Why a Choral Excellence Program?

Broadbeach State School acknowledges the importance of supporting individual learners to excel in areas of personal interest and talent. Although the school offers Music classes from Years 1-7, it is recognised that some students have a deeper passion and aptitude for singing and are motivated to engage in more detailed and focused study. For some, their motivation may be a desire to learn Music for the purposes of further study or relate to future career aspirations. The Choral Excellence Program was introduced as a response to meet the needs of these particular students.

The curriculum is set at a level, pace, degree of abstraction and complexity beyond learning expectations for their age peers with in-depth study in the following areas:
- Vocal technique
- Choral development
- Harmonising
- Vocal expression
- Music theory
- Performance ideology

What are the goals of the Choral Excellence Program?

Plato was quoted as saying that music “is a more potent instrument than any other for education”. Research indicates that music uses both sides of the brain contributing to the growth of a child’s brain academically, emotionally, physically and spiritually.

Music theory is developed through in class practical studies and online learning focusing on AMEB.

The goals of Music Theory are to:
- support students to understand and compose music
- support students to improve in reading music
- broaden student knowledge of musical language

The goals of Choral Excellence are to:
- increase aural awareness
- expose students to two and three part choral singing
- develop stronger vocal techniques
- increase performance exposure
- improve confidence in singing
- develop a stronger delivery of musical expression
- increase social confidence

How will students be identified?

Students will be identified through analysis of assessment data, interviews, auditions, interest and motivation for music studies. Some of the data sets that will be used include:
- Report Cards from the proceeding 1-2 years with an emphasis on consistent “A” levels in Music studies
- Reports from out of school/private music classes and tuition
What areas of study does the AMEB strand offer students?

To support choral studies, students will study music theory online and sit graded exams by the Australian Music Examinations Board. The courses are made up of a series of self-guided lessons with accompanying practice tests for each lesson. Students will be able access teacher support at any time to supplement or enhance their music theory studies.

The self paced courses allow students to learn independently in the following areas:

- Reading and writing musical notation
- Building chords and intervals
- Transposing melodies
- Recognising and writing major scales
- Using triplets and compound meters
- Building perfect, major and minor intervals
- Identifying musical forms
- Writing minor scales and key signatures
- Translating Italian terms for musical signs

What are the expected outcomes of students participating in the Choral Excellence Program?

Students enrolled in the program can be expected to achieve high level knowledge and understanding of:

- Vocal technique, singing in tune and with vocal timbre
- Volume and dynamics
- Sight reading fluency
- Correct diction, proper vowels, timing of diphthongs and correct placement of consonants
- Choral performance

How will student progress be reported?

Students will receive their regular semester progress report which will include progress in the Choral Excellence classes. Assessment will include student self assessment, peer assessment and the application of more complex musical concepts and competencies.

What are the expectations of students participating in the program?

Students participating in the Music Excellence Program are required to:

- Maintain regular attendance
- Engage in the program with enthusiasm
- Aspire to high level personal goals
- Commit to all learning experiences

What are the expectations of the parents of students entering the program?

Parents of students entering the Music Excellence Program are required to:

- Actively support their child and their learning
- Ensure students are sufficiently organised and on time for Excellence classes
- Maintain a close working relationship with the Choral Excellence teacher

What is the time commitment for the Music Excellence Program?

- **Music Theory Excellence Program**
  - Classes are held weekly for identified Year 4-6 students and run before school for 40 minutes.
- **Junior Choral Excellence Program**
  - Classes are held weekly, for identified Year 2-4 students and run before school for 40 minutes.
- **The Senior Choral Excellence Program**
  - Classes are held weekly, for identified Year 4-6 students and run before school for 40 minutes.