



VCE MUSIC

INFORMATION GUIDE



Kilbreda College

VCE MUSIC PERFORMANCE INFORMATION GUIDE

RATIONALE

Music is uniquely an aural art form and its essential nature is abstract. It is a complex socio-cultural phenomenon that exists distinctively in every culture and is a basic expression and reflection of human experience. It allows for the expression of the intellect, imagination and emotion, and the exploration of values, and fosters an understanding of continuity and change. Active participation in music develops musicianship through creating, performing, responding and analysing, and fosters an understanding of other times, places, cultures and contexts. Students develop ideas about the ways in which music can interact with other art forms, technology and design, and other fields of endeavour.

UNIT 1

Area of Study 1 Performing

In this area of study, students focus on practical music-making and performance skills by preparing and performing solo and ensemble works, one of which should be associated with a music approach studied in Area of Study 3. They develop their individual instrumental and musicianship skills through regular practice and develop group skills through rehearsal and performance with other musicians.

Area of Study 2 Creating

In this area of study, students create a folio of brief creative responses. At least one exercise should demonstrate their understanding of musical organisation and characteristics of at least one work selected for study in Area of Study 3. They develop appropriate methods of recording and preserving their music. Students reflect on their creative organisation by documenting their approach to creating the music, and identifying and describing their use of music elements, concepts and compositional devices.

Area of Study 3 Analysing and responding

Students analyse the treatment of specific music elements, concepts and compositional devices in music that have been created using different approaches to musical organisation. They develop skills in identifying how music is organised and the components of this organisation. They develop skills in aural analysis and respond to a range of excerpts in different styles and traditions. They develop their auditory discrimination and memory skills through identifying, recreating and documenting music language concepts, for example chords, scales, melodic and rhythmic patterns.

UNIT 2

Area of Study 1 Performing

In this area of study, students prepare and perform solo and group works, one of which should demonstrate their understanding of effect in music. They convey meaning and/or emotion to an audience through practical music-making and further development of performance skills.

Area of Study 2 Creating

In this area of study, students assemble a folio of brief responses using a variety of sound sources demonstrating their understanding of the possibilities of creating effect in music. They develop appropriate methods of recording and preserving their music. Students reflect on their responses by documenting their approach to creating effect in their music, and identifying and describing their use of music elements, concepts and compositional devices.

Area of Study 3 Analysing and responding

In this area of study, students develop skills in analysing how effect can be created in music and how the treatment of elements of music, concepts and compositional devices contribute to this effect. They respond to a range of excerpts in different styles and traditions, building understanding of how effect is realised. They continue to develop their auditory discrimination and memory skills through identifying, recreating and recording common musical language concepts and their effect, for example chords, scales and melodic and rhythmic patterns.

CAREER OPTIONS

- Audiovisual Technician
- Conductor
- Instrumental Tutor
- Music Director
- Musician
- Performing Arts
- Sound Technician
- Stage Manager
- Teacher

UNIT 3 - MUSIC CONTEMPORARY PERFORMANCE (2024 ONLY)

Area of Study 1 Performing

In this area of study, students perform regularly in a variety of contexts and use these performances to explore and build on ways of developing technical skills and interpretation approaches relevant to the style(s) of the selected works. They investigate the possibilities of exhibiting personal voice by reimagining at least one existing work.

Area of Study 2 Analysing for performance

In this area of study, students focus on the processes of analysis and practices that they undertake to develop their performances. This includes investigating how interpretation and a sense of personal voice may be developed in performance. Research materials may include musical scores, recordings and live performances, texts, digital sources and critical discussion with other musicians.

Area of Study 3 Responding

In this area of study, students develop their understanding of the ways elements of music, concepts and compositional devices can be interpreted and/or manipulated in contemporary performance. They demonstrate this knowledge through aural analysis and comparison of the ways in which different performers have interpreted and/or reimagined works in performance.

UNIT 4 - MUSIC CONTEMPORARY PERFORMANCE (2024 ONLY)

Area of Study 1 Performing

In this area of study, students perform regularly in a variety of contexts and use these performances to consolidate their development of technical skills and interpretation approaches relevant to the style(s) of the selected works. They consolidate their approach to reimagining an existing work in performance.

Area of Study 2 Analysing for performance

In this area of study, students continue to focus on the processes of analysis and practices that they undertake to develop their performances, including approaches to reimagining an existing work. Students refine their understanding of how a sense of personal voice may be achieved in performance.

Area of Study 3 Responding

In this area of study, students continue to develop their understanding of the ways elements of music, concepts and compositional devices can be interpreted and/or manipulated in contemporary performance. They demonstrate this knowledge through aural analysis and comparison of the ways in which different performers have interpreted and/or reimagined works in performance.

UNIT 3 - MUSIC INQUIRY

Area of Study 1 Performing

In this area of study, students focus on performing, and composing/arranging music connected with a selected music style and/or creator. They use their knowledge and understanding gained in Areas of Study 2 and 3 to perform on any instrument(s) or sound source(s), and arrange/compose short works associated with the selected works studied in Area of Study 2.

Area of Study 2 Analysing for performance

In this area of study, students focus on at least two music works from different times and/or locations, investigating how the creator's treatment of music elements, concepts and compositional devices in one work may influence another work (or collection of minor works). They examine the contexts from which the two works emerged.

Area of Study 3 Responding

In this area of study, students focus on further development of listening skills. By responding to short music excerpts, they examine how music creators treat music elements, concepts and compositional devices across different times, styles and genres. Students develop an understanding of how creators and/or styles influence others and are able to identify commonalities and differences between musical approaches. Students respond orally and in writing to selected music excerpts across a range of styles, using appropriate music terminology. They develop skills in using musical evidence to formulate critical responses. Music excerpts will be selected from a wide range of music styles, locations and eras, including some for direct comparison of similarities and differences.

UNIT 4 - MUSIC INQUIRY

Area of Study 1 Performing

In this area of study, students focus on performing and composing/arranging music connected with their Area of Investigation from Area of Study 2. Students use their knowledge and understanding gained in Area of Study 2 to perform works and arrange/compose short works associated with the selected works studied in Area of Study 2. They explain how their work has been influenced by the selected music style and/or creator.

Area of Study 2 Analysing for performance

In this area of study, students focus on specific influences on their personal music making, understanding and context.

Students choose their own Area of Investigation. This may be:

- a style
- a performer
- a creator
- a musical genre.

Students analyse at least two works from their chosen Area of Investigation. They explore the treatment of music elements, concepts and compositional devices in these works and discuss how this treatment influences their own musical output. Students reflect on their personal context/background as they uncover and describe connections between the works and their own music making.

Area of Study 3 Responding

In this area of study, students focus on continuing to develop listening skills to identify commonalities and differences between musical approaches. By identifying how music creators treat music elements, concepts and compositional devices across different times, styles and genres, students develop an understanding of how creators and/or styles/cultural/social contexts influence other creators. Students respond orally and in writing to selected music excerpts across a range of styles, using appropriate music terminology. They develop skills in using musical evidence to substantiate their responses. Music excerpts will be selected from a wide range of music styles, locations, and eras, including some for direct comparison of similarities and differences.

To find out more information about VCE Music
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This flyer is correct as of July 2024, however may be subject to change.