

Drama Club Handbook



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Introduction

Brisbane State High School has a proud history, and our Extra-Curricular (E-C) program forms an integral component of the State High experience. Tradition is valued in order to acknowledge the past and maintain a consistent identity.

The E-C program aims to offer a range of activities (sporting and cultural) that provide opportunities for students to participate, learn, develop and excel. Our E-C program is an integral part of student well-being, promotes a sense of belonging and fosters a sense of pride in both individual and group achievements. Student participation in regular sporting and recreational activities is linked to improved attention and concentration, raised academic performance, improved self-confidence and reduction in stress.

History of Drama Club

Brisbane State High School has a proud history in the Drama Club program of developing talented and passionate actors. Established in 2015, students from all year levels are able to meet and collaborate with each other while exploring their creativity through group work, activities and improvisation.

Goals of the Activity

Drama Club enables students to develop practical and theoretical dramatic art skills, with a focus on development of the student's creativity and stage craft. There are opportunities for small group skits to be performed to a live audience as part of an internal competition within the activity. Performance opportunities are offered at the discretion of staff in charge.

Mission of Drama Club

Drama Club operates in Semester 2 of the school year and offers the opportunity for students with an interest in the dramatic arts to participate in activities and workshops run by external facilitators.

Students seeking to expand their drama skills, be creative, build confidence, engage in group and problem solving, team building skills, as well as improve their public speaking, are encouraged to enrol in Drama Club.

Staff

The extra-curricular drama program is staffed by specialist teachers from within the school. Staff participation is voluntary, and these amazing people give up their personal time to engage in rehearsals, workshops and performances.

All extra-curricular activities in The Arts have a Master in Charge of the specific activity. The Master-in-Charge is responsible for overseeing the management of the program. Individual directors manage their ensembles and participate in discussions regarding event management and scheduling, and management of ensemble attendance.

In 2026, the Drama Club staff are:

- Vassy Cotsiopoulos – Master in Charge
- Craig Berry – Program Assistant

Expectations of Participants

Attendance

All extra-curricular drama staff maintain attendance rolls. Students enrolled in drama activities are expected to attend rehearsals on a weekly basis.

The process for absence from a rehearsal/event is as follows:

- **Illness** – students who are absent from school due to illness should contact the Drama Club MIC via email on the day of absence.
- **School approved excursion** – notification of the absence due to the school excursion must be given via email to the relevant ensemble conductor at least one week prior to the scheduled rehearsal or Drama Club commitment.

Each extra-curricular drama activity is semester long. At the end of each semester, parents of students seeking to discontinue in the program should notify the MIC via email.

Parents of students seeking to withdraw during the year must contact the Director of Cultural Activities. Written advice from a parent regarding the reason for withdrawal is required.

Rehearsals

Rehearsals for Drama occurs once per week.

In 2026, weekly rehearsals take place on Thursday afternoon from 3:00pm to 4:30pm in the Innovation Studio commencing from 16 July until 12 November 2026.

Students should check their rehearsal times at the beginning of the semester to avoid clashes with other activities when planning their participation in various school activities. If a clash arises during the year, students must contact both MICs to try and negotiate a compromise that suits all parties and maximises opportunities for participation. If a compromise cannot be negotiated, then the relevant Director of Sport and Director of Cultural Activities will work together to resolve the issue.

Communication

Contacting Drama Club Staff

The best method to make initial contact with Drama Club staff is via email.

Staff	Email Address
Vassy Cotsiopoulos	vcots1@eq.edu.au
Craig Berry	Ceber0@eq.edu.au

Team App

The school has approved the use of Stack Team App (previously known as Team App), Showbie and email to maintain communication for all extra-curricular activities.

Letters, notices and information regarding performances and events are published via Team App. All participating students and their parents are required to sign up to the 'BSHS Drama Club' on Team App. It is essential that all students use their school email address – not their personal email address – when signing up to Team App.

Instructions for signing up on Stack Team App:

1. Download the app on your preferred device by searching for 'Stack Team App'.
2. Register for an account (or sign in if previously registered) with your full name (parents/carers use their personal email and students use EQ email only).
3. Select 'Find your Team/Club'.
4. Type in BSHS Drama Club and search.
5. Click on BSHS Drama Club (with the school logo).
6. Click on 'request to join this team's app'.
7. Select the relevant group: parents/guardians select the relevant parent/guardian group/s in the correct year, students select the relevant student group/s in the correct year.
8. Parents/guardians need to put their child's name in the access request message, so we know who we are approving. Occupation and employer details are not required. Click on 'send'. We will go through and approve requests on a regular basis at the start of term.
9. Please ensure that you have selected to receive notifications and emails so that when time sensitive information is sent, you will receive it in a timely manner.

Showbie

Students use the app, Showbie, to access learning resources for rehearsals. Drama Club directors will advise access codes at the start of each year.

Selection Policy

Financial Eligibility

In order for a student to audition/trial and be accepted to participate in any extra-curricular activity, parents must be up to date with payment of all school levies and subject fees or meet the payment plan requirements. Further queries should be directed to the school finance department.

Registration

To express interest in the Drama Club Program, students are asked to complete an EOI survey that will be posted to StudentNet in Term 2.

Newly enrolled students to the school seeking to apply for the Drama Club Program outside of the standard audition timelines are to make contact with the Extra-Curricular Office via culturalevents@brisbaneshs.eq.edu.au to confirm availability.

Levies

All students participating in the Drama Club program are expected to pay the annual participation levy. This levy covers expenses such as workshops and resources.

In 2026 the non-refundable Drama Club levy is \$50.00.

Please pay upon receipt of the invoice for this activity. Payment plans can be arranged; please contact our Accounts Management Officer, Ms Kirsten Jeffery on (07) 3291 4106 or email accountsmanagement@brisbaneshs.eq.edu.au to discuss options.

Contact and Dealing with Concerns

Parents can raise concerns with any member of our staff. Where possible, speak directly to the person with whom you have the concern. To make an appointment to see a teacher, please contact the school office by phone on (07) 3291 4111 or by email to admin@brisbaneshs.eq.edu.au.

In the first instance, any concerns regarding the Drama Club program should be directed to the Drama Club MIC, Ms Vassy Cotsiopoulos, on (07) 3291 4111 or by email to vcots1@eq.edu.au.

Where issues may be of a more sensitive or serious nature, the following staff members can be contacted where relevant.

Director of Cultural Activities	Ms Gabrielle Quin – gmqui2@eq.edu.au
Head of Extra-Curricular & Activities	Mrs Leisa McGiffin– lmcgi9@e.edu.au
Guidance Officer – Year 7 & Year 10	Mrs Helen Wittman – hwitt5@eq.edu.au
Guidance Officer – Year 8 & Year 12	Ms Bianca Sommerville – bsomm4@eq.edu.au
Guidance Officer – Year 9 & Year 11	Ms Carly Simpson – csimp100@eq.edu.au
Guidance Officer	Miss Tia Perchard – tperc11@eq.edu.au
Deputy Principal – Year 7 – 8	Mr Matthew Thornton – mjtho4@eq.edu.au
Deputy Principal – Year 9 – 10	Mr Clinton Sheild – cshie35@eq.edu.au
Deputy Principal – Year 11 – 12	Miss Natalie Coleman – ndcol0@eq.edu.au

We look forward to your child participating in the Drama Club program.

Gabrielle Quin
Director of Cultural Activities