



st Columba's
College

CO-CURRICULAR MUSIC & DRAMA PROGRAM

WHY STUDY MUSIC?

MATHS LANGUAGE HISTORY PHYSICAL SCIENCE

Music is Mathematical

Music is rhythmically based on the subdivisions of time into fractions, which must be done instantaneously, not worked out on paper.

Music is a Language

Most of the terms are in Italian, German or French, and the notation is certainly not English, but a highly developed shorthand that uses symbols to represent ideas. The semantics of music is the most complete and universal language.

Music is History

Music reflects the time and environment of its creation, even producing feelings and emotions of its country and culture of origin.

Music is Physical Education

Music requires fantastic coordination of fingers, hands, arms, lips, cheeks and facial muscles, in addition to great control of the diaphragm, back, stomach and chest muscles, which respond instantly to the sound the ear hears and the mind interprets.

Music is a Science

Music is a Science that is exact, specific and demands precise acoustics. A conductor's full score is a graph which indicates frequencies, intensities, volume changes, melody, and harmony all at once and with the most exact control of time.

Music is all these things, but most of all, Music is Art. It inspires imagination and expression, transforming technically difficult techniques into humanism, feeling and emotion. Music is one thing science cannot duplicate.

ST COLUMBA'S COLLEGE MUSIC PROGRAM

The Music Department at St Columba's College has a long history of providing students with a high quality music program. The College provides all students with the opportunity to learn a musical instrument and also participate in the many ensembles operating within the College.

The Music Department encourages students in all year levels to be actively involved in a wide range of musical activities. All students are given the opportunity to:

- Enrol in Private Music Lessons within the College
- Join the numerous school choirs, orchestras, concert and jazz bands
- Perform in Musical productions (with St Bernard's College)
- Perform at Assemblies, College Masses, Recitals and Events
- Perform at the Spring Music Concert, Soirées and Festivals
- Complete music examinations such as AMEB and ANZCA
- Progress to advanced music studies through VCE Music

Students who learn a musical instrument or sing in a choir develop self-confidence, responsibility, teamwork, self-esteem and, above all, an enjoyment of lifelong musical appreciation. Students in private lessons will have the opportunity to enrol in external exams and learn instrumental or vocal techniques that will be applied in ensemble and solo performances.

Students wishing to participate in Private Music Lessons have several lesson types to choose from, including individual lessons, group lessons (two or three students together, available upon application & approval) and group theory classes.

Private Music Fees

Private Music Fees are separate to Annual Tuition Fees and are charged each term. Please see the table below for lesson types and rates.

Lesson Type	30 MINUTES	45 MINUTES	60 MINUTES
Individual Lesson	\$420	\$630	\$840
Group Lesson	\$210 (Speech & Drama Years 7 & 8 students only)	\$280 (Years 7 & 8 students only)	
AMEB Theory Lesson		\$90 (VCE music students free)	

Performing Arts Uniform

It is a requirement for all students undertaking private music lessons or joining one of the many College ensembles to wear the Performance Uniform (which consists of the College uniform navy/pale blue stripe pants and white blouse) at all Music events. The uniform can be purchased from Noone Imagewear.

INSTRUMENTS

Students may choose to study one or more of the following instruments via private music lessons:

- Cello
- Viola
- Violin
- Bass Guitar
- Guitar
- Clarinet
- Flute
- Oboe
- Saxophone
- Euphonium
- French Horn
- Trombone
- Trumpet
- Tuba
- Drums
- Percussion
- Piano*
- Voice*
- Theory #

* These classes are only available as individual lessons - no group lesson option available

Theory classes run as weekly group sessions



AMEB Theory Classes

To assist music reading and musicianship, music students are encouraged to enrol in theory classes, which are held at lunchtime. Students are placed into appropriate groups depending on their theory skills and knowledge. Students may also enter AMEB (Australian Music Examination Board) theory examinations. Theory classes for VCE Music Students are offered free of charge.

ENSEMBLES

There are numerous ensembles operating within the College and this additional tuition is offered free of charge. It is a requirement that students undertaking private Music lessons or VCE Music Performance participate in at least one Core Ensemble*.

Membership to the Core Ensemble relative to their instrument is a priority, with auditioned and small ensembles highly recommended as an additional source of tuition in group and individual music skills.



Core Ensembles	Small Ensembles	Auditioned Ensembles
Junior Choir Senior Choir Intermediate Concert Band Senior Concert Band Intermediate String Ensemble Senior String Ensemble Guitar Ensemble	Brass Ensemble Clarinet Ensemble Flute Ensemble Percussion Ensemble String Quartet # Saxophone Ensemble	Chamber Choir Jazz Band Rock Band

Invitation only

Timetables for these ensembles will be published in IONA and SEQTA Notices at the beginning of the school year. Please note ensembles can take place before and after school as well as during lunchtime.

*Students with clashing extra-curricular activities, or where a spot is not available within a Core Ensemble, will be given Small Ensemble options to fulfil their ensemble participation in consultation with their instrumental teacher.

ST COLUMBA'S COLLEGE SPEECH AND DRAMA PROGRAM

As many of our interactions become increasingly virtual, it is important that students learn to present themselves with confidence in a 'real world' sense. Being a skilled communicator is an asset that will serve an individual both within school and beyond.

The lessons are tailored to develop students' fluency, clarity and confidence in oral communication; reading aloud, speaking verse, acting, improvisation and public speaking, through activities that are fun and engaging. The students' abilities are enhanced through a variety of experiences including oral language, literature and drama.

Acting and drama games are also encouraged to allow students to express a range of emotions and encourage them to understand and deal with feelings they may be experiencing.

Private Speech and Drama can be undertaken as a one-on-one program tailored to an individual student's needs or in small groups of 2 or 3 students (for Year 7 & 8 students upon application and approval).

Students are encouraged to undertake Australian Music Examination Board (AMEB) examinations. These provide accreditation for the student and act as a focus for the year's work. Teachers will notify parents and carers as to the desirability of such an examination, or please feel free to contact the teacher to discuss the option.

Opportunities to perform are available at concerts throughout the year. Students are also encouraged to participate in the Drama Club for enjoyment and to develop their performance skills.



CO-CURRICULAR DRAMA OPPORTUNITIES

Drama Club

Drama Club is a great way to be expressive and have fun. Open to all students and levels of ability, it enables students to interact, play and make some drama!

Junior Drama Production

Years 7 to 9 students are encouraged to participate in the annual Junior Production. It is a great opportunity for students to 'tread the boards,' boost their performance experience, extend their acting craft and have some fun.

Senior Drama Production

This is an opportunity for students in Years 10 to 12 to nourish their theatrical side and take part in the staging of a play. Performed biannually, students can be involved in a variety of ways, including acting, directing, backstage, sound design and hair & makeup. Students learn the skills required to create a theatre production from performing to designing and constructing sets.

Musical

The annual St Columba's College and St Bernard's College co-produced Musical invites students from Years 7 to 12 to audition. Students will develop their ability to dance, sing and act. As well as gaining performance experience, students develop teamwork and problem-solving skills, becoming part of the 'musical family' and making memories that last a lifetime. Students also have the opportunity to be part of the Backstage Crew for the Musical, assisting with lighting, sound and staging.



For further information please contact the Performing Arts Office on 9331 9121 or email performingarts@columba.vic.edu.au