



the music education centre

ARE YOU TEACHING YOUR CHILD TO BE A QUITTER?

Music learning is a long term process, and indeed there are times for all students when motivation drops and progress is challenging. However, when the going gets tough, it is important to look at the overall lessons children learn, especially if they are allowed to give up on something just because it is a little bit hard.

One of the greatest things about a musical education is the way that it teaches so many general life skills, and helps build the “whole person”. Parents almost always want the best for their children and indeed, music lessons are widely regarded as a great way to build confidence, self-discipline, and co-ordination. It is therefore surprising that some parents see the educational process of music in a different light to other areas of learning.

Just imagine a world where parents would say to their kids, “*if you’re finding school a bit hard – you don’t have to go anymore*”? This would teach the wrong lesson towards developing a good work ethic. Reinforcing the idea that it is ok to back out when things are difficult or just because you don’t feel like doing something sends the wrong message. Of course, providing external motivation for a child requires a great deal of effort on the parents’ behalf, and therefore rather than find a solution to the problem, some choose to take the easy way out, depriving their child of the long term benefits of learning music and demonstrating that it is ok to quit.

Worse still is when parents unintentionally encourage their children to give up. Whilst practice is an important tool to allow the best progress it is by no means the only way to measure musical ability or success. And yet, when parents see a student reluctant to practice sue to lower self-motivation at that time, they hand their child the exact recipe to be able to quit. “*If you don’t practice we’ll stop your lessons*”. This tells the student exactly what to do to get out of having to work over the challenges. Would you consider telling your student that they can get out of school if they don’t do their homework?

Music lessons should be fun, and students should enjoy learning an instrument, but as with any long-term project or relationship, there are ups and downs. The greatest reward with music is mastery, something that only comes after many years of work. Don’t let your child give up on the reward too soon – instead, give them the opportunity to learn that all good things take time, and that winners never leave the race until it is won!



TIPS FOR GETTING THE BEST FROM YOUR LESSON

Our teachers want to make sure that you get the full value from your lesson time with us.

Communication is an important ingredient in success, but please make sure that you allow some time at the end of your lesson to ask questions. Waiting until after your lesson has finished starts using the next student’s time. At the start of your lesson, please make sure you have everything ready to unpack and set up as quickly as possible. In some cases it may be possible to tune up before coming into your lesson, and of course please making sure you have washed your hands etc ahead of time.

Remember that lessons missed by students at our centres unfortunately cannot be made up nor refunded.

HAVE YOUR STATEMENT EMAILED EACH MONTH

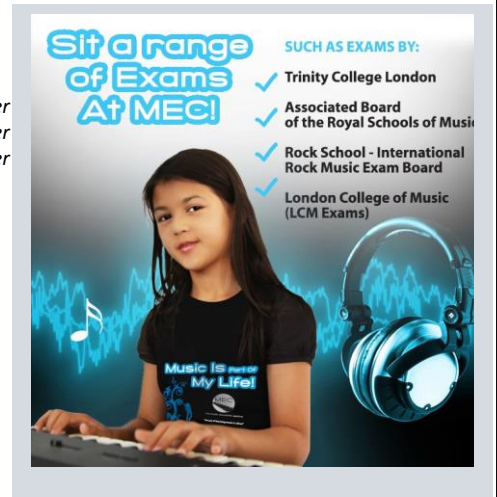
Thank you to those students who have requested delivery of their lesson invoice/statement by email. If you would like yours also delivered electronically each month, please let us know by emailing lessons@musiceducation.co.nz giving your student name and we will set this up for you. If you prefer to continue receiving your statement by post, you don’t need to do anything.

EXAMINATION RESULTS

The Music Education Centre is pleased to be able to offer students external examinations with some of the world's leading international music syllabuses. Congratulations to the following students who have recently had success in examinations over recent months.

