



## Information for Parents and Caregivers

### Instrumental / Vocal / Speech & Drama Lessons 2026

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Please read this material carefully and retain for your future reference.

Applications are to be made by the parent/caregiver [HERE](#)

Tuition is offered in the following areas:

**Instrumental:**

Violin, Viola, Cello, Double Bass, Harp  
Flute, Oboe, Clarinet, Bassoon, Saxophone, Recorder  
Trumpet, Trombone, French Horn, Tuba  
Guitar – Acoustic, Electric, Bass  
Drum Kit, Percussion

**Keyboard:**

Piano – Classical and Popular styles  
Pipe Organ

**Voice:**

All styles, including Classical, Musical Theatre, Jazz Commercial/Contemporary

**Theory of Music:**

Specialist tutoring over and above ITM instrumental/vocal lessons

**Speech and Drama:**

Mainly group tuition, but individual lessons are available on request

**Notes:**

**Percussion Lessons**

Percussion lessons are for those interested in learning percussion instruments aside from the drum kit. This includes two and four mallet Marimba and Vibraphone (classical or jazz), hand percussion (eg. Congas, Bongos) and all orchestral percussion (eg. Timpani, Xylophone, Glockenspiel, Snare drum, Cymbals, Tambourine etc). It is an advantage if students have had some previous tuition on another instrument. Students in these areas could become very valuable members of the orchestra, percussion ensemble, and jazz band.

**Jazz Piano and Improvisation**

These lessons are designed for students who have an interest in learning to improvise, either on the piano or any other instrument. Students will be expected to have had previous tuition on their instrument.

**Acoustic Guitar**

Acoustic Guitar tuition covers many styles from ancient to modern music. It is very international, ranging from European Renaissance/Classical, Spanish/South American, Blues/Ragtime to Pop/Contemporary songs.

**Theory of Music**

All ITM music teachers teach theory as part of their programmes of teaching and learning. This can take many different approaches. Specific formal lessons in theory of music are available as indicated below.

