Instrumental music program

Education Queensland's Instrumental Music Program was established by the Department of Education in Queensland state schools in 1971. The program now boasts more than 450 instrumental music teachers (equivalent to over 350 full-time) teaching in excess of 50,000 students across the State.

Educators and music industry professionals regard the Instrumental Music Program in Queensland as the finest and most extensive in the country. It is internationally recognised as a leader in the field of instrumental music education. The program and its dedicated teaching staff are highly valued by Education Queensland and enjoy enormous support from the wider community.

The Instrumental Program Policy describes the program and also has links to the Instrumental Music Curriculum which is implemented by instrumental music teachers. Students learn band and orchestral instruments (woodwind, brass, percussion and strings). Students have two lessons per week, one in an ensemble and one in a small group. Ensembles include concert bands, orchestras and associated chamber groups. Teachers work across clusters of schools, usually in a secondary and feeder primary schools. Instrumental Music Teachers are expected to have appropriate qualifications in both their instrumental area and in teaching.

Applicants for Instrumental Music teaching positions are required to undertake a proficiency assessment to assess their eligibility for employment as an Instrumental Music teacher. These specialist assessment panels comprise of panellists with specific expertise in instrumental music. Applicants who wish to apply for both instrumental music and classroom music positions will be required to have separate assessments for each area.

Instrumental Music Assessment Interview

Applicants will address in their interview the Australian Professional Standards for Teachers in the context of teaching instrumental music. Teachers will demonstrate knowledge of the Instrumental Music Curriculum and its implementation in schools. The interview will include:

1. Presentation by the applicant regarding their capacity as an Instrumental Music Teacher in Education Queensland’s Instrumental Music Program, demonstrating knowledge of
   - the instruments required,
   - conducting expertise,
   - the Instrumental Music Curriculum, and
   - delivery and management of the instrumental program in schools

2. Questions asked by the interview panel. These will be specific to the individual applicant and will seek to provide applicants with an opportunity to clarify and discuss the documentary evidence provided in the presentation, as well as clarification about the applicant’s knowledge of Education Queensland’s Instrumental Music Program and its Curriculum. Applicants may also be asked to draw upon their experiences to give examples of their teaching.

Please note that Instrumental Music Proficiency Assessments will be conducted in response to identified Instrumental Music workforce demands.

Please direct all enquiries regarding the Instrumental Music assessment process to the Music Coordinator at the regional office closest to your place of residence.