



**St Michael's**  
COLLEGE



2026  
CO-CURRICULAR  
MUSIC HANDBOOK  
**Secondary Campus**



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# MISSION AND VISION STATEMENT

## Mission and Vision

St Michael's College is a Catholic school in the Lasallian tradition which is committed to the human and Christian education of the young, especially the poor\*, through Community, Challenge, Choice.

### Community

We are an inclusive and respectful community where each individual is known, valued and cared for, enabling them to feel confident to explore their curiosities, flourish and fully realise their potential.

### Challenge

Individual growth is achieved through engagement, opportunity and recognition, underpinned by a positive learning culture that is authentic, challenging and supportive.

### Choice

Through a quality Lasallian education, inspired by the Gospel and a concern for social justice, students are empowered to better choose who they become as people, learners and leaders in the world.

*\* The Lasallian school calls its members to an awareness of the poor and victims of injustice, and respond to their needs through programs of community service, advocacy and justice education.*



# WHO WE ARE

## Our Purpose

**St Michael's College is dedicated to a whole of College approach to facilitate our Catholic and Lasallian educational experience. Our strong heritage is based on the principles of 300 years of Lasallian Education, guided by the De La Salle Brothers and our Founder's teachings.**

A member of the global Lasallian family, St Michael's College is committed to create a welcoming, inclusive Lasallian community, aligned with strategic commitment to optimise student experiences and outcomes.

Our commitment is to provide opportunities that will prepare students to be compassionate and enthusiastic participants in society who prioritise service to others, especially the marginalised and those in need. Guided by Lasallian teachings, enriched by contemporary educational theory and practices, students, staff and families are empowered to flourish and find success.

*"To touch the hearts of your pupils and inspire them with the Christian spirit is the greatest miracle you can perform".*

**St John Baptist de La Salle**

# INTRODUCTION

**The St Michael's Co-Curricular Music Programme has grown exponentially over the last 20 years, to become a widely known and well-respected programme in Adelaide. Co-curricular music is 'the face' of our College's music program. It is when doing co-curricular music that students have the opportunity to perform in a 'real' musical setting, as either a singer or instrumentalist. By becoming a member of any one of our many co-curricular music ensembles, students gain a large number of musical skills and experiences, however, the benefits reach far beyond this.**

## **What are the benefits of joining a Co-Curricular Music Ensemble?**

A large body of recent research tell us that: Students who learn an instrument and join an ensemble can have greater academic success. Learning an instrument and being part of an ensemble can provide students with greater social inclusion and positive experiences with others. These aspects can, and often have, changed the course of students' lives, through feeling more included, finding "their tribe", and gaining greater social acceptance and helping to greatly improve their self-image.

Students who are part of an ensemble are engaging in rich learning experiences and gain lifelong skills. Engaging in an ensemble enables creative expression and increases confidence in students. For further information about the benefits of playing music, especially in an ensemble setting, click [here](#).

This document outlines what is available to students with Co-Curricular Music at St Michael's College. It also outlines our policy concerning such things as:

- Possible performance opportunities in each ensemble
- Pathways through our ensemble programme
- How to gain entry to each ensemble
- Commitment required for each ensemble
- and more...

Please read this document carefully and keep it on hand as it will prove a useful tool on many occasions throughout the year. You will need to refer to this document from time to time, as there are often questions that may arise in relation to ensemble commitments from time to time. If you lose this electronic document, please let me know as soon as possible to organise a replacement copy. The intention of the guidelines contained within this booklet, is to clarify any questions you may have and inform you of the procedures that are in place.

If you have any further questions regarding the Co-Curricular Music Program, please contact Tim Donovan on 8356 5966 or email [tim.donovan@smc.sa.edu.au](mailto:tim.donovan@smc.sa.edu.au).