Rangi ITM Tutors 2026		
Applications are to be made by the parent/caregiver <a href="#">HERE</a>		
Instrument	Tutor	Tutor email
Bassoon	Melanie Chua	<a href="mailto:m.chua@rangiruru.school.nz">m.chua@rangiruru.school.nz</a>
Cello	Alison Hansen	<a href="mailto:a.hansen@rangiruru.school.nz">a.hansen@rangiruru.school.nz</a>
Clarinet	Jonathan Prior	<a href="mailto:j.prior@rangiruru.school.nz">j.prior@rangiruru.school.nz</a>
Double Bass	Gerald Oliver	<a href="mailto:g.oliver@rangiruru.school.nz">g.oliver@rangiruru.school.nz</a>
Drum Kit	Andrew Couper	<a href="mailto:a.couper@rangiruru.school.nz">a.couper@rangiruru.school.nz</a>
Flute	Margo Askin	<a href="mailto:m.askin@rangiruru.school.nz">m.askin@rangiruru.school.nz</a>
French Horn	Antonio Dimitrov	<a href="mailto:a.dimitrov@rangiruru.school.nz">a.dimitrov@rangiruru.school.nz</a>
Guitar Acoustic	David Smith	<a href="mailto:d.smith@rangiruru.school.nz">d.smith@rangiruru.school.nz</a>
Guitar Bass	Dougal Canard	<a href="mailto:d.canard@rangiruru.school.nz">d.canard@rangiruru.school.nz</a>
Guitar Electric	Dougal Canard	<a href="mailto:d.canard@rangiruru.school.nz">d.canard@rangiruru.school.nz</a>
Harp	Helen Webby	<a href="mailto:h.webby@rangiruru.school.nz">h.webby@rangiruru.school.nz</a>
Jazz Piano/Improvisation	Dougal Canard	<a href="mailto:d.canard@rangiruru.school.nz">d.canard@rangiruru.school.nz</a>
Oboe	Susan McKeich	<a href="mailto:s.mckeich@rangiruru.school.nz">s.mckeich@rangiruru.school.nz</a>
Percussion	Roanna Funcke	<a href="mailto:r.funcke@rangiruru.school.nz">r.funcke@rangiruru.school.nz</a>
Piano – classical and pop	Melanie Chua	<a href="mailto:m.chua@rangiruru.school.nz">m.chua@rangiruru.school.nz</a>
Piano – advanced	Tim Emerson (visiting tutor) <i>An audition is required.</i>	Please apply via <a href="mailto:j.kingsbury@rangiruru.school.nz">j.kingsbury@rangiruru.school.nz</a> in the first instance.
Pipe Organ	Janet Gibbs	<a href="mailto:j.gibbs@rangiruru.school.nz">j.gibbs@rangiruru.school.nz</a>
Saxophone	Lana Law	<a href="mailto:l.law@rangiruru.school.nz">l.law@rangiruru.school.nz</a>
Speech and Drama	Lynn Williams Lucie Durkin	<a href="mailto:l.williams@rangiruru.school.nz">l.williams@rangiruru.school.nz</a> <a href="mailto:l.durkin@rangiruru.school.nz">l.durkin@rangiruru.school.nz</a>
Recorder	Susan McKeich	<a href="mailto:s.mckeich@rangiruru.school.nz">s.mckeich@rangiruru.school.nz</a>
Theory of Music	Melanie Chua	<a href="mailto:m.chua@rangiruru.school.nz">m.chua@rangiruru.school.nz</a>
Trumpet	Antonio Dimitrov	<a href="mailto:a.dimitrov@rangiruru.school.nz">a.dimitrov@rangiruru.school.nz</a>
Trumpet (advanced)	Thomas Eves	<a href="mailto:t.eves@rangiruru.school.nz">t.eves@rangiruru.school.nz</a>
Trombone and Tuba	Antonio Dimitrov	<a href="mailto:a.dimitrov@rangiruru.school.nz">a.dimitrov@rangiruru.school.nz</a>
Violin	Sarah McCracken	<a href="mailto:s.mccracken@rangiruru.school.nz">s.mccracken@rangiruru.school.nz</a>
Voice – Classical, Music Theatre, Jazz, Contemporary	Helen Charlton Deborah Wai Kapohe	<a href="mailto:h.charlton@rangiruru.school.nz">h.charlton@rangiruru.school.nz</a> <a href="mailto:d.waikapohe@rangiruru.school.nz">d.waikapohe@rangiruru.school.nz</a>
Voice – Commercial/Contemporary, Jazz, Musical Theatre	Natalie Elms	<a href="mailto:n.elms@rangiruru.school.nz">n.elms@rangiruru.school.nz</a>

- Lesson Length.** Most lessons are 30 minutes long unless the ITM tutor has made another arrangement with both the parent/caregiver and the student and has the approval of the Director of Music.
- Fees.** For 2026 lessons are charged at \$82.00 per hour. Those ITM's who are registered for GST will have a GST component included as well.

Charge excl GST	Charge incl GST	Lesson Type
\$41.00	\$47.15	individual 30-minute lesson
\$29.28	\$33.67	two students learning together, per 30-minute lesson
\$23.25	\$26.74	three students learning together, per 30-minute lesson
\$54.70	\$62.91	individual 40-minute lesson
\$37.80	\$43.47	two students learning together, per 40-minute lesson
\$29.98	\$34.48	three students learning together, per 40-minute lesson
\$61.50	\$70.73	individual 45-minute lesson

For Harp, students there may be a nominal harp cartage fee per lesson. This will be organized by the Harp teacher and will be payable directly to her along with Instrument hire fee.

