

# NSW State Music Camp Experience

## An average day at the music camp

### Junior music camp timetable example

Start	Finish	Activity
<b>7.00am</b>	7.45am	Rise and shine
<b>7.45am</b>	8.30am	Breakfast
<b>8.30am</b>	8.40am	Morning assembly
<b>8.50am</b>	9.15am	Warm up / tutorial session
<b>9.25am</b>	10.40am	Ensemble 1 rehearsal
<b>10.40am</b>	11.00am	Morning tea
<b>11.00am</b>	12.20pm	Camp item orchestra rehearsal
<b>11.00am</b>	12.20pm	Camp item choir rehearsal
<b>12.30pm</b>	1.15pm	Lunch
<b>1.30pm</b>	2.45pm	Ensemble 2 rehearsal
<b>3.00pm</b>	4.00pm	Recreation time / camp concert rehearsal
<b>4.00pm</b>	4.20pm	Afternoon tea
<b>4.20pm</b>	5.45pm	Ensemble 1 rehearsal
<b>6.00pm</b>	6.45pm	Dinner
<b>7.00pm</b>	7.45pm	Camp concert
<b>8.00pm</b>	8.30pm	Evening recreation
<b>8.30pm</b>	8.45pm	Evening assembly and move to rooms
<b>8.45pm</b>	9.15pm	Move to rooms, showers, settle into rooms
<b>9.15pm</b>		Lights out

## Senior music camp timetable example

Start	Finish	Activity
<b>7.00am</b>	7.45am	Rise and shine
<b>7.45am</b>	8.30am	Breakfast
<b>8.30am</b>	8.40am	Morning assembly
<b>8.45am</b>	9.05am	Warm up / tutorial session
<b>9.15am</b>	10.45am	Ensemble 1
<b>10.45am</b>	11.05am	Morning tea
<b>11.05am</b>	12.20pm	Camp item orchestra rehearsal
		Camp item choir rehearsal
<b>12.30pm</b>	1.15pm	Lunch
<b>1.30pm</b>	3.00pm	HSC workshop / SAS recreation
<b>3.00pm</b>	3.15pm	Afternoon tea
<b>3.15pm</b>	4.30pm	Ensemble 2 rehearsal
<b>4.45pm</b>	5.50pm	Ensemble 1 rehearsal
<b>6.00pm</b>	6.45pm	Dinner
<b>6.45pm</b>	7.30pm	Camp concert
<b>7.30pm</b>	8.15pm	Camp item orchestra rehearsal
		Camp item choir rehearsal
<b>8.15pm</b>	9.15pm	Evening recreation - trivia
<b>9.15pm</b>	9.30pm	Evening assembly, supper and move to rooms
<b>9.30pm</b>	10.00pm	Showers, settle into rooms
<b>10.00pm</b>		Lights out

# Who attends NSW state music camps?

Each camp is aimed at NSW public school students who have a love of music and want to spend time with other likeminded musicians.

- Junior music camp – Years 5 to 8.
- Senior music camp – Years 8 to 12.

Please note – Year 8 students can apply for both camps and you will be accepted into the camp that best suits your experience level.

Each camp can have up to 270 students involved with 40 teaching staff.

## How are selections made?

Students are selected from the application form depending on their instrument standard, years played their instrument and previous musical experience.

We encourage rural and remote students to apply who may not have access to such experiences in their local area.

## What have people said about the camps?

“We were just blown away by the awesome experience our son had at camp this week under the care of your amazing tutors and support staff. We were nervous that he would be away from home and not know any other children but having attended the concert which just absolutely blew us away, such talented students and incredible positive energy and expert tutors we really feel blessed that our son experienced this and we wanted to thank you all for such a wonderful really life changing experience for our son. Congratulations to you all on the professionalism and talent you all shared with the children this week. I hope you understand the difference you have made to many young people this week. Thank you so much and please keep offering these opportunities to our children!”

“My daughter literally had one of the best experiences of her life to date, is inspired to play music, and can’t wait to return next year.”

“My son attended camp for the first time and arrived feeling quite anxious about the audition process, not really focused on anything else. When we attended the concert last night and caught up with him afterwards he was hyped up with excitement, audition not even mentioned and completely focused on all of the terrific experiences from the week. He enjoyed the composition elective and Initiatives were a great challenge, which is something he always thrives on.”

# Ensemble 1

Ensemble 1 is the main music ensemble that students take part in during the music camp. These groups include:

- Lithgow Wind Ensemble
- Grainger Wind Ensemble
- Symphony Orchestra
- Stage Band
- Choir

Students are allocated to ensembles after a short informal audition on the first day of camp. This is not a competition, just a way for us to ensure we get balanced ensembles and put students in their best fitting ensemble for the week.

Students will rehearse with this ensemble twice each day at camp and it is in this ensemble that they will play in the end of camp concert that is open to family and friends.



## Ensemble 2

We also run a large number of small to large group ensembles based on student choice. The Ensemble 2 groups vary from year to year, but can include jazz improvisation, musical theatre, composition, saxophone ensemble, horn ensemble, brass ensemble, percussion ensemble, string ensemble. Students can elect for this ensemble based on their main instrument, second instrument or can choose to do an ensemble that requires no prior knowledge such as percussion ensemble or music theatre.

Ensemble 2 has one rehearsal each day and we have a concert with these ensembles on the second last night of camp. This concert is just for camp attendees and not open to the public. It's lots of fun!



## Camp item choir & orchestra

Everyone at the camp is involved in the camp item which is performed as the big finale at the concert on the last night. Students that are allocated to play in the camp item orchestra (usually about 50 students) will rehearse with that group of students during the week and accompany the mass choir. All other students are in the camp item choir. Singing in a choir is absolutely the best thing you can do for your aural skills and it's amazing for intonation and musical development. This is always an absolute highlight of the concert. Singing in a choir with hundreds of people is incredible! There's nothing like it.



# Recreation activities

As we stay on the site of [Sydney Academy of Sport and Recreation](#), there are many exciting recreation opportunities at camp. Each day there is an allocated recreation time and you'll either be doing guided sports activities with the camp staff or on 2 days you get to do special elective recreation activities such as flying fox, rock climbing, archery, initiatives etc.



# Camp concerts

All students are invited to perform at evening camp concerts. These concerts give all students the opportunity to perform to a receptive and understanding audience. You may like to bring music (solo or ensemble) for this purpose. It is not compulsory to play but it is an experience not to be missed!

There are only 3 evening concerts so be prepared to perform early in the camp.



# HSC performance workshop & Year 11 composition workshop

At the Senior Music Camp, Year 11 and 12 students get access to exclusive workshops with industry professionals.

HSC music students have an opportunity to perform their HSC pieces to a panel of music professionals, teachers and their peers to get valuable feedback. Having practise performing under these conditions is priceless before you have to do your practical exam.

Year 11 music students have 2 composition workshops with professional composers in preparation for their HSC. These workshops are specialised to help you get a good start to your composition process.

## End of camp public concert

At the conclusion of music camp on Friday evening, there is a concert that showcases the Ensemble 1 and camp item activities that students have been working on throughout the week. This concert is open to family and friends and free of charge.

The students are dismissed from camp directly after the concert.

## Staff

At music camp we have about 40 staff members that include conductors, a specialist tutor for each instrument, ensemble managers, camp directors, student welfare officer and a camp nurse.

Each student cabin has 2 staff members who are allocated to look after the students all week. Students have a go to room if they need assistance during the night.

During the day students are supervised at all times in all activities and breaks.

Our musical staff are some of the best professionals and teachers on offer. We often have professional musicians come from around the globe to teach at camp.