



**Welcome to Term 4
of the Children's Music Program.
Classes start Monday 19th October 2020!**

Term dates

Monday 19th October - Friday 11th December 2020

Please see the link on CMP webpage for Term 4 timetable

Why is music education important during a Pandemic?

Being 7 months into a pandemic that has changed life as we know it here in Australia, parents are faced with constant decisions on what is safe, what is healthy, what is beneficial in this quickly changing landscape.

Thankfully the choice of enrolling children in music lessons this term is an easy one. In what we consider "normal" circumstance music education has been proven over and over to have incredible results for children. In times of crisis and challenges like we have experienced this year, the simple act of learning an instrument, singing, reading music, the routine of practice, learning how to be part of a group ensemble, the confidence that comes with growing a skill are quietly powerful tools.



Over the past several years there has been a focus on how important music education is to children's developing brains.

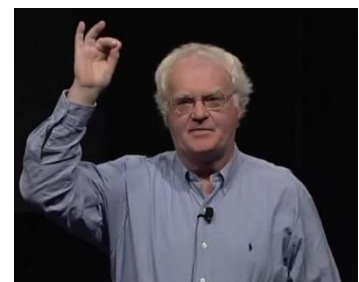
Dr Anita Collins at Bigger Better Brains explains it succinctly here:

<https://youtu.be/LVTo10QuzyE>

Yet perhaps an even more important reason for learning music in 2020 is that music brings us JOY!

The late Richard Gill OAM expanded on music benefits and the happiness it brings to children in this phenomenal talk in 2011: "Music is worth teaching for its own sake, it is worth teaching because it is good, it is worth teaching because it empowers children spectacularly!" <https://youtu.be/HeRus3NVbwE>

Photo Source Richard Gill TEDx Talks



Music education is more important now than ever!

This past year has been unprecedented, extreme fires for months, floods and then the ongoing chaos and stress of Covid-19.

Understandably many adults are having a challenging time over this past year, with fear of illness, loss of loved ones, unemployment stress, financial challenge and illness itself resulting in ongoing chaos and uncertainty. Imagine how this year has felt to our children....it must seem so enormous to their little world. While adults have been challenged by missing out on

social gatherings, outings, and the restrictions of life as we knew it, imagine what this felt like to our littlest people.

It is so important during this time of challenge to fill ourselves and our children up with as much goodness as possible. To be intentional about feeling hopeful and finding things to be excited about.

Music education gives children the opportunity to feel happy, hopeful and focussed on learning.

Music is a truly magical, exciting, challenging and intensely rewarding activity for children. Learning how to play or sing favourite songs gives children a sense of accomplishment.

We don't know how much longer our world will remain uncertain, we do know that right now with extra time at home it is the perfect time to learn and improve skills in music.

Group music lessons are a wonderful way to add fun, safe interaction into your children's routine.

WE ARE A COVID SAFE BUSINESS



The Children's Music Program at Central Coast Conservatorium offers face to face classes with a focus on COVID-19 safety.

The health and safety of our students, families, and staff while providing quality music education is of utmost importance.

We have the following procedures in place:

- *We closely monitor daily updates and recommendations from the NSW Health department*
- *We maintain 1.5metre physical distance during the class with boxes marked on the floor for clear recognition of the space needed*
- *Seats, instruments, light switches and doorknobs are sanitised after each lesson*
- *We ask that staff and students participate in thorough and frequent hand-washing*
- *Hand sanitisation is required for every student and parent before the lesson*
- *Staff, students and families are asked to not attend the Central Coast Conservatorium of Music if they experience fever or any COVID-19 symptoms.*

For the past 37 years we have seen how music education benefits children, we experience the joy on a daily basis.

Our wonderful teachers, Joanne, Mandy and Melissa look forward to seeing you in class starting week 2 of term!

Nicky Castle
Children's Music Program Co-ordinator
Central Coast Conservatorium of Music
Phone: 4324 7477

Stay up to date with news and events, just LIKE and follow us on social media
Facebook Childrens Music Program
Facebook Central Coast Conservatorium of Music
Instagram cccmusicgosford