3. **Charging.** All lessons are charged through the Rangī Gold Sheet. Students sign for their lessons with the tutor as a record of attendance.
4. If for any reason the student is unable to attend a lesson it is their responsibility to:
  - Contact the tutor through Teams at least 24 hours before the lesson to give an apology, and if possible, arrange another suitable lesson time. Parents may also email the ITM tutor – whose email is on the student orange/blue card, and also on page two of this information document.
  - It is important to remember that some tutors come into school for only one or two students, so consideration in this matter is appreciated.
  - If at least 24 hours notification is not given regarding non attendance at a lesson, that lesson will be charged for unless there are extenuating circumstances.  
**In the event of sickness please ensure that the tutor is contacted by the parent via email before 7.30am.** Provided the tutor has enough notification the missed lesson will not be charged for. **Please note that this needs to happen in addition to notifying the school of your daughter's absence.**
5. **Termination of Lessons.** It is expected that a student will learn for a full year. If the student or parent/caregiver wishes to terminate tuition at the end of a term, or the end of a year, there is no penalty charge. However, if lessons are discontinued during any term of the year the penalty charge is the lesser of four weeks or the number of weeks until the end of the term in which notice is given. **Notice must be given by the parent/caregiver in writing directly to the tutor AND to the Director of Music.**
6. **Accounts.** For enquiries regarding your ITM account please contact Tania Robinson in the Business Office, phone direct 03 9833 746, email [t.robinson@rangiruru.school.nz](mailto:t.robinson@rangiruru.school.nz)
7. **ITM Cards.** All students will be issued with an ITM Card for them to leave class to attend their lessons. Orange cards are used for Music and Blue cards for Speech and Drama. This must always be carried, and the class teacher must sign the card before the student leaves class. If a student loses their orange/blue card it is their responsibility to get a replacement from their ITM tutor.
8. **Lesson times** are written on the student's orange/blue cards, and may be posted on studio noticeboards, messaged via teams to students (and parents/caregivers emailed in some cases). Students are asked to leave class five minutes before the lesson start time, so that they are ready to commence the lesson at the arranged time.
9. **Preference of Lesson Times.** Please note that lessons are **held during the school day**, and students will be required to **come out of class for them**. Most lesson times will rotate through a particular day so that disruption to the same class each week is minimised. Please note that this is not always possible if an ITM tutor has a very small number of students. Senior students are given preference for lesson times each week to fit in, if possible, around study periods / before school / lunchtimes.
10. Most music lessons are taken on an individual basis. Most speech and drama lessons are taken in groups of two or three. To minimise disruption to the classroom teacher, group lessons of three students from the same class will be taken, if possible, either before/after school, or at lunchtimes.
11. **Number of Lessons.** No one student may learn more than **two options from the ITM programme that involves absences from their normal class programme**. In some circumstances this may be able to be negotiated in consultation with the Director of Music if other times are available. If it is noted by a classroom teacher, whanau tutor or Dean that a student is not coping with their schoolwork then her ITM programme will be reviewed by the Director of Music in consultation with her ITM tutor and parents / caregivers.
12. **Extra Lessons.** There should be no more than **one** lesson per week per discipline. If a student requires a second lesson during the week for any one discipline, then it will be held out of class time (before/after school, lunchtime).
13. **Music/Books/Incidentals.** All purchases of music, books, and incidentals such as strings and reeds will be charged to the gold sheet.

14. **Whole School Calendar Events.** For whole school/year group calendar events (e.g. athletic sports, swimming sports, camps, trips etc) lessons may be rescheduled if the ITM tutor and student wish to do so, but there is no obligation for either party.
15. **Catching up on Missed Work.** A student leaving a class to attend a lesson is expected to take responsibility for catching up on class work and required out of class learning. This can easily be done via Teams. It may also be useful for students to nominate a class 'buddy' who can assist with this should material not be available via Teams. Students must also take responsibility for changing their lesson time with their tutor should they find it conflicts with an assessment / test / trip.
16. **Examinations.** Students may wish to enter examinations run by providers such as the Royal Schools of Music, Trinity College, Speech New Zealand. If this is the case the student's ITM tutor will be in contact with parents/caregivers directly to discuss details and entry requirements/fees.
17. **Hire of Instruments.** Rangi has a very limited number of instruments available for hire at a cost of \$50 a term. If there are none available, then arrangements can be made through [KBB Music](#). It is expected that hire instruments are available for the initial year of tuition only. Students may only hire for more than one year if there is no demand for new students to hire the instrument. Parents must agree to insure all hired instruments to cover damage and theft.
18. **Boarders' Practice.** Boarders may practice in the music department before and after school - the Music Department is open on school days from 7.30am – 5.30pm. There are pianos available in the Boarding House for practice during evenings and weekends, and more advanced studios may be able to make arrangements with the Boarding House to practice in the music department.
19. **Performers' Evenings.** These are run once a term on a Tuesday evening towards the end of each term. They are informal occasions where students gain valuable performance experience in front of a supportive audience. Parents/caregivers will be notified by an Edsmart message approximately two weeks before the concert if your daughter has been asked to perform at one of these evenings. The dates of these concerts will also be advertised in the [Rangi Ruru Calendar](#).

