

We love music.



Dear Parents and Caregivers,

At Belmont Christian College, we love music. Each day we encourage your children to grow in their love and appreciation of music. We are convinced of the many benefits of a quality music education, one that is developed through ensemble group performance.

As Creative Arts Coordinator (K-12), I am greatly encouraged by the research surrounding a structured Music Program. Neuroscientists have discovered that when a person plays **written music** in an **ensemble**, it's as if fireworks are going off in their mind, so rich is the experience. The holistic benefits of a quality music education are significant.

The research highlights three main benefits:

1

Lifelong Love of Music

"Music is part of what makes us human, and the joy of making music together is one of the great mysteries and pleasures of life. It's more important than ever for our children to discover the rich world of music for themselves."

Dr David Banney

Composer, Conductor, Music PhD and BCC String Tutor

2

Cognitive Development

"Music learning uses multiple areas and networks in the brain simultaneously... it is a discipline that slowly and effectively improves the cognitive capacity of the brain."

Dr Anita Collins

Neuromusical Educator - biggerbetterbrains.com

3

Wellbeing and Mental Health

"Music making has much to offer our understanding of the brain and the way its multiple systems can interact to produce benefits for mental health and social wellbeing."

The Benefits of Music for the Brain

Sarah J. Wilson, Melbourne School of Psychological Sciences, The University of Melbourne

Our Pathway to Musicianship

At Belmont Christian College, our approach to developing quality musicianship is first introduced through a structured singing method. This way of teaching, known as Kodály, commences in Kindergarten and forms the foundation of all music learning at the College. At this age, when children are ready, some families send their child to learn piano, which further supports skill development. From Year 2, students are now ready to further their musicianship by taking up a melodic instrument such as violin, flute, trumpet, bass guitar, etc.

Experienced musicians testify that instrument proficiency is achieved more quickly through learning a melodic instrument at an early age. This enables a child to begin enjoying the rewarding experience of being part of a music ensemble sooner, such as String Ensemble or Concert Band.

Once in Secondary School, students have the opportunity to further grow their musicianship through Senior Band, Musical Orchestra, Secondary Vocal Ensemble, String Ensemble or the Chapel Band.

Having established a solid base of skills, students are now in a stronger position to pursue their music preferences, for example, guitar, keyboard, and even forming a band.

At Belmont Christian College, we are convinced that this is an investment that will last a lifetime and will sow the seeds for a culturally rich experience of music and the creative arts.

Yours in Christian Education

Mr Chris Stewart

Creative Arts Coordinator (K-12)

KINDY-STAGE 2

Commence Kodály method under the instruction of our College Music Specialist.



YEAR 2 (SEMESTER 2)

Take up a melodic instrument and commence private music lessons through our College tutoring program.



STAGE 2

Join either String Ensemble or Concert Band, and Stage 2 Choir.



STAGE 3

Continue in String Ensemble or progress in Concert Band. Join Stage 3 Choir.



SECONDARY SCHOOL

From here, students take full advantage of the various music opportunities on offer at the College.

Learning an instrument and playing in an ensemble is not just for the gifted and talented.

It is for every child.



Belmont
Christian
College

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