training Band and Senior Band in 2021. If you have any questions about band & string groups in 2021, please send an email to the school.

## Proposed Rehearsal Schedule for 2021

Subject to change. All rehearsals will run for 60 minutes.

	Session 1	Session 2
<b>Training Band</b>	Tuesdays - 7:30am	Thursdays - 3:00pm
<b>Senior Band</b>	Wednesday - 7:30am	Friday - 3:00pm
<b>String Beans</b>	Tuesdays - 3:00pm	
<b>Mezzo Strings</b>	Tuesdays - 7:30am	Wednesdays - 3:00pm
<b>Senior Strings</b>	Wednesdays - 3:00pm	Thursday - 7:30am

## Fee Structure

	Per Semester	Per Year
<b>One rehearsal per week (String Beans only)</b>	\$160	\$320
<b>Two rehearsals per week (All other groups)</b>	\$240	\$480
<b>Instrument Hire (Set fee for all instruments)</b>	\$125	\$250

## Details for Zoom Information Evenings

**Band & Strings Information Evening - Monday 16 November at 7:30pm (for all new members to the program)**  
Meeting Code: 614 6847 2468 Passcode: Mozart

**2021 Information Evening - Monday 23 November at 7:30pm (for current members/families of the program)**  
Meeting Code: 640 5567 8827 Passcode: Mozart

# MEET OUR CONDUCTORS FOR 2021

## **Fi Brock (String Beans, Mezzo Strings & Senior Strings)**

Playing both violin and piano, Fi Brock has a passion for teaching music to primary aged children. She is a mother of four and an Occupational Therapist. She spent her teen years involved with the Sydney Youth Orchestra, and as an adult has continued to play in quartets and Orchestras including the Newcastle Conservatorium Orchestra, Newcastle Orchestra Nova, and currently, the Northern Beaches Orchestra. Fi is involved in music programs across a number of Northern Beaches schools, but has especially loved nurturing the string players of EHPS over the past 4 years.



## **Mark Stevens (Combined Strings)**

Mark is a music educator, conductor and professional double bassist who has been working with music students in public education since 2003. He is a classroom music teacher and conducts eight school ensembles, including string groups at Lindfield Public School and the Northern Beaches Youth Orchestra. He was awarded the Teachers Mutual Bank Performing Arts Recognition Award 2017 for his diverse work in public education. Aside from extensive work in public education, Mark also composes, records and performs in ARIA nominated folk-rock voyagers The Crooked Fiddle Band. Through his work in this group he has toured extensively in Australia and Europe, performing at some of the world's most acclaimed and eclectic music festivals.



Have a look at Mark playing the Double Bass with his group, The Crooked Fiddle Band.

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ex-D9\\_TmRVg](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ex-D9_TmRVg)

## **Josh Hughes (Senior Band & Training Band)**

Mr Hughes is a passionate and enthusiastic Conductor and Brass Teacher on the Northern Beaches of Sydney. He plays and teaches all the brass, with his strengths being Trumpet, Euphonium, Tuba, Improvisation and Jazz Piano. His playing experience is broad and varied, including Orchestras, Wind Bands, Brass Bands, Jazz Bands and Combos, Funk Bands, a professional touring Ska / Rock band, 12 piece New Orleans Blues Band, Corporate swing bands, Worship Groups and more. Mr Hughes is known for his passion and expertise in



guiding young musicians onto an instrument they will thrive on. His ensembles have a reputation for diversity of instruments and beautiful balance achieved by moving students onto the lower woodwind and brass.

Check out Josh performing 'Abide with Me' in a virtual performance. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oQFNeCsKjy0>