**Rationale**

These programs have been developed for students with a strong interest in and enthusiasm for the Performing Arts. Studies have shown that study of The Arts often helps students to achieve excellent academic results in other subject areas through the promotion of healthy study and practice habits and creative thinking. Study in The Arts also provides students the inclusion of a social group of like-minded peers.

Students are highly motivated and focused when they learn within and through an area of great personal interest. Their developing interest in the Arts is fostered and extended while continuing to provide them with a highly engaging and broad curriculum. Intensive and continuous learning in Music during Years 8 and 9 maximises student’s results in the senior years of schooling.

We focus on the learner as an individual, relishing in and extending their music skills, often using these to provide a context to strengthen learning experiences in other subjects. Learning takes place in a strong, energetic arts environment where students learn with other like-minded musically able students.

Students express themselves with confidence in these collaborative learning environments as they learn to think deeply and creatively. As the cohesive group of learners develops, they strongly identify with the Arts faculty and its programs throughout all their high school years.

**Aims**

The aim of the Music Excellence program is to help students develop the skills and knowledge that are vital for success as a modern musician. Students are challenged to develop their performance, composition and analysis skills through working closely with staff and industry professionals. Music students are encouraged to develop their skills on a main instrument/their voice and are encouraged to try new performance options including learning a second instrument, in solo, small ensemble and larger ensemble performance groups. They are challenged to compose music, as well as listen to and experience music in a range of contemporary and traditional styles. They also develop an excellent knowledge of musical theory that allows them to excel in the study of music through their high school careers.

**Program Information**

**Entry Requirements**

Complete your expression of interest for your preferred signature programs on the enrolment form during the enrolment process.

Following receipt of your enrolment and application for one or more of these programs, the school will assess previous grades in class, and in specialist Arts programs. Students will be selected on the basis of their achievement, behaviour and effort in general school subjects, achievement, effort and behaviour in The Arts, extra-curricular involvement and recommendations/references from teachers/conductors.
Assessment and Reporting

In Music Excellence, students are assessed in five areas:

- Knowledge and Understanding
- Performing
- Composing
- Analysing
- Reflecting

Programme Overview

As part of the Music Excellence program your child will be challenged to compose, perform and analyse music. Students in the Music Excellence program are challenged to exceed all expectations in Music through:

- Intensive workshops with guest musicians and ‘musician in residence’ programs. The Corinda music department partners with institutions such as the Queensland Symphony Orchestra and Musica Viva to develop our young musicians.
- Music technology including studio recording and composition software. Students engage with song writing in popular and traditional genres and composing for moving image.
- Live performance opportunities for the school and wider community. Music Excellence students are supported to provide entertainment for school events and junior assemblies.
- Australian Music Examination Board Theory of Music Exams. Students achieve at a minimum of grade 1 in year 8 and grade 2 in year 9 in the AMEB Theory of Music examinations. Students are expected to achieve higher grades in AMEB where previous experience is present.

The units and program provided below are an indication only. The program is tailored from year to year to match the interests and needs of the learners enrolled in the program. The units of work also change depending on the expertise of Musicians in Residence who work with the teacher and students.

Please note that participation in the Music Excellence program is a two-year commitment. Students are required to complete both years of the course before changing to other elective areas.

Students in the Music Excellence class study the same core subjects as other year 8 students. Students continue to work in the 8 key Learning Areas within a curriculum framed around the Essential Learning’s of the Queensland Curriculum and reporting Framework (QCAR). Music is studied in greater breadth and depth than experienced by the other year 8 students. This class also prepares for the AMEB Theory exams, which the class will sit at school in Semester two.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year 8</th>
<th>Year 9</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Term 1</strong></td>
<td>“Takin’ It To The Stage” - Performance 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Term 2</strong></td>
<td>“Takin’ It To The Stage” - Performance 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Term 3</strong></td>
<td>“Live Under Lights” – Performance 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Students study health and nutrition this term. No Music Excellence classes.</td>
<td>“Live Under Lights” – Performance 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Term 4</strong></td>
<td>“Song-writing with Music Technology” – Composition 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>“Finding Your Sound” – Composition 3</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Costs**

Be aware that an extra materials charge must be paid to participate in excellence programs. In the case of the Music Signature students, it covers the cost of the AMEB theory exams.

**Participation requirements**

- We expect students to be committed, motivated and hard working in all their subjects. Their strong interest and commitment to excellence in Arts activities will have a positive impact on all areas of their learning.

- Students must ensure they remain eligible for school representation completing all assessment within negotiated schedules. See Corinda SHS’s School Representation Policy for further details.

- It is a privilege to be part of this program. Misbehaviour may result in expulsion from the Music Excellence program.

- Students are required to be part of the program until the end of year 9.

**Pathways in Senior Schooling**

The range of options available for further study in The Arts are outlined the diagrams below.