FOUNDATION FOR MUSIC EDUCATION EXAMINATIONS

| | | |
|-------------------------------|--------|---------------------|
| Abigail Lai | Bronze | <i>Elena Reekie</i> |
| Robyn Ashton | Bronze | <i>Wendy Fowler</i> |
| Xavier Richard Courteau-Laing | Bronze | <i>Wendy Fowler</i> |
| Berenika Danuta Widera | Bronze | <i>Wendy Fowler</i> |
| Alfred Hoi Fan Liu | Bronze | <i>Elena Reekie</i> |
| Olivia Song En Chung | Bronze | <i>Elena Reekie</i> |
| Amber Adradi | Bronze | <i>Elena Reekie</i> |
| Ashden Jayden Brockelsby | Bronze | <i>Elena Reekie</i> |
| Caitlin Amelia King | Bronze | <i>Elena Reekie</i> |
| Halle Mcpherson | Bronze | <i>Elena Reekie</i> |
| Luca Smith Dos Santos | Bronze | <i>Elena Reekie</i> |
| Sanah Raniga | Bronze | <i>Elena Reekie</i> |
| Cohen James Mcardle Peterson | Bronze | <i>Elena Reekie</i> |
| Rory William Orman | Bronze | <i>Elena Reekie</i> |
| Lachlan James Orman | Silver | <i>Elena Reekie</i> |
| Andre Samotoi | Silver | <i>Elena Reekie</i> |
| Evangelina Clark | Silver | <i>Elena Reekie</i> |
| Natalie Raphael | Gold | <i>Wendy Fowler</i> |
| Alicia Liu | Gold | <i>Wendy Fowler</i> |
| Lucy Collett | Gold | <i>Wendy Fowler</i> |
| Jairus Vincent Joseph | Gold | <i>Elena Reekie</i> |
| Georgia Green | Gold | <i>Elena Reekie</i> |
| Charlotte Ng | Gold | <i>Elena Reekie</i> |
| Angela Braganza | Gold | <i>Wendy Fowler</i> |
| Zach Vujnovich | Gold | <i>Elena Reekie</i> |



TRINITY (LONDON) EXAMINATIONS

| | | |
|-----------------|--------------------------------|----------------------|
| Kjlin Donila | Grade 1 Piano | <i>Elena Reekie</i> |
| Daniel Breen | Grade 1 Piano | <i>Elena Reekie</i> |
| Yufei Sun | Grade 1 Piano with Merit | <i>Elena Reekie</i> |
| Jennifer Orman | Grade 2 Piano | <i>Elena Reekie</i> |
| Luka Popov | Grade 2 Piano with merit | <i>Elena Reekie</i> |
| Gabriel Lescano | Grade 3 Piano | <i>Elena Reekie</i> |
| Alina Reekie | Grade 2 Piano with Distinction | <i>Amanda Morley</i> |

WELCOME!

We would like to wish a very warm welcome to some of our new teachers joining us this term. On drums, we have AJ MacFarlane, who in addition to being an expert drummer holds a degree on Bass. Guitarist, Wei-Kai Shyu joins us after having been working for several years through one of the government funded music centres, and also on guitar we have Josh Krissansen, who is a qualified audio engineer. Re-joining our team this term we are also happy to see Petrus Fourie and Jun Park working with us once again.

HAVE YOU TOLD YOUR FRIENDS IN THE EASTERN SUBURBS ABOUT OUR EXCITING NEWS YET?

The Forte School of Music in Howick opens at the end of NEXT month. Why not check out the website? www.fortemusic.co.nz

DID YOU KNOW?

The Music Education Centre was incorporated as a company in June 1981. Originally the "North Shore Music Education Centre" lessons were given from a rented house in Esmonde Road Takapuna and originally the centre specialised in piano accordion lessons. Piano and guitar were soon introduced and now our organisation offers lessons to just on 1500 students of all ages through 2 centres and 41 primary and intermediate schools all over Auckland.

Throughout the past 34 years, we have enjoyed seeing students develop through music with many moving on to take up both part-time and full time careers in music, in New Zealand and overseas.

