



Oscar Purnell

Year 12 Music Performance

Assessment Tasks:

Technical work & exercises
Composition or improvisation
Aural and written exams
Performance

Skills Developed:

Despite the COVID-19 lockdowns, my playing and theory knowledge skyrocketed! I learned the fundamental skills I need to perform in front of an audience and all the theory behind what I'm playing.

Goals Achieved:

At the beginning of the year I had the goals to become more confident playing in front of an audience and to improve my overall playing of bass. I have definitely achieved these goals, I've gone from getting shaky and sweaty before performing in front of anyone, to just simply enjoying my playing and playing pretty darn well.

Hey, I'm Oscar Purnell and this year I completed Unit 3 & 4 VCE Music Performance on solo electric bass. I chose this subject because I've always had a passion for music and I wanted to gain a better understanding of music theory and enhance my bass playing.

My Teachers

Throughout the year I worked with majority of the music staff at DSC, but mainly worked with my music teacher, Wendy Howes, and my bass teacher, Joshua Verco. They, along with the rest of the music staff, have been extremely supportive and helped me in any way they could.

Exam Preparation

The main focus of the year was working towards my end of year solo performance exam where I had to perform 25 minutes' worth of contrasting pieces. The process I had for learning my repertoire consisted of first just learning the pieces then discussing any trouble I had with my teacher Mr Verco. We would work through the difficulties, and once I had a piece down I would then work with Mr Verco to add embellishments, such as trills or slowing down to provide tension. The weeks leading up to the exam I would spend 2-3 hours a day practicing, playing through my whole program at least once a day with the goal to just make my playing as consistent as possible.

Solo Performance Exam

I completed my performance exam on the 10th of October. Going in I was a little nervous, but I went in with the aim of just having fun and celebrating the music I've worked so hard on for the whole year. I had a blast!

I have always known that I wanted to do something related to music in the future and taking this subject has allowed me to feel more prepared for any higher study I want to complete. If you're considering VCE Music Performance, I highly recommend you do it. It is one of the best decisions I have made.