**Tim Donovan**  
**Director of Music**

## 2026 CO-CURRICULAR MUSIC ENSEMBLES

| Ensemble Name                    | Year Levels          | Entry Requirement          |
|----------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------------|
| Big Band 1                       | Years 10-12          | Entry by audition          |
| Big Band 2                       | Years 7-11           | Entry by audition          |
| Year 7 Vocal Group               | Year 7               | Open entry (no audition)   |
| 'Vox Pop' Vocal Group            | Years 7-12           | Open entry (no audition)   |
| Vocal Jazz 1                     | Years 8-12           | Entry by audition          |
| Vocal Jazz 2                     | Years 8-12           | Entry by audition          |
| Concert Band                     | Years 7-12           | Open entry (no audition)   |
| Combined Schools String Ensemble | All ages and schools | Open entry (no audition)   |
| Senior Strings                   | Years 8-12           | Entry by invitation        |
| Senior Jazz Combo                | Years 10-12          | Entry by invitation        |
| Guitar Band                      | Years 7-12           | Open entry (no audition)   |
| Rock Bands (various)             | Years 7-12           | Open entry (by year level) |
| Percussion Ensemble              | Years 7-12           | Open entry (no audition)   |
| Drum Corps                       | Years 7-10           | Open entry (no audition)   |
| Flute Ensemble                   | Years 7-12           | Open entry (no audition)   |
| The Groove Collective            | Years 10-12          | Entry by invitation        |



To register for 2026 Co-Curricular Music Ensembles, scan the QR code to fill in the online form.

# GENERAL INFORMATION

## Clashes with Sport Practice

At times, students have clashes with music rehearsals and sports practices. This is a common occurrence, and one which can be easily overcome.

The Co-Curricular Music and Sports Departments at St Michael's have a strong relationship, and both departments always work towards ensuring students can do both activities. If you have a clash with a music rehearsal and co-curricular sport practice, you can do the following:

- Advise both your music ensemble director and your sports coach of your clash
- Attend each practice for half the time every week, or alternate between music rehearsal and sports practice each week

If you encounter any problems with this solution, please contact Mr Donovan (Director of Music).

If you have any further questions regarding this, please email Mr Donovan at [tim.donovan@smc.sa.edu.au](mailto:tim.donovan@smc.sa.edu.au).

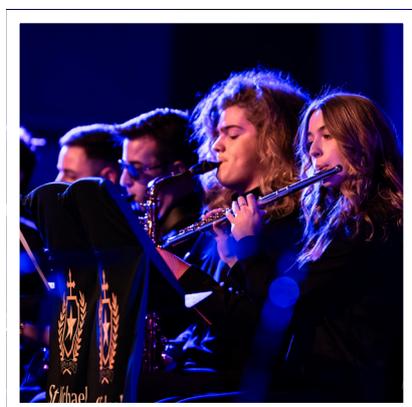
## Performance Uniform

All students in a Co-Curricular Music Ensemble require a performance uniform.

The performance uniform consists of:

- Music Performance Tie
- Full length black dressy trousers (2 styles available)
- Long-sleeved, collared black button-up shirt
- Medium length black socks
- Black leather shoes
- Black leather belt with basic buckle (optional)

Performance ties, shirts and pants are available from Dobsons Uniform Shop.



## 2026 ENSEMBLE INFORMATION

### Big Band 1

- One rehearsal per week
- One sectional rehearsal per week (lunchtime)
- Full year commitment
- Some after-hours concerts throughout the year
- Compulsory events: Generations in Jazz, Music Focus Days, ABODA Festival, Pulse Showcase
- Open to Years 8-12 students (by audition)

### Big Band 2

- One rehearsal per week
- One sectional rehearsal per week (lunchtime)
- Full year commitment
- Some after-hours concerts throughout the year
- Compulsory events: Generations in Jazz, Music Focus Days, ABODA Festival, Pulse Showcase
- Open to Years 7-11 students (no audition)

