



CAPA Audition information

MUSIC

FAQs and audition advice

Which instruments and styles are suitable for an audition?

Brass, Woodwind, String, Guitar, Bass, Drums/Percussion and Voice. Song choices and musical styles other than Western Music styles are not acceptable for audition. Vocalists are required to sing repertoire in English.

My child has been involved in Concert Band & Vocal Ensemble in Primary School. Is this suitable for a High School audition?

Yes, we encourage students with Band Experience, however parts from their Concert Band are not usually suitable for audition. Chosen repertoire pieces should be selected where the candidate's part is clearly the featured soloist.

Can my child audition for multiple instruments?

It is recommended that candidates audition with their strongest instrument. You can provide details of additional instrumentation in the application.

What grade repertoire piece should be played?

This varies across a range of instruments and styles with a recommendation of Grade 4 as a guideline. Your child's private music tutor will be best placed to recommend repertoire. The panel's suggestions include pieces that reflect the candidate's delivery of technical skills including pitch, rhythmic ability and timing, dynamics and expressive qualities, stylistic interpretation or understanding of musical elements, as well as confidence and preparation of the repertoire.



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Which instruments are provided?

Please bring all personal instruments. A drum kit, guitar/bass amplifier and piano/keyboard are provided.

What accompaniment is required for auditions?

Backing tracks are the preferred option. Live accompanists must be arranged prior, providing details to the school in advance. A backing track is recommended for vocalists, some instrumental solo arrangements and should be discussed and selected with guidance from your child's tutor. The track should not have the candidates part, eg, singing along with the original song of a recorded performance. Piano auditions do not require accompaniment.

What to expect during the audition

Candidates will be asked to sight read a short passage of music with vocalists harmonising and performing a sequence of notes given from a keyboard. The panel will ask questions regarding experiences as a performer, within ensemble groups or as a soloist. Discussion of musical interests, private tuition, as well as their interest and expectation as a potential student of Northmead CAPA High School. Please take the opportunity to ask questions during the audition about our program and opportunities. All auditions are filmed for quality and decision making purposes, and will not be shared outside of the auditioning panel.

When do I find out about my child's audition result?

A response will be provided within a two week time frame (excluding holidays). Please note that no further correspondence will be entered into after this decision. Unsuccessful candidates will be provided with feedback about the strengths and weaknesses of the audition.

Where do I wait during my child's audition?

The audition takes about 15 - 20 minutes with parents and carers required to wait in the Reception area. Student representatives escort candidates to their audition. Candidates are to wear their school's uniform.

Please direct further correspondence in writing to Audition Registrar Mrs June Stepic.

june.stepic@det.nsw.edu.au



DANCE

During the LIVE GROUP (1.5hr) workshop, students can expect to:

- **Partake in a 1.5hr contemporary dance technique workshop conducted by one of our Dance teachers. This will entail a warm up, stretch, a range of technique exercises and a short dance combination. You DO NOT need to prepare anything for this group workshop.**
- **Please wear form fitting dance attire and either bare feet/foot thongs/jazz shoes.**

Following the workshop, there will be a scheduled LIVE INDIVIDUAL audition (10 mins) for students, student can be expect to:

- **Introduce themselves, discuss schools or courses attended, productions they have been involved in, experiences as a performer. Areas of interest as a Dance student including additional skills, acting, singing, script writing, circus, etc.**
- **List any relevant details of your performing arts background (extra curricular groups, shows, theatre groups and workshops, etc).**
- **perform their Dance solo (2-3mins) - in their strongest technical Dance style - Ballet, Contemporary/Lyrical or Jazz**

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DRAMA

During the LIVE GROUP (1 hour) workshop, students can expect to:

- Perform from a given script
- Collaborate with other students in a playbuilding activity
- Demonstrate improvisation skills
- Engage in movement activities and show characterisation skills
- Demonstrate vocal skills such as projection and articulation

Following the workshop, there will be a scheduled

During the LIVE INDIVIDUAL audition (5 minutes), students can expect to:

- Introduce themselves, discuss schools or courses attended, productions they have been involved in, experiences as a performer. Areas of interest as a Drama student including additional skills, dancing, singing, script writing, circus, etc.
- List any relevant details of your performing arts background (extra curricular groups, shows, theatre groups and workshops, etc).
- Deliver a prepared monologue preferably one of the suggested monologues on our website. Candidates may select their own monologue instead, but should ensure it is suitable and does not go over 2 minutes.
- Take the opportunity to ask questions about the courses, school and performance opportunities

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VISUAL ARTS

During the LIVE GROUP (1 hour) audition, students can expect to:

- Participate in a small drawing workshop that will be run as a class with all applicants together.

Students will then wait in a designated area until they are called for a one-on-one interview. It is recommended that students bring a drawing book and pencil/s or something quiet to work on while they wait.

During the LIVE INDIVIDUAL (15 minutes) audition, students can expect to answer:

Interview Questions:

Introduce yourself.

Tell us about your prior experiences as a Visual Arts student.

What are your particular skills and interests in the Visual Arts?

What do you want to learn more about?

What would you consider to be the most challenging aspect of artmaking?

What are you most looking forward to as a student of Northmead CAPA High School?

Advice for VISUAL ARTS PORTFOLIO submissions:

- Prepare a portfolio with at least 10 examples of original artworks. They should have been created within the last 2 years.
- Your portfolio should show a range of different artworks. These could be in the form of drawings, paintings, prints, graphics, and sculpture. Your portfolio should display your interest and passion for the Visual Arts, as well as your level of current expertise.
- In regard to themes, we recommend that you focus on the main genres of Visual Art. These include portraiture, the figure, landscape, still life, and abstraction. Please avoid submitting artworks based on 'Anime'. Whilst we appreciate many young students are drawn towards this particular style, it is NOT a feature of the Visual Arts Syllabus. Craft works are also to be avoided.
- Please be creative in your portfolio and pay attention to detail.
- The presentation should be attached to the application submission as a PDF or PPTX file.
- Name your file before attaching to your application submission e.g John Smith Visual Arts Audition.

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CIRCUS

Students will participate in a 90 minute workshop

Students will need to prepare either a 2 minute apparatus routine or show 4 intermediate acrobatic or gymnastic skills

CIRCUS Performance Attire

- Unitard, leotard, tights (preferably covering knees)
- Costume suitable to the performance (this is not mandatory and student can wear training attire)
- No jewellery to be worn
- Hair tied back

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