



the music education centre

WHAT LESSONS DO WE LEARN WITH MUSIC?

For many the main inspiration for taking up an instrument is the dream of being able to make music, either by themselves or as a group. Indeed this is a great reason to start lessons – however as parents there are many other arguably more important benefits the music lessons can offer our children.

If you jump online you are bound to find lots of research that demonstrates the value of music as a part of an overall education. But when it comes to you and your children, how relevant is that really?

At the Music Education Centre, we believe that music is a tool and the education is our primary goal. Whilst we are proud to see so many of our students go on to achieve great success in music, by far the majority of our students will only take music itself to an intermediate level. Even so, the lessons that a student learns through music can make a real difference in their overall development and education.

As an educational activity, music is one of the only ones that teaches using all three primary learning styles simultaneously. This naturally makes a difference to brain development which in turn flows through into other areas of learning. But there are other ways to more easily see how music lessons make a difference.

For some children, learning an instrument is their only opportunity to be trained in a one on one environment, and as a result their self-esteem and confidence are greatly influenced. Add to this the additional opportunities of performances and examinations to gain external recognition, and it is easy to see how that can affect both their personal and educational development.

Whilst motivation levels do vary over time, and especially when students move into more complicated material, the long-term benefits of learning are best achieved with on-going and regular tuition. As parents we need to be prepared to help motivate our children through the more difficult times – after all – what are we telling them if they can just give up on an activity when things get a bit harder?

Over the last 34 years we believe we have made a positive difference in the lives of thousands of people. With the encouragement of our teachers, we hope that our students have gained tremendously valuable life skills that have repaid an untold return on the investment made into their musical education over the years. We look forward to seeing this continue in the future with all of those we are teaching this year, and hope you and your family really enjoy the opportunity to learn music!



NEW SPACES FOR DRUM LESSONS AVAILABLE

Over the last few years, we have seen an increasing popularity in lessons on the drums. As a result, for 2015 we have invested in additional equipment and engaged some more expert teachers so we can now offer lessons to more budding drummers than ever before.

Our one to one drum lessons are suitable for all ages from 7 years and over. Our lessons are not just for kids but adults too!

Lessons for adults are available to help YOU set your own goals!

Spaces are available at all three of our teaching locations, so call us today to book your time – **0800 89 39 39**

HAVE YOUR STATEMENT EMAILED EACH MONTH

Thank you to those students who have requested delivery of their lesson invoice/statement by email. If you would like yours also delivered electronically each month, please let us know by emailing lessons@musiceducation.co.nz giving your student name and we will set this up for you.

If you prefer to continue receiving your statement by post, you don't need to do anything.

EASTER HOLIDAYS

The Music Education Centre is closed on Statutory holidays. Therefore there will be no lesson on Friday 3rd April, nor Monday 6th April for the Good Friday/Easter Monday break. Saturday students should confirm their arrangements for lessons. Lessons usually continue as normal at our centre over school holidays (although there are no lessons for our Forte School of Music classes during that time).

MUSIC EXAMINATIONS:

Congratulations to the following students who have recently had examination successes. The students all passed their Trinity (London) exams, and learn with Music Education Centre piano teacher, Theresa Fourie.

Kea Churchill- Initial Grade with Distinction

Marissa Ogilvie- Initial Grade with Distinction

Troy Jellyman- Initial Grade with Merit

Molly Withell- Grade 1 with Merit

Sarang Yoon- Grade 1 with Merit

Jordan Blennerhassett- Grade 2 with Merit

PERFORMANCE AFTERNOON

At the Music Education Centre we believe that Performance plays an important role in a musical education. Therefore, we organise "Performance Afternoons" each term for all students to have the opportunity to appear on-stage in front of a supportive audience. Regardless of age, level, instrument or musical genre, all of our students are encouraged to perform and help develop their confidence, and presentation skills.

The first Performance Afternoon is scheduled for SUNDAY 29th MARCH. Booking lists will be put up in the waiting rooms of our North Shore and West Auckland Centres in the middle of March for you to book your performance time.

VENUE: - North Shore: Takapuna War Memorial Hall, The Strand, Takapuna
West Auckland: Tirimoana School Hall, Kokiri Street, Te Atatu
TIMES: - 1pm (West), 2pm and 3pm (North)

Please start planning with your teacher so you don't miss out. Admission is FREE for friends and family to come along and support.

SEE YOU THERE!!!

LESSON INVOICING

With so many new students starting lessons with us over the last month, we would like to clarify the way our lessons are charged.

INDIVIDUAL LESSONS – Music Education Centre and Ponsonby Intermediate School

Lessons are invoiced monthly in advance. Lesson fees are due for payment upon receipt of your invoice and should be paid in full. Lessons missed by the student cannot be made up nor refunded – however, adjustment (credits) to your account will be processed against the following month's invoice should your teacher have to miss a lesson for any reason.

INDIVIDUAL AND GROUP LESSONS – Music In Schools.

Lessons are invoiced on a term basis in advance. Lesson fees are due for payment before the start of each term and should be paid in full. Allowance is made for one lesson to be made up each term. If no lessons are missed, 1 additional lesson will be given in the last week of term and added to the following term's invoice.

FORTE SCHOOL OF MUSIC CLASSES FOR YOUNGER CHILDREN

Lessons are invoiced in 10 week blocks. There are no lessons in school holidays, and so each billing period often will overlap into the start of the following school term. Lesson fees should be paid in advance, although arrangement can be made to pay in 3 instalments. Lessons missed by students cannot be made up nor refunded, although homework information should be sent through so you can be made aware of the material covered in any lessons missed.

If you have queries on your account, please feel free to contact our office on 0800 89 39 93

DID YOU KNOW?

The Music Education Centre offers lessons through over 40 Primary and Intermediate schools all over Auckland. Students enrolled in our in-schools programme are also automatically enrolled at our centres so if you would like to learn another instrument not offered at your school, give us a ring on 0800 89 39 39 and we can see what times we have available for you.

With a team of over 90 teachers, on 15 different instruments on offer, we should be able to help, no matter what musical goals and dreams you hope to achieve.