

PARLIAMENT OF VICTORIA  
Education & Training Committee



**Committee to consider whether school music education is hitting the right note**

3 December 2012

The Victorian Parliament's Education and Training is orchestrating an inquiry into music education in Victorian schools. The Committee has called for submissions to the inquiry which will consider the extent, benefits and potential of music education.

"We all recognise that music plays a crucial role in the development of children and young people," said the Committee's Chair, Mr David Southwick MP. "Not only do they gain enjoyment and reward from making and listening to music, but research also shows that learning music can lead to improved academic and social outcomes for children and young people."

The Committee is interested to hear about how well music education is being delivered at the primary and high school level in Victoria.

"Music education operates on a school-by-school basis and we want to hear about what school music education programs are hitting the right note and also what gaps exist in the current provision," Mr Southwick stated.

The Committee will also consider the current funding and governance arrangement in place for music education in Victorian government schools.

"The Committee will examine whether we have the right balance between government funding and parent contributions for music education," said Mr Southwick.

"We know that many of the world's top performing academic countries have strong music programs," stated Mr Southwick. "The Committee wants to ensure that Victoria doesn't lag behind these countries in realising the benefits and potential of music education for our children and young people."

Mr Southwick urged all interested individuals and organisations to make some noise and lodge a submission to the Inquiry.

The closing date for submissions is 15 February 2013.

The Inquiry's terms of reference and information about how to make a submission to the Committee are available on the Committee's website at [www.parliament.vic.gov.au/etc](http://www.parliament.vic.gov.au/etc).

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