

Dear Macleod College Music Academy Parents and Students,

I hope you are well and had an enjoyable break.

The Education Department has put out some new guidelines that will affect us in the Music Academy for the coming weeks.

Woodwind and brass instruments are not permitted in school unless where required for essential assessments (VCE).

No choir, singing in the classroom, or face-to-face voice lessons are permitted unless where required for essential assessments (VCE).

There is also a directive that instrumental teachers must not work across multiple schools.

This creates some challenges for instrumental lessons and ensembles.

We are still working through the details of what can and can't run but our instrumental teachers and ensemble leaders will provide more information as it comes to hand.

Online lessons will continue for those who are still learning remotely until they return to school.

Those that have returned to school will still receive instrumental lessons, but out of necessity they will look different for the next little while.

6th - 9th of October

Remote lessons as per last term.

12 - 26th of October

For years 8-10 lessons to continue remotely.

For Prep to Y7 and VCE students lessons will be conducted as a recorded video lesson, with set tasks, recordings submitted, feedback and assessment. Videos will be recorded during lesson time by the teacher, and viewed by students out of school hours.

Some students will receive lessons outside of school hours remotely, but only if this is possible for both teacher and student.

For some students there will be a mixture of both.

Oct 26th onwards

From the 26th, lessons for all students will be conducted either via video lesson, or will take place remotely out of school hours.

A small portion of students may receive face-to-face lessons but this will be dependent on a number of factors, including their instrument and whether Macleod College is their teacher's base school. These students will be notified by their instrumental teacher.

Ensemble rehearsals will continue online for now. Those that don't include Woodwind/Brass/Voice may be able to run face-to-face in the coming weeks and if this is the case students will be notified by their ensemble leaders.

This is difficult news but it won't last forever. Remember to check in with each other, encourage each other, and to remind each other that there are brighter times to come, where we will all be able to make music together again.

Kind regards,

Jim Griffiths
Director of Music