**For further information please contact**

Janet Kingsbury  
Director of Music  
E-mail [j.kingsbury@rangiruru.school.nz](mailto:j.kingsbury@rangiruru.school.nz)

# ITM PROFESSIONAL INFORMATION



## **ANDREW COUPER, DRUMS**

Andrew has been teaching drums at Rangī Ruru for 19 years. Holder of a BA and a Certificate in Jazz Performance, his passion for playing the drum kit has only increased with the passage of time. Andrew is a past long-standing drummer with the Garden City Big Band. Since 2017 he has been a member of the Nor'west Brass Band (based at Rangī Ruru), involved in playing as well as mentoring younger percussionists.



## **ANTONIO DIMITROV, BRASS**

Antonio was born and educated in Bulgaria. He has a Masters degree in French Horn, was awarded a Bulgarian Ministry of Culture Scholarship and completed post-graduate studies in Czechoslovakia and in Germany.

Antonio has given solo and chamber music performances in Europe and the United States and has travelled extensively as a member of various orchestras, playing in prestigious venues such as the Royal Albert Hall in London, the J. F. Kennedy Center in Washington and the United Nations in New York under the baton of Leonard Bernstein.

In 1997, Antonio moved to Christchurch to take up a position with the Christchurch Symphony Orchestra. His busy schedule combines concert performances and extensive teaching work.



## **ALISON HANSEN, CELLO**

Alison has been teaching cello at Rangī Ruru for over 30 years and many of her students have enjoyed success in NCEA performances as well as in higher grades and diplomas. She holds a BSc and an FTCL in cello, studying in Wellington and San Francisco along with playing in masterclasses with internationally renowned cellists. Her extensive experience and pleasure in Chamber Music and Orchestral playing, including seven years with the NZSO National Youth Orchestra and over twenty years with the Christchurch Symphony Orchestra, inspires her to support and encourage her students to participate and find lifelong pleasure in music-making.



## **DAVID SMITH, ACOUSTIC GUITAR**

David started playing the guitar whilst at high school in the late 60s along with discovering The Rolling Stones, The Beatles and Bob Dylan and significantly finding a recording of Andres Segovia in his brother's record collection. Holder of a BA in Philosophy and an AMusTCL, on graduation he played in cafes and restaurants, and built up a teaching practice. After periods working in Wellington and Melbourne he returned to Christchurch in the 80s and soon joined the itinerant music staff at Rangī Ruru. David also teaches guitar at other independent schools in Christchurch, and at evening classes at Cashmere High School and the Risingholme Community Centre.

Concert performing and composing for guitar have been rewarding sidelines and, of course, the opportunities that music brings for meeting many wonderful people.



**DEBORAH WAI KAPOHOE** *TE ĀTIHAUNUI-Ā-PAPĀRANGI*  
(WHANGANUI), VOICE

Born in Southland Deborah has her Masters in Vocal Performance from the University of Auckland, an LRSM in classical guitar, and an LLB (Hons) from the University of Sydney. She has performed, professionally as a soloist, for three decades in operas, musical theatre, contemporary Māori music, arts festivals, proms, concerts, recitals, self-accompanied guitar and voice recitals, and special events throughout New Zealand and Australia, as well as in the UK, China, Pacific, and South Africa. Deborah has thoroughly enjoyed teaching voice at Rangī Ruru since 2022.



**DOUGAL CANARD, ELECTRIC & BASS GUITAR, JAZZ PIANO**

Dougal has been a music teacher for over 15 years, specialising in bass, piano, and guitar. A Bachelor of Music (BMus) holder from Ara Jazz School, Dougal has a vast knowledge of different music styles, including jazz, blues, and rock. He has also performed in various bands throughout his career, providing him with the experience and skill set necessary to guide students in their musical journey. With his expertise and passion for music, Dougal is excited to share his knowledge and help students achieve their goals, regardless of their experience level.



