PROSPECTUS 2027

Central Coast Conservatorium School Band Program

Central Coast Conservatorium Of Music

Your child's musical journey starts here!



Central Coast Conservatorium | 02 4324 7477 | smp@cccmusic.nsw.edu.au

WELCOME

Why join the band?

Musical Benefits

- Develop instrumental skills and musical understanding.
- Learn to listen, keep time and play as part of an ensemble.
- Experience the satisfaction of making music together.
- Build performance skills and confidence.

Learning/Thinking Benefits

- Teaches that effort and practice lead to results.
- Builds goal-setting, discipline and time management skills.
- Supports memory, concentration and active listening.
- Develops coordination and multitasking.
- Encourages problem-solving and resilience.

Personal Benefits

- Build confidence and self-expression.
- Gain a sense of achievement and belonging.
- Encourages perseverance when things are challenging.
- Celebrates achievement through performance.
- Helps students discover new talents and interests.

Social Benefits

- Make new friends and connections.
- Learn teamwork, cooperation and responsibility.
- Develop communication and listening skills.
- Learn how individuals help the whole group succeed.
- Build pride in being part of something bigger than yourself.

And perhaps the biggest benefit of all... It's fun!

Making music with friends, preparing for performances, sharing the excitement of playing together creates memories that last well beyond the school years.

"Music education helps wire a child's brain well and effectively and it does it permanently. And there's 3 really big areas. There's phonological skills, aural perception and language skills... You want better literacy scores, do some music, it's absolutely vital."

Dr. Anita Collins
https://www.anitacollinsmusic.com.au/

THE PROGRAM

What will your child do?

No experience is needed, for your child or for you. Everyone starts as a beginner together. Music helps develop the neural pathways that support learning, in band, in the classroom and beyond.

1

Learn your instrument

Weekly small group lesson

With a specialist teacher, your child attends a lesson that is 20-30 minutes in length (depending on group size) during the school day. They learn alongside other children from their band level who play the same instrument.



2

Play together

Weekly band rehearsal

One rehearsal a week, led by one of our experienced conductors. This is where the fun happens with everyone playing together! Your child develops teamwork, listening skills and confidence as they bring the music to life.



3

Share your music

Performances

Your child plays at school events, joins other Central Coast schools for Band Day Out in the middle of the year, and finishes the year on stage at BandFest. Training Bands generally have their first performance in Term 2 which is an exciting event to look forward to!



How it all works together

Each week your child learns new skills during their small group lesson and then puts those skills into practice with the full band. As the year progresses they build confidence, develop friendships and work towards exciting performances with their school band.

THE PROGRAM

What will your child learn?

From the first notes to exciting performance opportunities, the School Band Program gives your child a clear progression pathway, with plenty of ways to extend their learning.

Training Band

Year 1 of your band journey



- Learn the basics of your instrument
- Develop music reading skills
- Play together as part of a band
- Build confidence and make new friends
- Take part in school performances

Progressing as skills grow

Concert Band

Year 2+ of your band journey



- Build on your skills with more advanced music
- Develop greater independence and musicianship
- Perform at school and at external events
- Work as part of a larger ensemble
- Take on leadership opportunities

Discover new possibilities

High School Band

Continue your musical journey



- Perform more advanced repertoire
- Join High School extension ensembles
- HSC Music success
- Audition opportunities
- Pathways to tertiary study and professional music careers

Extend your learning

There are many opportunities to take your musical journey even further.

Musicianship Classes

- Build music reading and theory skills
- Support your band learning
- Be ahead for high school
- Prepare for exams and HSC studies

Individual Tuition

- Personalised tuition
- Targeted learning
- Excel in band
- Complete exams and gain qualifications

Scholarships

- Audition for the schools scholarship program
- Audition for advanced competitive scholarships

Extension ensembles

- Primary Wind Ensemble
- Senior Wind Ensemble
- Central Coast Youth Orchestra
- Chamber Ensembles
- Participate in performances on the Central Coast and beyond
- Work at a more advanced level with challenging repertoire

Future Pathways

- Sydney Symphony PlayerLink
- NSW Regional Youth Orchestra
- Tertiary study
- Professional music careers

GETTING STARTED

What will your child need?

An instrument

- Most families hire, which is popular for beginners, and a list of hire companies is below. (Please note that drums and bass guitar must be purchased as they are not available for hire).
- Central Coast Instrument Hire – Woodwind and Brass instrument hire Central Coast.
- Musicorp Australia | Musical Instrument Rental and Hire for Individuals and Schools.

A music stand for home practice

Music (Details are sent before you start)

- Training Band - Band Book (included in your enrolment).
- Concert Band - Display Folder.

Your first 10 weeks: what to expect

Starting something new is exciting, and it can also be tiring. Here is what most families find.

