



Conservatorium High School Policy on Participation in Extra-curricular Activities*

1. At the Conservatorium High, two courses of study run concurrently: the NSW curriculum that is binding on all schools in this State, and the Conservatorium High music program that is unique to the State's only specialist music high school. The music program is funded by a subvention from the State Non-Tertiary Music Education grant. Con High students and their parents are the beneficiaries of that subvention. The school must ensure that these special State funds are used to optimal advantage. Accordingly, Con High commitments always take precedence over extra-curricular activities.
2. The school readily acknowledges that certain extra-curricular activities can be of benefit to students, if the activity serves to complement the school's academic and/or musical programs.
3. Con High students all have very full timetables into which many hours of personal practice have to be fitted. Before seeking permission to take on extra-curricular commitments, students must ensure that the proposed activity would neither clash with existing school obligations nor impede giving of one's best at school. Applicants seeking permission to take on an additional (extra-curricular) activity must demonstrate how it can be accommodated in their timetable.
4. The prime focus of students in Years 11 & 12 is the Higher School Certificate. Any extra-curricular activities that fall during the period of preparation for the HSC will **not** be approved. In Term 4, Year 11 students work collectively with their elected House Captains to develop, rehearse and present the Con High end-of-year House Concerts, one of the highlight of the school's musical calendar. The school expects all Year 11 students to be committed wholeheartedly to the educational success of the House Concerts.
5. A student seeking permission to participate in an extra-curricular activity must submit a written request to the Principal outlining
 - a) why this experience should be considered to have greater educational value than his/her Con High program of studies
 - b) what measures are proposed to compensate for the negative educational impact of missing school
 - c) the classes and school-based activities that would be missedIf permission is granted, full responsibility for catching up on work rests with the student. Staff are not obliged or expected to devote extra time to assist the student.
6. Students in any class-year who participate, without permission from the Principal, in extra-curricular activities that occasion missing school classes, are debarred from running for election to leadership positions: School Captain, School Vice-Captain, House Captain.

* This policy is applicable to, but not limited to the following activities and organisations: Sydney Youth Orchestras, Gondwana Choirs, eisteddfods, AMEB grade exams, Talent Development Project, Arts Unit ensembles, Australian Youth Orchestra, music camps.