### Year 7 Vocal Group

- One rehearsal per week
- Full year commitment
- Some after-hours concerts throughout the year
- Compulsory events: Music Focus Days, Information Evenings, Pulse Showcase, Vocal Night
- Open to Year 7 students (no audition)

### 'Vox Pop' Vocal Group (Core Choir)

- One rehearsal per week
- Full year commitment
- Some after-hours concerts throughout the year
- Compulsory events: Music Focus Days, Information Evenings, Pulse Showcase, Vocal Night
- Open to Years 7-12 students (no audition)
- This is a compulsory choir for all students in VJ1 + 2

### Vocal Jazz 1

- One rehearsal per week
- Full year commitment
- Some after-hours concerts throughout the year
- Compulsory events: Generations in Jazz, Music Focus Days, Pulse Showcase, Vocal Night, Mass Music
- Open to students who have demonstrated a strong commitment to the choral programme (entry by audition)

### Vocal Jazz 2

- One rehearsal per week (Thursday after school)
- Full year commitment
- Some after-hours concerts throughout the year
- Compulsory events: Generations in Jazz, Music Focus Days, Pulse Showcase
- Open to students who have demonstrated a strong commitment to the choral programme (entry by audition)



## 2026 ENSEMBLE INFORMATION

### Concert Band (Core Band)

- One rehearsal per week
- Full year commitment
- Some after-hours concerts throughout the year
- Compulsory events: Music Focus Days, ABODA Festival, Pulse Showcase
- Open to Years 7-12 students (no audition)
- Compulsory for all students in Big Bands

### Combined Schools String Ensemble

- One rehearsal per week
- Full year commitment
- Some after-hours concerts throughout the year
- Compulsory events: Music Focus Days, Pulse Showcase
- Open to any string students of all ages, including from local primary schools (no audition)

### Senior Strings

- One rehearsal per week
- Full year commitment
- Some after-hours concerts throughout the year
- Compulsory events: Music Focus Days, Pulse Showcase
- Open to string students (by invitation)

### Senior Jazz Combo

- One rehearsal per week
- Full year commitment
- Some after-hours concerts throughout the year
- Open to Years 10-12 students (by invitation)
- Compulsory: Generations in Jazz



## 2026 ENSEMBLE INFORMATION

### Rock Bands (various)

- One rehearsal per week (lunchtimes)
- Full year commitment
- Compulsory events: Music Focus Days, Pulse Showcase, Small Ensemble Night
- Open to Years 7-12 students (open entry)

### Percussion Ensemble

- One rehearsal per week
- Full year commitment
- Compulsory events: Music Focus Days, Pulse Showcase
- Open to Years 7-9 students (no audition)

### Drum Corps

- One rehearsal per week
- Full year commitment
- Compulsory events: Music Focus Days, Pulse Showcase
- Open to Years 10-12 students (no audition)

### Flute Ensemble

- One rehearsal per week
- Full year commitment
- Compulsory events: Music Focus Days, Pulse Showcase
- Open to Years 8-12 students (no audition)

### The Groove Collective

- One rehearsal per week
- Full year commitment
- Compulsory events: Music Focus Days, Pulse Showcase
- Open to Years 10-12 students (by invitation)

### Guitar Band

- One rehearsal per week (Monday after school)
- Full year commitment
- Compulsory events: Music Focus Days, Pulse
- Open to Years 8-12 students (no audition)