Weeks 1 to 3: the fun start.
Your child picks up their instrument, learns their first notes and meets their band. Expect noise at home, and lots of pride.

Weeks 4 to 6: the wobble.
The novelty fades, and getting up early gets harder. This is normal. It happens to almost every new band family, and it passes. If your child says they want to stop, please talk to us first. A small change can make a big difference, and we'd rather help than lose them.

Weeks 7 to 10: it clicks.
The band starts to sound like music. Your child can play a real tune, and the first performance is not too far away.

Making mornings easier

- Pack the instrument, music and water bottle the night before.
- Put rehearsal mornings on the family calendar and set a regular wake-up time.
- Share lifts with another band family.
- Keep practice short and regular: 10 minutes a day beats an hour on Sunday.
- Celebrate small wins. Ask your child to play you their favourite piece.
- A good breakfast on rehearsal mornings helps.

Join with a friend
Children who start with a friend are more likely to keep going, and it's a lot more fun.

Need help?
If mornings are hard, practice isn't happening, or your child seems unhappy, contact us on 02 4324 7477 or smp@cccmusic.nsw.edu.au. Early is best, and there's no judgement.

GETTING STARTED

Every great musician starts with a first lesson. We're here to help your child take that first step.

How to enrol

1

Attend your school instrument demonstrations

Choose an instrument. Pick at least three options in case your first choice is not available.

2

Decide to hire or buy

Most families hire. Drums and bass guitar must be purchased.

3

Complete the online enrolment form

What does it cost?

We believe music education should be affordable for everyone.

Our School Band Package is $1,118 per year, per child. That's $35 a week for 1.5 hours of music making, or around $23 an hour.

That includes:

- A minimum of 32 band rehearsals: the whole band making music together for an hour.
- A minimum of 32 small-group tutorials with a specialist teacher on your child's instrument, usually 30 minutes each (depending on group size).
- The music your child will perform.
- Admission to Band Day Out and BandFest, where students from all our schools come together to play, meet other kids who play their instrument, and make new friends.
- 2 audience tickets for each event to watch your child perform.

Payment:

- You commit and pay per term, not all at once. Payment plans are available.
- Enrolment/resource pack: $90 | Term 1: $257 | Term 2: $257 | Term 3: $257 | Term 4: $257

The enrolment/resource pack includes your child's music and event entry for the year. For any enquiries call 02 4324 7477 or email smp@cccmusic.nsw.edu.au.

GOOD TO KNOW

Frequently asked questions

What if my child has never played?

That is fine. Everyone starts as a beginner together.

What if my child cannot practise every day?

Every family finds practice hard at times. Regular practice is the only way to build the muscle memory needed to play confidently, so we recommend 10 minutes a day, 4–5 days a week, to start with.

What if my child wants to change instruments?

Our program is sequential: each week builds on the skills taught in previous weeks. Students who switch part-way through the year miss the foundational skills for their new instrument and can struggle to keep up. It can also affect the balance of the ensemble. For this reason, students are expected to stay on their chosen instrument for the full school year.

If your child is having genuine difficulties, please contact us early. Many concerns can be resolved with extra support, instrument adjustments or new practice strategies, and we are happy to discuss other options.

Students who want to learn a different instrument are encouraged to switch at the start of the next school year, when they can begin the program from the beginning alongside their peers.

What if my child misses a class or rehearsal?

We understand that students occasionally miss lessons due to illness, school commitments or family circumstances.

As our tutorials are delivered in small groups and band rehearsals involve the entire ensemble, individual make-up sessions are not possible. However, our teachers will support your child to catch up on any missed learning and ensure they are able to continue progressing confidently with the rest of the band.

What if my child wants to stop?

Band is a one-year team commitment. While a student may discontinue at any time, the fee equivalent to the end of the term in which a student discontinues is payable.

Questions?

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Central Coast Conservatorium Of Music

Join hundreds of Central Coast families making music together.

For more than a decade the Central Coast Conservatorium has partnered with schools across the region to provide outstanding music education.

Today our Schools Program proudly works with schools including:

Central Coast Adventist School
Central Coast Rudolf Steiner School
Gosford East Public School
Gosford Public School
Holgate Public School
Kariong Public School
Lisarow Public School
Narara Public School
Our Lady Star of the Sea Catholic Primary School
Point Clare Public School
St Edward's Catholic College
St John the Baptist Catholic Primary School
St John Fisher Catholic Primary School
St Joseph's Catholic College
St Patrick's Catholic Primary School
Umina Public School
Valley View Public School

We'd love to welcome your family too.

NSW GOVERNMENT

REGISTERED CHARITY acnc.gov.au/charityregister

NEW SOUTH WALES REGIONAL CONSERVATORIUMS

Bendigo Bank