



Early Childhood Music and Movement School

AWAKEN A LIFETIME LOVE OF MUSIC

Information to support parents & carers optimise their child's learning & enjoyment at Wee Make Music.



"THERE IS NO MORE IMPORTANT A TIME IN YOUR CHILD'S LIFE THAN THE FIRST SIX YEARS, NO MORE IMPORTANT A PLACE THAN THE HOME, AND NO MORE SIGNIFICANT A PERSON THAN YOU".

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Visit www.weemakemusic.com.au | Classes: **Wilston, Bulimba, New Farm**

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Today we know more about how children learn and grow than ever before. We have data that confirms our theory that 'Music is vital for growth and development'. Children are naturally interested in music and music is naturally good for them. Why are children drawn to music and how is it so good for them?

- Music is a language and children are oriented towards learning language. Some babies sing before they speak.
- Music evokes movement and children delight in and require movement to stimulate the vestibular system, nurture balance, motor skills and coordination.
- Music engages the brain while stimulating neural pathways associated with higher forms of intelligence such as abstract thinking, empathy and mathematics.
- Music's melodic and rhythmic patterns provide exercise for the brain and help develop memory. Who learnt the alphabet without the ABC song?
- Music is an aural art and young children are aural learners. Since ears are fully developed before birth infants are learning through the sounds of their environment prior to birth.
- Music is perfectly designed for training children's listening skills. Good listening skills are essential to success in structured school learning.
- Age appropriate musical activities involve the whole child – the child's desire for language, the child's desire to move, the brain's attention to patterns, the ear's lead in initiating communication, the voice's response to sounds, as well as the hand-eye coordination required to play musical instruments.
- Music involves expression of feelings. It is a creative experience that allows children an avenue to express emotions. It builds confidence and self-esteem.
- Music transmits culture and generations.
- Music is a social activity which involves family and community participation. Children love to sing and dance at home and away, with family and friends.

The following excerpt is from "Music Education Helps Children's Ability to Learn", by Dr Anita Collins, Neuromusical Educator and Award Winning Educator, Researcher and Writer in the field of brain development and learning music. October 2018.

"What we now know is that learning a musical instrument and foundation music education skills – such as clapping in time, singing in tune and moving to music – are some of the most complex cognitive activities the brain can undertake. They involve the auditory, motor and visual cortices communicating at an astonishingly fast rate... The list of skills and abilities that music learning develops is still very long, but it has started to be sorted under three main areas: language development, executive skills and social skills development. "

Whole document at <http://education.abc.net.au/newsandarticles/blog/-/b/2974240/music-education-helps-improve-children-s-ability-to-learn>

PROGRAM NOTES OF INTEREST:

- Our programs cover 6 age groups from babies to 6yrs, operating at 3 venues, Bulimba, Wilston and New Farm. For class schedules see website.
- Every October we hold an annual celebration concert for all the family to enjoy.
- We encourage you to LIKE and follow us on instagram and facebook and not only enjoy our tips and news but help us share the program with friends and family.
- Program Cost: Babies to Advance Music Makers \$187/10week term. Core materials vary in each age group. See website for details.
- Tuition Policies:
 - All children are entitled to a complimentary visit.
 - There is no reduction in tuition fee for missed classes, however you are welcome and are encouraged to arrange up to 4 make-ups in a year program. Make ups must be booked in advance.
 - Food or toys are not permitted in the classroom. Water bottles accepted.
 - Parents please refrain from conversation during class and turn off mobile phones.
 - The course fee and registration form are required prior to first class.
 - Sibling discounts apply where more than one child per family is registered.
 - Refund is only given if cancellation prior to start of term.



Thank you for choosing Wee Make Music for your family. We are committed to sharing a fun and productive musical experience with you and your children. Please contact us with any queries or concerns at any time.

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CLASSROOM TIPS FOR PARENTS



Music is a powerful source of interaction that assists all facets of early development. Positive and supportive interaction contributes to the attachment between parents/carers and children. Research shows the early years are the most significant time in a human life.

Tips to make the most of musical experiences with your child:

- Be patient. Allow your child time to observe and become comfortable participating. Observation is key to learning.
- Use your instruments and core music at home often.

Familiarity builds comfort and confidence and in turn participation. Remember we are not seeking performance but rather individual learning and joyful music making.

- *Your* participation in class, including singing is crucial to encouraging your child. It does not matter how you sound when you sing or appear when you move, it only matters that you *do* sing and *do* move. You are your child's model!
- Give your focus to your child and activities. Talking during the class interferes with the children listening and devalues the activities and your child's participation in the lesson.
- Take musical queues from your child...repeat sounds that they make and call attention to particular changes in music eg. High, low, soft, flute, drums etc. This promotes listening and musical appreciation.
- Sing to and with your child at times of personal interaction, such as bathing, dressing, eating. Take your child to live musical performances and use a variety of music at home, exposing them to classical, jazz, reggae, country and folk.
- Use floor games, tickle rhymes and beat activities to distract and/or help calm children when they are unsettled, frustrated etc.
- Communicate with your teacher. This is very important to working together to enhance your child's learning.
- Congratulate your child when they sing, mime, dance and display enjoyment from their music. Recognise & reinforce music as a positive part of your family's daily life. You will benefit from it too!



Research and practice have taught us children who are spoken to will learn to speak and children who are read to will learn to read. Doesn't it seem obvious that children who are sung to will learn to sing? *Music is not just for children who overtly express musical interest and we can no longer accept such statements as, "I will wait and see if my son shows an interest in music"*. **Parents must realise the central role they play in musical development and then provide the environment in which their children can prosper.**

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