



ASPIRE MUSIC PROGRAM

Primary Campus Program Handbook

History and Rationale

Music Aspire at Varsity College Primary Campus was established to provide passionate and talented young musicians with enriched learning opportunities beyond the regular classroom music program. Since its establishment, the program has continued to evolve, supporting students to develop their musical skills, confidence, creativity and performance experience within a supportive and collaborative environment.

Initially focused on extension opportunities in performance and ensemble participation, the program has grown to include a variety of authentic musical experiences. Students participate in vocal and instrumental ensembles, songwriting, music technology, workshops, community performances, excursions to live shows and the Gold Coast Eisteddfod.

Through collaborative rehearsals and performance opportunities, students develop musicianship, teamwork, resilience and leadership skills while contributing positively to the culture of the college and wider school community.

Music Aspire also supports pathways into the Varsity College Secondary Campus ASPIRE Creative Industries program by encouraging students to see themselves as future performers, musicians and creative thinkers.

Today, Music Aspire continues to grow as a vibrant and inclusive extension program that celebrates creativity, excellence and community engagement through music.

Goals and Purpose

Music Aspire aims to provide enriched musical learning opportunities for students with a passion and interest in music, creativity and performance. The program seeks to nurture confident, collaborative and creative young musicians through authentic and engaging musical experiences.

The goals of Music Aspire are to:

- Develop students' musical skills, creativity and confidence through performance, composition and collaborative music-making.
- Provide extension opportunities beyond the regular classroom music program.
- Foster teamwork, resilience, leadership and self-expression through ensemble participation and performance experiences.
- Expose students to a variety of musical pathways including vocal music, instrumental music, songwriting and music technology.
- Encourage students to engage with the wider arts community through performances, workshops, excursions and events such as the Gold Coast Eisteddfod.
- Inspire students to pursue future creative opportunities and pathways within the Varsity College ASPIRE Creative Industries program.

Music Aspire strives to create a supportive and inclusive environment where students can explore their creativity, challenge themselves artistically and develop a lifelong appreciation for music and the arts.

Key Personnel

Holly Major hmajo11@eq.edu.au

Holly Major is the Music Aspire teacher at Varsity College Primary Campus and commenced in the role in 2026. Holly is passionate about creating engaging and authentic musical experiences for

students through ensemble performance, songwriting, music technology and live performance opportunities. Through the Music Aspire program, she seeks to foster creativity, confidence and collaboration in young musicians while encouraging students to further develop their skills and passion for music.

Jazmine Osbourne – jdfeh0@eq.edu.au

Jazmine Osbourne has played a significant role in the development and ongoing success of the Music Aspire program at Varsity College Primary Campus over many years. Through her dedication to music education and extension opportunities, Jazmine has supported students in developing their musicianship, creativity and performance skills within a supportive and inclusive environment. Her contribution has helped shape the growth and culture of the program.

Program Overview

In 2027, the Music Aspire Program at Varsity College Primary Campus will provide successful applicants with the opportunity to enrich and extend their skills, creativity and confidence through a variety of authentic musical experiences.

Music Aspire students will develop their musical knowledge and performance skills through collaborative, hands-on learning experiences including ensemble performance, songwriting, instrumental music-making, music technology and live performance opportunities.

Students will be encouraged to become active learners by exploring creative ideas, experimenting with music, collaborating with peers and reflecting on their learning in meaningful and engaging ways. The program aims to foster creativity, resilience, teamwork and leadership while supporting students to grow as confident young musicians and performers.

Through workshops, performances, excursions and community events such as the Gold Coast Eisteddfod, students will engage with real-world musical experiences that enrich their learning beyond the classroom.

Music Aspire also supports pathways into the Varsity College Secondary Campus ASPIRE Creative Industries program by encouraging students to further develop their passion for music and the creative arts.

Extra-Curricular Opportunities

Students participating in Music Aspire at Varsity College Primary Campus are provided with a range of extra-curricular opportunities designed to enrich their musical learning and performance experience beyond the classroom.

These opportunities may include:

- Vocal and instrumental ensemble participation
- Gold Coast Eisteddfod participation
- Workshops with visiting artists and music professionals
- Songwriting and music technology activities
- Excursions to live performances and musical events
- School concerts, showcases and special performances
- Collaborative performance opportunities with peers and accompanists

Through these experiences, students are encouraged to develop confidence, creativity, teamwork and leadership skills while engaging with authentic and meaningful musical opportunities.

Student Selection Criteria

Applicants for the Music Aspire Program are required to:

- Complete the online application form by Friday 11th September.
- Attend an audition at Varsity College Primary Campus.
- As part of the selection process, students will complete:
 - A short music theory and aural skills exam
 - A performance on their chosen instrument that best represents their musical ability

Selection will be based on musical potential, performance skills, creativity, focus and enthusiasm for music.

Expectations and Commitment to Program Requirements

The ASPIRE Program is committed to providing and maintaining a high performing and supportive learning environment for all its students. Being a part of the ASPIRE Program is a privilege, and students involved in the program must value and respect their placement. To this end, ASPIRE students will endeavour to perform at the highest level across the Global ASPIRE Performance Areas:

Academic (classroom and extra-curricular)

- Maintain high academic standards. This is considered a 'B' grade across all relevant ASPIRE subjects.
- Maintain no lower than a 'C' grade in all other subjects.
- Submit all assessment, completed and by the due date.

Behaviour and Effort

- Maintain a very high standard of behaviour and effort across all subject areas.
- Respect teachers and fellow students at all times.
- Be punctual and prepared for all lessons.
- Display high levels of appropriate behaviour at all times, not only during ASPIRE lessons, but with all Varsity College staff (teaching and corporate services), contract and supply teachers.

Culture

- Students understand they bear responsibility as an ambassador of the ASPIRE Programs to be seen as a positive role model to others within the local community.
- Maintain a high level of school attendance in order to maintain learning standards.
- Active participation in competitions, events, activities and excursions related to the ASPIRE programs.
- Maintain high uniform standards in line with the Varsity College Appearance Policy.
- Be accepting and tolerant of all students.
- Show modesty and humility when interacting with students.

Maintenance of Position in Program

ASPIRE Programs operate a formal review process at the end of each term for students who consistently are not meeting Global ASPIRE Performance Areas as outlined in the Expectations and Commitment to Program Requirements. Grounds for review may include:

- Consistent lateness.
- Truancy, repeated detentions, after school detentions, suspension.
- Failure to submit assessment on a regular basis (monitoring and due dates).
- Failure to meet academic, behaviour and effort standards as outlined in the Expectations and Commitment to Program Requirements.
- Failure to meet the financial commitment of ASPIRE Program.

The ASPIRE Review Process for students consistently not meeting expectations is completed at the end of the term. The following procedures are then implemented:

- The students and their parents are contacted by either the ASPIRE Coordinator or the Head of Department where expectations of the program will be discussed. Specific targets will be identified and it is the student's responsibility to meet these.
- The student will be placed on probation for the following term. If students fail to meet their targets throughout this period, their enrolment in the program will be cancelled, and they will be placed in a mainstream class for the remainder of the year.

Application Process

The Varsity College ASPIRE Program applicants are required to:

- Complete the online ASPIRE Program Application which can be found on the Varsity College website.
- Upload all required documentation as required and submit by the closing date.
- Please note that incomplete applications will not be accepted.
- All applications must be received no later than the close date advertised on our platforms.
- You will receive further correspondence about testing dates and times once your application has been received and processed.

Upon completion of the application process, staff and specialist teachers will decide on the suitability of each applicant. Successful applicants will be notified by the school and the school's decision will be final.