

MUSIC EDUCATION- BENEFITS TO OVERALL DEVELOPMENT

- As we approach 30 years since the commencement of neuroscientific research into the impact of music education, there is a substantial and compelling research base to view music education as a tool that supports cognitive learning development for every child.
- A large body of literature now exists to substantiate the long-held idea that musicians' brains differ structurally and functionally from non-musicians' brains. These differences include changes in volume, morphology, density, connectivity, and function across many regions of the brain.

WHY MUSIC EDUCATION MATTERS

- Music learning supports and reinforces the development of literacy, language and other academic skills. Research shows that musically trained children perform better in standardised tests on language, and they acquire and use language more effectively, and earlier.
- Music education is also a critical driver of a child's social development and emotional wellbeing; it can build confidence, promote creativity and help students develop emotional and behavioural awareness and skills.
- Many of the benefits of music education are embedded within the creation and performance of music, which can be explored and expressed in different ways to suit different learners.
- Within the right environment, every child and young person can reap the benefits of music education. Their success will be reflected in their musical achievements, across their schooling and throughout their personal lives.
- The benefits of music education extend throughout a child's education. A high quality education starts early and allows children and young people to develop their skills through regular, consistent and developmental music experiences that both celebrate their achievements and challenge their abilities.
- Research tells us that globally, many high performing education systems prioritise music education within their curricula.
- The study of music responds to global education goals, such as the OECD Education 2030 project, which aims to identify the knowledge, skills, attitudes and values that today's students need to thrive and succeed.
- Students entering the workforce will increasingly need a broad and transferable set of skills that foster critical thinking, problem-solving, creativity and innovation- all of which are supported through quality music education.

THE CASE FOR MUSIC EDUCATION IS CLEAR

- This growing evidence supports the developmental benefits of music learning, and that learning music as an education strategy is an opportunity to promote and celebrate these benefits for all children and young people, and to build a shared understanding of its value.

FURTHER MUSIC ADVOCACY:

International Society for Music Education: <https://www.isme.org/about>
International Society for Music Education grants and award opportunities:
<https://www.isme.org/our-work/awards>
Music Australia: <https://musicaustralia.org.au/about-us/>
Music- Count Us In: <https://musicaustralia.org.au/program/countusin/>