**GERALD OLIVER, DOUBLE BASS**

Gerald is a holder of an LRSM on both viola and cello. He is a versatile musician having performed with the Christchurch Symphony Orchestra for more than 40 years, first on cello, then viola, before finally settling in the double bass section. Whilst enjoying a full time career for many years teaching strings in secondary schools in Christchurch, Gerald has also found time to perform in a variety of other genres, ranging from Tango, Jazz, Opera and Musicals - both on stage and in the orchestra pit. Gerald also enjoys playing and coaching chamber music.



**HELEN CHARLTON, VOICE**

Helen is an experienced Christchurch based singer, performing regularly as a soloist and choral director. Born and raised in Christchurch, she graduated from Canterbury University with a Bachelor of Music (BMus) majoring in Performance Singing and Massey University with a Graduate Diploma in Secondary School Teaching. Her time is divided between teaching voice and conducting secondary school choirs and directing the Canterbury Westland Branch Law Choir. She has a passion for education through singing and is past Chair of the Canterbury/West Coast Region for the New Zealand Choral Federation. Helen was appointed the Musical Director of Resolutions in 2011 and Rangī Voices in 2013 and began teaching singing here in 2019.



### **HELEN WEBBY, HARP**

Born in Whangarei, Helen studied harp in Auckland graduating with a Bachelor of Music in Harp. Following was further study in the Netherlands and Hamburg, where she gained her Masters degree and was mentored by harpists of international standing. Helen frequently records for RNZ Concert, and tours throughout New Zealand, including featuring in the documentary Central to the Soul by Dunedin film-maker Bill Morris. Principal Harp with the CSO since 2000, Helen is passionate about sharing the magic and mystery of the harp. She teaches harp players of all ages in Christchurch and Dunedin, plays solo and chamber music, and pushes the boundaries of harp music and accordion with her friends in Café Operana.



### **JONATHAN PRIOR, CLARINET**

Jonathan has been teaching clarinet at Rangī Ruru for quite some time and has watched the music department go from strength to strength. A number of his students over the years have gone on to excel as musicians and it has been rewarding to work with so many very capable players. Holder of an LTCL, Jonathan is Associate Principal Clarinet with the Christchurch Symphony Orchestra and is heavily involved with the orchestra's Community Outreach Programme.



### **LANA LAW, SAXOPHONE**

It was love at first play when Lana first picked up the baritone sax at age 13. Following her passion, she went on to complete her Bachelor of Music (BMus) in Jazz Performance at Massey University before touring the world as a professional musician. Lana loves music education, teaching students individually and in groups, both privately and as an itinerant music teacher and band director in schools. Lana is the co-founder and Music Director of New Zealand's first all-female big band, The All Girl Big Band, and the former Music Director of the Garden City Big Band, playing the lead alto saxophone in both these bands. Lana has been the Music Director of the Christchurch Youth Jazz Orchestra (CYJO) since 2021. Lana plays in various musical groups and as a session musician, both locally and nationally. Lana has worked at Rangī Ruru since 2015, teaching saxophone, and from 2018 directing the Jazz Band.



### **LYNN WILLIAMS, SPEECH & DRAMA**

Lynn has enjoyed the privilege of teaching Speech and Drama at Rangī Ruru for over 30 years. During this time she has been part of the national professional organisation for speech and drama. She has been the local secretary and organised a number of special events for colleagues and students.

Lynn has been both President and Chairman of the Canterbury Repertory Society and acted in a number of plays and musicals, including playing a courtesan in Shakespeare's A Comedy of Errors and carrying a very frisky rabbit on stage! In addition, Lynn enjoyed other aspects of the Repertory Society including marketing, catering and even arranging flowers for events.

As a teacher of Speech and Drama, Lynn's major goal for her students is to help them feel comfortable in their own skin to speak, offer opinions, release their creativity and at the same time, their confidence.



### **MARGO ASKIN, FLUTE**

Margo was fortunate to study music in the USA, where she gained her Masters in Flute Performance. As part of her studies she performed in masterclasses and had lessons from many teachers of international standing. Currently Associate Principal Flute in the Christchurch Symphony Orchestra, Margo has been teaching flute at Rangī Ruru for around 20 years. She has also tutored various chamber groups and accompanies her students on the piano for their flute exams. Margo also teaches flute and piano, and accompanies choirs, at other secondary schools in Christchurch.