# 2026 MUSIC CALENDAR

| Date            | Event  | Time       | Venue                                |
|-----------------|--|------------|--------------------------------------|
| <b>TERM 1</b>   |  |            |                                      |
| Week 1<br>28/1  | SMC Instrumental Music Performance                                     | L7-8       | TBA                                  |
| Week 2<br>5/2   | Year 7-12 Welcome Mass   | 9:00am     | Founders Hall                        |
| Week 3<br>12/2  | Class of 2025 Academic Assembly  | 9:00am     | Founders Hall                        |
| Week 4<br>18/2  | Ash Wednesday Mass   | TBA        | Founders Hall                        |
| Week 6<br>2-6/3 | Arts Week  | TBA        | ANZAC/MacKillop                      |
| Week 6<br>5-6/3 | Music Focus Days (All Ensembles)                                       | All Day    | MCK, 61, MacKillop Centre 62, 64, 65 |
| Week<br>11+     | The Gen Connection   | 10am - 3pm | The Gov                              |
| <b>TERM 2</b>   |  |            |                                      |
| Week 1<br>30/4  | Year 7-9 Pastoral Assembly   | 9:00am     | Founders Hall                        |
| Week 1<br>1-3/5 | Generations in Jazz 2026<br>(Big Band 1, Big Band 2, Vocal Jazz 1 & 2) | TBA        | Mount Gambier                        |
| Week 2<br>6/5   | Year 10-12 Pastoral Assembly   | 9:00am     | Founders Hall                        |
| Week 3<br>14/5  | Founders Day Mass  | 9:00am     | Founders Hall                        |
| Week 8<br>16/6  | Vocal Night  | 7:00pm     | MacKillop Centre                     |
| Week 9<br>23/6  | Small Ensemble Night   | 7:00pm     | MacKillop Centre                     |
| Week 10<br>4/7  | Catholic Schools Music Festival Auditions                              | TBA        | MacKillop Centre                     |
| <b>TERM 3</b>   |  |            |                                      |
| Week 1<br>23/6  | Year 7-9 Academic Assembly   | 9:00am     | Founders Hall                        |
| Week 2<br>30/6  | Year 10-12 Academic Assembly   | 9:00am     | Founders Hall                        |
| Week 3<br>4/8   | Careers Expo - Foyer Music   | 6-8pm      | LEC Foyer                            |
|                 | SALA Exhibition  | TBA        | LEC                                  |

# 2026 MUSIC CALENDAR

| Date               | Event  | Time             | Venue                |
|--------------------|--|------------------|----------------------|
| <b>TERM 3</b>      |  |                  |                      |
| Week 4<br>11-14/8  | ABODA Band and Orchestra Festival                      | TBA              | Westminster Hospital |
| Week 7<br>3/9      | PULSE 18 2026  | 7:00pm           | Founders Hall        |
| Week 9<br>17/9     | 2027 Vocal Auditions                                   | All Day          | Room 65              |
| 19/9               | 2027 Big Band Auditions                                | All Day          | Room 65              |
| Week 10<br>21-24/9 | Catholic Schools Music Festival 2026                   | 7:30pm - 9:30pm  | Festival Theatre     |
| 25/9               | De La Salle Day  | 9:00am - 12:45am | SMC Henley           |
| <b>TERM 4</b>      |  |                  |                      |
| Week 1<br>16/10    | Year 12 Service Awards Assembly                        | 9:00am           | Founders Hall        |
| Week 2             | Co-Curricular Assembly                                 | 9:00am           | Founders Hall        |
| Week 2<br>22/10    | Year 12 Graduation Mass                                | 7:00am           | Founders Hall        |
| Week 3<br>29/10    | Year 12 Art Design Technology & Photography Exhibition | 6:00pm           | LEC Foyer            |
| Week 4<br>4/11     | Year 7 2026 All Parents Info Night                     | 6:00pm           | Founders Hall        |
| 5/11               | Memorial Mass  | 7:00pm           | SMC Chapel           |
| 11/11              | Remembrance Day Ceremony                               | 11:00am          | Founders Hall        |
| Week 6<br>16/11    | Year 7 2026 Performing Arts Info Night                 | 6:00pm           | Founders Hall        |
| 19/11              | Year 8 Student Leader Assembly                         | 9:00am           | MacKillop Centre     |
| Week 8<br>1/12     | SMC's Got Talent                                       | L7 - L8          | Founders Hall        |
| 2/12               | Farewell Assembly                                      | L5               | Founders Hall        |