She enjoys teaching at all levels and gains great satisfaction from seeing the musical growth and personal confidence that music gives to all students.



### **MELANIE CHUA, PIANO, BASSOON & THEORY**

Melanie is a passionate and experienced music teacher with over 20 years of teaching experience. Holder of a Master of Music in Bassoon Performance, she teaches piano, bassoon, and music theory at Rangī Ruru, and is also the Music Administrative Assistant for the Music Department. She has a deep love for orchestral music, playing the bassoon and contrabassoon in the Christchurch Symphony Orchestra.



### **NATALIE ELMS, CONTEMPORARY VOICE**

Natalie has 30 years of performance experience in New Zealand and internationally. Holder of a BMusArts, she has written many songs and is presently working on producing her own material. Natalie plays keys and guitar as well as singing regularly around Christchurch. She is the recipient of two NZ On Air Grants, one for Recording Artist and one for Music Video. Natalie has 12 years of vocal coaching experience both at Rangī Ruru and with private clients. She is known for transforming vocal results as well as giving students valuable tools for cultivating confidence and a sense of self belief that serve as valuable skills in the music industry.



### **JANET GIBBS, PIPE ORGAN**

Janet is an experienced teacher, church musician, organist, and recitalist, with several international qualifications to her name: FRCO, ARCO, ARCM(Hons), FTCL, LRSM, B.Mus.

Janet has worked in Wellington, Melbourne and more recently in Auckland. Her experience includes time spent in leading Anglican churches, cathedrals and both independent and public schools, such as Scotch College, Westlake Girls' and Boys' High Schools, St Cuthbert's College and Diocesan School for Girls.



### **ROANNA FUNCKE, PERCUSSION**

Roanna completed her Bachelor of Music with Honours in Percussion at the University of Canterbury where she now tutors percussion performance. She is a percussionist and educator dedicated to continuing a legacy of providing outstanding percussion education and support to students in Christchurch. Through percussion tuition and work with the Christchurch School of Music, Roanna is invested in providing pathways for young musicians to learn, develop and share their music. Roanna is Associate Principal Percussionist with the CSO and performs with the NZSO in a freelance capacity.



### **SARAH MCCRACKEN, VIOLIN**

Sarah has been teaching violin at Rangī Ruru for three years. She completed a Bachelor of Music (BMus) at Victoria University of Wellington, before continuing her studies at the Codarts Conservatory in Rotterdam and the Royal Academy of Music in London. Since moving back to New Zealand she has performed with the New Zealand Symphony Orchestra, Auckland Philharmonia, Auckland Chamber Orchestra, and Orchestra Wellington. Sarah is currently the Assistant Concertmaster with the Christchurch Symphony Orchestra, and especially enjoys their community engagement programme, working with a range of communities and organisations in Christchurch.



### **LUCIE DURKIN, SPEECH & DRAMA**

Lucie loves teaching Speech and Drama and Public Speaking, having taught in schools and privately for over 20 years. Holder of an LTCL in Speech and Drama, a BA in English and a Diploma of Teaching, she works with students of all ages to assist them to reach their goals, including preparing for competitions, examinations and auditions.

Lucie aims to create a relaxed environment for students to learn and develop skills for life. Particularly satisfying is watching students grow in confidence as a result of the programmes of teaching and learning that Lucie implements.



### **TIM EMERSON, ADVANCED PIANO & ACCOMPANIST**

Tim is a highly regarded New Zealand pianist, teacher, and accompanist. Holder of a Master of Music, and LTCL, Tim's musical lineage began with his great-grandfather Ernest Empson, a pupil of the great Leopold Godowski. Ernest produced many of the country's leading pianists including the late Maurice Till, who was Tim's undergraduate teacher at the University of Canterbury. Tim's other notable teachers include Wallace Woodley, Deidre Irons, Michael Houstoun, Richard Mapp, Bryan Sayer, Jenō Jando, Boris Bermann and Alexander Slobodanik.

Tim has taught some of New Zealand's most gifted young pianists, who have received top marks in examinations, enjoyed success in competitions both nationally and internationally, and have gone on to study at prestigious institutes and have successful careers in music.

He currently teaches piano at the University of Canterbury, as well as accompanies many gifted young musicians in examinations and public recitals.